Greetings Friends!

Summer is finally here. Along with the fun that comes from added daylight hours, vacations, and taking advantage of warm weather and the outdoors, comes an increased risk from sun exposure. One of the most frequently encountered second cancers that CLL patients face is skin cancer, including melanoma. Because of this it is important to remember to practice sun safety while enjoying the great outdoors. Wearing sunscreen and a hat, avoiding peak daylight hours, and covering exposed skin are all proven ways to reduce your risk of skin cancer. So enjoy the season while it is here, because it won't last forever, but do so safely so you can take full advantage of many more summers to come.

**CLL GLOBAL GRANTEE HIGHLIGHT**

**Dr. Deepa Sampath, PhD**

Mechanism based combinations for the therapy of CLL

Dr. Deepa Sampath is an assistant professor of Internal Medicine at The Ohio State University. Her research interest is in the epigenetics of lymphoid malignancies. Dr. Sampath is a recent recipient of a CLL Global Alliance grant. Below she provides an outline of her work on this project to date, and what she plans to do moving forward.

The Bruton's tyrosine kinase BTK is a protein that sends important chemical information to tell B cells to make antibodies. However, in CLL BTK activates many other proteins that help keep the leukemic cells alive. Ibrutinib is a targeted drug that can be used to treat CLL because it prevents the kinase activity of BTK and stops it from sending survival signals to the CLL cells. This drug has been shown to help when CLL is hard to treat, for example, if there are chromosome 11
Understanding Common CLL Symptoms
Drs. Alessandra Ferrajoli, Nitin Jain, and Javier Munoz, discuss common symptoms of CLL including night sweats and fatigue.

AMAZON SMILE
Donate to CLL Global the next time you shop on Amazon. All you need to do is go to the AmazonSmile webpage (http://amzn.to/1l5LVhk), select CLL Global as the charitable organization you would like to recognize, and for eligible purchases the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to CLL Global.

TOWN MEETING
CLL Global, in conjunction with our partners at Patient Power, will be hosting a town meeting on October 25, 2015, in Houston, TX. CLL Global CEO Dr. Michael Keating and CLL expert Dr. Nicole Lamanna will be available to provide the latest information on CLL treatment options, clinical trials and ways to improve the quality of life for CLL patients. There will also be a question and answer session. Don’t live close to Houston? No problem. The forum will include a virtual option for online participation.

DONATE NOW!!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM EHA
New targeted combination therapy for CLL

Results from an early phase clinical trial that combines the drug venetoclax (formerly ABT-199) with rituximab were presented by Dr. Andrew Roberts at the 2015 European Hematology Association (EHA) meeting in Vienna, Austria. A new combination therapy is needed for CLL patients that aren’t responding to standard treatments, or whose CLL has recurred. Dr. Roberts and his colleagues from the Royal Melbourne Hospital in Melbourne, Australia, reported that 84% of 49 patients with difficult-to-treat CLL who received the venetoclax-rituximab combination are responding. Notably 41% of all patients achieved a complete response. Further testing is underway in a randomized trial of this combination versus standard chemotherapy (bendamustine) plus rituximab.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US!

As we celebrated Father’s Day in June, CLL Global would like to recognize all the wonderful dads out there. And for the dads who are no longer with us, we celebrate the comforting memories we are fortunate to have. It is through the support of families, the ones we are born into and the ones we create over a lifetime of friendships, that we find the strength and courage to make a difference in the world. Thank you for all that you do to support CLL Global and the entire CLL community worldwide. Together we will achieve our goal of curing CLL.

Sincerely,

CLL Global Research Foundation