

# HOPE

THE STEHLIN FOUNDATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH

JUNE 2005

## 35 Years of Hope and Healing



John S. Stehlin, M.D. and Beppino C. Giovannella, Ph.D., making patient rounds late one evening in 1974

The Stehlin Foundation for Cancer Research was established by surgical oncologist, Dr. John S. Stehlin, with a specific and urgent mission: to find and develop the most effective treatments for the patient suffering from cancer in the shortest period of time.

Recognizing the lack of communication between the scientist studying the cancer in the laboratory and the physician treating the patient at the bedside, the Stehlin team developed the concept of a tripartnership between clinician, research scientist, and patient. In a tripartnership, the effort is collaborative, with the dignity of the patient as a top priority.

"If there's one thing we learned from John," commented Bobby Anderson, "it was to care about the person. He always said, 'I don't treat cancer – I treat Mrs. Smith, who unfortunately happens to have cancer.'" This humane approach has continued to distinguish the Stehlin Foundation's work for 35 years.

### Pioneering to Save Lives

The Foundation's first experiment was performed in May 1970 in a small room adjacent to the maternity ward in what is today Christus St. Joseph Hospital. The initial budget was set at \$38,500, with total resources of \$90,000. From these humble beginnings, under the leadership of Dr. Stehlin, Laboratory Director Dr. Beppino Giovannella, and Executive Director Bobby Anderson, the Foundation has gone on to earn an international reputation as a cancer research and treatment facility.

From the start, the Stehlin Foundation relied on a unique approach that has since been accepted as traditional protocol.

Many of the ideas pioneered at the Stehlin Foundation –

*Continued on page 2*

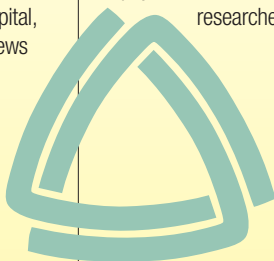
### MILESTONES IN THE STEHLIN FOUNDATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH HISTORY

#### 1958-1967

Dr. John Stehlin, a surgical oncologist leading the melanoma and breast cancer treatment programs at MD Anderson Hospital, realizes that his views on "treating the patient, not the disease" differ from those in mainstream medicine.

#### 1967

Dr. Stehlin enters private practice based on his tripartnership approach, which involves patient, physician and researcher.



#### 1969

Dr. Stehlin and Mr. Evans Atwell, a lawyer at Vinson & Elkins LLP, establish the Stehlin Foundation for Cancer Research.

#### 1969

Dr. Beppino C. Giovannella, a cancer biologist at McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research at the University of Wisconsin, agrees to serve as Laboratory Director of the Stehlin Foundation. "Dr. G" agrees with the philosophy that all cancer research should be directly applied to patient treatment.

#### 1969

Dr. Stehlin decides to practice solely at Christus St. Joseph Hospital due to his deep respect and affection for Sister Mary David Gorman and the philosophy of caring embraced by the Sisters of the Incarnate Word.

#### 1969

Dr. Stehlin is the first to combine heat and chemotherapy (hyperthermic perfusion) for the treatment of patients with advanced melanomas of the arms and legs. Malignant melanoma is the most serious form of skin cancer.



The next five pages provide a brief overview of some of our more memorable events...

“OUR GOAL IS NOT TO LIMIT THE USE OR KNOWLEDGE OF OUR DISCOVERIES.

ON THE CONTRARY — WE ARE WORKING FOR THE COMMON GOAL OF ERADICATING CANCER AND IMPROVING TREATMENT FOR PEOPLE SUFFERING FROM THE DISEASE.”



**The Work, and the Challenge, Continue**

Since 1971, the research of the Stehlin Foundation has taken place in a 15,000 square foot facility on the 12-city-block campus of Christus St. Joseph Hospital, in the heart of downtown Houston. The focus remains on research that can be applied to cancer patients in the real, not theoretical, world.

All laboratory work of the Stehlin Foundation is conducted on cancers removed from patients and implanted into genetically immune-deficient mice. Commented Bobby Anderson, “Once these tumors begin to grow, our work is to test both traditional and experimental drugs and treatments for effectiveness. To our knowledge, we were the first research laboratory limiting our investigations to human cancers.”

Through more than 300 medical and research papers and published findings, all breakthrough developments of the Stehlin Foundation have been communicated to the medical community.

“Our goal is not to limit the use or knowledge of our discoveries,” said Bobby Anderson. “On the contrary — we are working for the common goal of eradicating cancer and improving treatment for people suffering from the disease.”

**Hope for the Future — Camptothecin**

One of the most promising areas of research for the Stehlin Foundation is a new family of anticancer drugs, the camptothecins, which its scientists have been investigating since 1988.

The first camptothecin studies at the Foundation enrolled patients who had failed conventional treatments, such as surgery, radiation and chemotherapy. Favorable responses were seen with breast, prostate, pancreas, ovarian, and lymphoma cancers, as well as malignant melanoma. Side effects were minimal.

