



## SARCOMA FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Dr. Crystal Mackall Appointed to SFA Medical Advisory Board**

DAMASCUS, Maryland – October 4, 2011 – The Sarcoma Foundation of America (SFA), an organization dedicated to increased research funding and advocacy for Sarcoma, is pleased to announce the appointment of Crystal Mackall, MD, to its Medical Advisory Board (MAB).

The SFA Medical Advisory Board provides knowledge and expertise in advancing scientific research and studies to help find a cure for what many consider the “forgotten cancer.” The MAB also assists with the foundation’s peer reviewed grant process, ensuring the most promising research is funded.

“The Sarcoma Foundation of America is excited to welcome Dr. Crystal Mackall to our Medical Advisory Board,” said Dr. Mark Thornton, President of the SFA Board of Directors. “She is a highly accomplished scientist who has devoted herself to pediatric cancers like Sarcoma and brings invaluable experience and an expertise in both Sarcoma and immunology to the SFA. We are thrilled that Dr. Mackall has decided join our MAB.”

Dr. Mackall is Chief of the Pediatric Oncology Branch of the National Cancer Institute. She is Board Certified in Internal Medicine, Pediatrics and Pediatric Hematology/Oncology. Dr. Mackall has received international recognition for her work on T cell homeostasis and tumor immunology and she leads an active translational research program which incorporates basic studies of immunology with clinical trials of immunotherapy for pediatric cancer. She is the recipient of numerous awards including the NIH Distinguished Clinical Teacher Award in 2000, an NCI Mentor of Merit Award in 2003, and the NCI Director's Award in 2003. She has authored over 100 scientific publications and is a member of the American Society of Clinical Investigation.

“The Sarcoma Foundation of America provides a unified voice for thousands of individuals with sarcoma to raise awareness and improve outcomes for these aggressive cancers that strike young and old alike,” said Dr. Mackall.

You can learn more about the Sarcoma Foundation of America at [www.curesarcoma.org](http://www.curesarcoma.org).

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#### ***Quick Facts About Sarcoma***

Sarcoma is a rare cancer in adults (1 percent of all adult cancers) but rather prevalent in children (about 15 percent of all childhood cancers). At any one time, 50,000 patients and their families are struggling with Sarcoma. Every year, about 12,000 new cases are diagnosed and about 5,000 people die from the disease.

#### ***About the Sarcoma Foundation of America***

The Sarcoma Foundation of America (SFA), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization, is an advocate for Sarcoma patients by funding Sarcoma research and by increasing awareness about the disease. For more information, please visit [www.curesarcoma.org](http://www.curesarcoma.org).