

Murdough Family Center for Psoriasis

LIFEDERMNET

LIFEDERMNET Newsletter
February 2007

In anticipation of starting to enter psoriasis patients into our database, we would like to send two nurses, Mary Ann Smith and Kim Phillips, who have been participating in the planning phase of the Murdough Family Center for Psoriasis to your offices, to start meeting the Network Physicians and your staff. If you would be willing to have them visit your office in the near future, please contact Kim Phillips at Kimberly.phillips@UHhospitals.org or call 216-844-7394.

Where We Are....

We are starting to plan the structure of our multidisciplinary Murdough Psoriasis Clinic. Clinical infrastructure is being negotiated. We are planning to have this clinic on Wednesdays and hoping to have our first clinic by the end of April 2007. We will include dermatology, psychiatry, rheumatology, nutrition and nursing in this multidisciplinary psoriasis clinic.

We have posted job openings for 2 nurses, one nurse practitioner and one advanced clinical nurse. We hope to hire the first nurse within the next 2 months. If anyone knows of any nurses who may have an interest in these positions, please let us know.

Our first clinical fellow, Marjorie Yang, MD started at the beginning of February.

We have established the database that will be used to collect patient information. IRB submission for the Psoriasis database and a clinical trial to collect preliminary data are currently being written, with the goal of being able to enter patients into the psoriasis database in the next 2 months.

Drs. Cooper, Korman and McCormick have met with Dr. Joseph Locala in psychiatry to discuss possible research collaborations with the Center along with his involvement in the multidisciplinary clinic.

We have been meeting with both physicians and nurses experienced in starting physician based research networks. There is a large group in the department of family practice at University Hospitals who are nationally recognized experts in this area and they offered great input regarding the characteristics to look for in nurse practitioners/nurses and the logistics of sending nurses out to physician offices in the community. We have also met with nurse educators/researchers from Kent State, Carol Sedlak, PhD, RN, CNS, ONC, CNE and Peggy Doheny, RN, PhD, ONC and from Case, Jaclene Zauszniewski, PhD, RNC, FAAN. These academic nurse researchers have had invaluable input and are interested in future clinical and research collaborations with the Center.

We are starting to set some of the research priorities of the Center.

Drs. Cooper, Korman, McCormick, Baron and Ward have submitted a very large translational research grant application on psoriasis to the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases. This grant, which consists of four separate components, includes research focused on the cardiovascular complications of psoriasis, the role of angiogenesis in the pathogenesis of psoriasis, understanding photodynamic therapy (PDT) and its potential role in psoriasis and the role of the macrophage in the pathogenesis of psoriasis.

Hideaki Sugiyama, MD, PhD, a faculty member and Ally Khan Somani, MD, PhD, a research fellow, have been recruited for basic science research in psoriasis. Dr. Sugiyama will start in April 2007 and Dr. Somani has already started.