Camptothecin drugs can be taken orally on an outpatient basis, which offers both a more pleasant and less expensive form of therapy, in contrast to drugs that must be given intravenously.

“Like many in the medical community, we have great hope for the camptothecins,” summarized Bobby Anderson. “However, people don’t realize the time and expense involved getting even the most promising drugs into the hands of patients.

“There’s a lot of work to do, and we intend to do it. Helping people with cancer is the legacy John Stehlin established 35 years ago — and what we’re still doing today.” □

35 Years of Hope and Healing continued from page 1

which include conducting clinically-oriented research, focusing all research on human cancers, developing the athymic “nude” mouse for research purposes, offering lumpectomy as a treatment for breast cancer, including hyperthermia in the treatment for melanoma, and infusing anti-cancer drugs directly into affected organs – were a departure from mainstream medicine.

When it was introduced at the Stehlin Foundation, it was unheard-of for researchers to accompany the physician on patient rounds, and for physicians to participate in the research work. In addition, the Foundation’s humane approach – paying attention to the emotional and spiritual needs of the patient – went beyond the realm of standard protocol.

Today, many of the methods initiated at the Foundation are accepted as the “gold standard” of modern medicine by national cancer groups. Most importantly, countless people are alive today because of the research and therapies developed at the Stehlin Foundation.



**1970**

Dr. Beppino Giovanella performs the Foundation’s first experiment in a small room adjacent to the maternity ward at Christus St. Joseph Hospital.

**1970**

Dr. Beppino Giovanella pioneers the development of the nude mouse in cancer research. Today, the nude mouse represents the final nonhuman studies required by the National Cancer Institute for determining the effectiveness of all anti-cancer drugs.

**1970**

Dr. George Crile of the Cleveland Clinic and Dr. John Stehlin are the first surgeons in North America to recommend the conservative treatment of lumpectomy and reconstruction followed by radiotherapy for select breast cancer patients.

**1971**

The Foundation moves to the current laboratory within Christus St. Joseph medical complex, following the total renovation of a former auto parts facility.

**1973**

Foundation researchers are the first to demonstrate the selective sensitivity of cancer cells to heat. As a result of this research, numerous institutions throughout the world begin investigating the effects of heat on cancer.

**1974**

Foundation physicians become leaders in regional intra-arterial infusion chemotherapy, which delivers anticancer drugs directly to affected organs.



## Tumor Metastasis Study Now Underway

Cancer is not a complacent disease – it is never content to stay in one spot. In fact, the defining characteristic of malignant cancer cells is their ability to break off from the body of a tumor, travel through blood or lymph systems and deposit and grow as a secondary tumor, in another part of the body. This process is called *metastasis*.

These diseased, migrating cells can be microscopic and difficult to detect as they travel. The challenge has been to study patterns of metastasis, as they differ among types of cancer and different types of tumors.

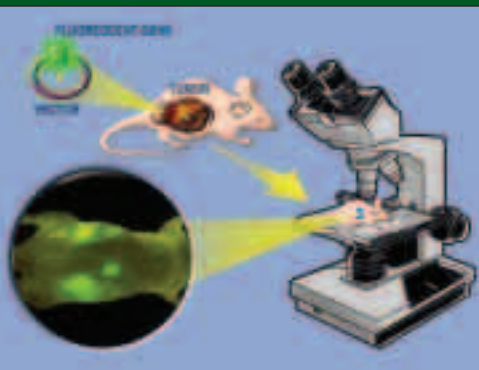
In 2005, the Stehlin Foundation embarked on a study to determine exactly how cancer spreads, or metastasizes, using its signature nude mice model.

The study utilizes Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP), which involves a gene capable of producing a fluorescent protein in the human cancer cells implanted into the mice. Under a blue light, the GFP gene causes the cells to emit a green glow.

This is the important part: Because the “green glow” characteristic is passed on from one generation of cancer cells to another, scientists can visualize growth and metastasis as it occurs by watching how the fluorescent light emitted from the mouse changes. The emitted light from both the original and secondary tumor sites can be localized and measured.

## Searching for Results Today

When asked how this particular study came about, Constantine S.A. Markides, Ph.D. researcher at the Stehlin Foundation, explains that it was a decision based on the Foundation’s focus of looking for ways to



The “glow” of a GFP protein gene, implanted in nude mice, enables Stehlin researchers to track cancer growth and the effects of drug treatment.

directly impact the quality of patient care.

Metastasis is a critical issue, because it is the secondary, or metastasized, tumors that are most often deadly in cancer patients. The approach of using GFP-carrying human cancer cells in the nude mice allows the Foundation to create metastasis and treatment conditions that closely parallel those of humans.

“Remember, different cancers spread in different patterns,” remarked Dr. Markides, the Foundation’s chief pharmacologist. “Through this technology, we can, first, establish how different cancers spread. Our immediate next step is to compare and contrast the effectiveness of different drugs and drug combinations in treating primary and metastatic cancer.

