



Can Measles kill pediatric brain cancer cells?

This promising trial hopes so.

With the generous support from donors, we are making a difference in the lives of children with cancer. Last fall, we awarded \$155,000 to support a Phase 1 clinical trial for pediatric brain cancer – the leading cause of cancer deaths among children. The trial determines if the measles virus can destroy medulloblastoma cancer cells – a common pediatric brain cancer - while leaving normal cells intact.

This ground-breaking approach, led by researchers at UCSF's Pacific Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Consortium (PNO), was shown effective in pre-trial research and in adult cancers including ovarian cancer and multiple myeloma. The goal of the Phase I trial is to figure out the dosing levels of the measles virus treatment which can be tolerated by the child without causing severe side effects.

Early Results are Good

So far, there is good news. The children have had minimal or no side effects, allowing

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the researchers to think about other possibilities including increasing the dose, allowing for additional doses, and augmenting the research with immunotherapy or catheters to deliver the virus directly to the cancer cells.

No More Kids with Cancer visits PNOG at UCSF's facilities in San Francisco, California. Left to right - UCSF faculty and PNOG leaders Dr. Michael Prados and Dr. Sabine Mueller, joined by Zak Summy and Hank Summy.



We wanted to know if the measles virus was working on the cancer – is it killing the cells? Dr. Sabine Mueller termed the results as ‘intriguing’ and she and Dr. Mike Prados felt there was reason to feel good about what they are learning. Knowing we are early in this Phase I trial, the team was careful to temper their optimism and not overhype early research results. The team added that other studies are also seeing promising results using measles and other viruses, and that measles is now being tested in another deadly brain cancer – glioblastoma.

Your Continued Support is Needed

The trial, currently available at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital, will be expanded to Seattle Children’s and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago and up to 15 additional children’s hospitals. Our hope is the trial will move to a Phase II trial. At the Phase II level, researchers may enroll up to 5 times more patients to determine the safety of the treatment and how well it works for treating medulloblastoma. The

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funding required for a Phase II trial will be significantly higher and your support will be critical to continued progress. Please support future research by donating at nomorekidswithcancer.org/donate

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