



SARCOMA FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sarcoma Foundation of America Announces Prestigious Panel at the 2012 Annual SFA Patient Educational Conference in New York City

DAMASCUS, MD – April 13, 2012 – The Sarcoma Foundation of America (SFA) is pleased to announce Ask the Experts: 2012 Annual SFA Patient Educational Conference to be held at the Grand Hyatt in New York City on April 29. The event will include a prestigious panel of the leading experts in the sarcoma field today.

The 2012 SFA panel members and topics are George D. Demetri, MD, Director, Ludwig Center at Dana-Farber/Harvard and Sarcoma Center Dana-Farber Cancer Institute speaking on *Future Directions of Sarcoma Therapy*; Marc Ladanyi, MD, The William Ruane Chair in Molecular Oncology; Attending Pathologist, Molecular Diagnostics Service; Member, Human Oncology and Pathogenesis Program, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center speaking on *How Funding Basic Science Can Lead to New Targets & Treatments*; Crystal L. Mackall, MD, Chief, Pediatric Oncology Branch, National Cancer Institute speaking on *Advances in Sarcoma Immunotherapy*; John S.J. Brooks, MD, FRCPath, Director of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Pennsylvania Hospital whose topic is *Advances in Research in Sarcoma Pathology and SFA Funded Research*; and Kurt R. Weiss, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center presenting *Advances in Sarcoma Surgery*.

The SFA hosts this patient-focused conference as an opportunity for patients, families, and caregivers in the sarcoma community to come together in one place to hear expert presentations on the latest breakthroughs in sarcoma research, treatment, and other related topics impacting sarcoma. The most important point of the conference is the intimate question and answer session where families receive responses to their questions by leading sarcoma doctors from around the world.

“The Sarcoma Foundation of America feels it is essential to bring the sarcoma community together in this close setting,” said SFA President Mark Thornton, MD, PhD. “The aim is to give hope and information to those who are today suffering from this devastating disease.”

You can learn more about the Sarcoma Foundation of America and the 2012 Annual Patient Educational Conference at www.curesarcoma.org.

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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.

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.