



SARCOMA FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dr. Raphael Pollock to Receive SFA's Nobility in Science Award

DAMASCUS, Maryland – April 19, 2011 – The Sarcoma Foundation of America (SFA), an organization dedicated to increased research funding and advocacy for Sarcoma, is pleased to announce that Raphael Pollock, MD, PhD, will be the 2011 recipient of its Nobility in Science Award. Dr. Pollock is Professor of Surgery and Molecular and Cellular Oncology at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX.

The Nobility in Science Award, to be presented to Dr. Pollock at the SFA's annual Gala on May 2, 2011, is given to an outstanding scientist who is dedicated to the advancement of scientific knowledge of Sarcoma and works tirelessly to find new and innovative approaches for treating the rare cancer. "Dr. Pollock is a distinguished Sarcoma surgeon and scholar," said Dr. Mark Thornton, President of the Sarcoma Foundation of America. "We are proud to highlight and recognize Dr. Pollock's groundbreaking work by honoring him with our Nobility in Science Award."

Dr. Pollock, a member of the SFA's Medical Advisory Board, has given a lifetime of professional dedication to patient care and research in soft tissue Sarcoma. His clinical practice focuses exclusively on this disease entity, and he has pursued clinical and laboratory research interests in soft tissue sarcoma during the entire time that he has been a member of the faculty of the Department of Surgical Oncology at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

In part through Dr. Pollock's extraordinary efforts, high grade soft tissue sarcoma was recently added as a cancer to be mapped by The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) at the National Cancer Institute. TCGA is designed to chart the genomic changes involved in more than 20 types of cancer by performing a comprehensive genomic characterization and analysis of the cancer. The data generated by TCGA is available for use by to the cancer community to serve as an aid in developing new and better treatments, as well as leading to advancements in early detection and cancer prevention.

"The opportunity to *care for* and *learn from* patients burdened by a rare disease like sarcoma is both a remarkable gift as well as an awesome responsibility," said Dr. Pollock. "I know that by working together we will continue to make meaningful progress; for sure, the best is yet to come!"

You can learn more about the Sarcoma Foundation of America at 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 increased research to find new and better therapies with which to treat patients with sarcoma. The organization raises money to privately fund grants for sarcoma researchers and conducts education and advocacy efforts on behalf of sarcoma patients. For more information, please visit www.curesarcoma.org.