“Of course, the ultimate challenge is to determine whether it is possible to block the metastatic spread of a tumor.”

As of this spring the GFP cells were in culture, ready to be implanted into the mice. Dr. Markides expects that within 6-8 months the Foundation should be seeing the first results from the GFP Tumor Metastasis Study.

We’re very excited to see how our family of camptothecin drugs performs

## A Call for Support

Since 1969, the Stehlin Foundation has spent more than \$54 million on cancer research. Unlike most cancer research institutes, which are funded primarily through university medical schools and government grants, the Stehlin Foundation is a small, independent group whose research and treatment programs are currently funded entirely by private donations.

The cost of maintaining a high quality facility, staff, and equipment created an annual operating budget of approximately \$2.7 million in 2005. With an administrative staff of only two, the Foundation underwrites a laboratory staff of 14 skilled and highly motivated individuals, supported by 10-15 students participating in the Educational Scholarship program. By concentrating its efforts on a relatively small number of research projects and rewarding employees for their assistance in cutting operational expenses, the Stehlin Foundation has operated with refreshingly low administrative costs – averaging less than 15% on an annual basis.

The Foundation is a tax-exempt charitable organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. As such all contributions to the Foundation are tax deductible. Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated, and go directly to work supporting the Stehlin Foundation’s unique approach in the fight against cancer. If you would like more information, or wish to help with fund raising activities, please call Bobby Anderson at 713.659.1336. □

under these conditions,” he said. “We believe their potential is extremely promising in reducing the growth and spread of human cancers.” □



## 1981

Mr. Michael Meagher forms the Friends of the Stehlin Foundation to raise funds to support research, treatment and educational programs conducted by the Foundation. Through 2004, the Friends’ galas have netted \$8 million.

## 1983

The Million Dollar Evening gala, benefiting the Stehlin Foundation for Cancer Research, is held at a sold-out Jones Hall. Performers Marvin Hamlisch, Alan King, Ann-Margret, Crystal Gayle and Liza Minnelli perform for 2 1/2 hours, gratis, at the event chaired by Carolyn Farb.

## 1978

Staff members from the ABC news program “Good Morning America” spend a week interviewing and filming at the Stehlin Foundation. The story is broadcast for four consecutive days to a national audience.

## 1979

The Foundation publishes the results of the first study showing that the less-radical procedure of lumpectomy with radiation offers survival rates equal to those of radical mastectomy, without mutilation and severe psychological consequences. A second, larger, study affirming these results is published in 1987.

## 1980

The Living Room is established at the Christus St. Joseph Hospital oncology unit, providing music, art, games, parties, and videos as well as various types of counseling for patients and families. It becomes a prototype for hospitals all over the world.

## 1980

The Stehlin Foundation Education Scholarship Program is launched to provide practical experience and financial support to high school and college students interested in pursuing medical and research careers.



# Making the Connection Between Sun and Skin Cancer

From the beginning, the Stehlin Foundation for Cancer Research has had a special interest in skin cancer. The first human cancer successfully transplanted into the nude mouse in 1970 at the Foundation was malignant melanoma. After numerous publications involving treatments for skin cancer, the Foundation is recognized today for significant contributions to skin cancer research and treatment.

Unfortunately, the need for research is greater than ever, as the incidence of skin cancer in the US is growing. Nationally there are more new cases of skin cancer each year than the combined incidence of cancers of the breast, prostate, lung, and colon.<sup>1</sup>

It has been proven that that all types of skin cancer are directly influenced by exposure to sunlight, with genetic factors contributing significantly in some cases. However, here is a startling fact: Fewer than 33 percent of adults, adolescents, and children routinely use the sun protection that could help protect them from damage!<sup>2</sup>

Jaime Tschen, M.D., dermatologist and dermapathologist with Christus St. Joseph Hospital, explains, "The problem is that damage from the skin's exposure is cumulative, and people are living longer. Many of the 500,000 Americans who get skin cancer every year are over 50. In this case the 'best medicine' is education, screening, and the daily use of sunscreen year-round."

## Skin Cancer 101

There are three types of skin cancer of which people need to be aware:

**Basal Cell Carcinoma** is the most common and least severe of skin cancers, appearing on areas of skin exposed to the sun as a sore that does not heal. Although basal cell cancer is almost 100% curable, these patients are 6-8 times more likely to develop melanoma.

**Squamous Cell Carcinoma** develops on sun-exposed areas of skin including lip and eyelid tissue. It is often associated with both sun exposure and tobacco use. More aggressive than basal cell cancer, squamous cell can spread to other organs.

**Malignant Melanoma** is the most severe and potentially lethal form of skin cancer, typically arising from cells that produce pigment or melanin in the skin, such as moles. Melanoma can occur in both exposed and non-exposed skin.

## Breakthroughs in Skin Cancer Treatment

The "big news" in skin cancer beyond its alarming increase is that several new treatment methods are helping to curb the destruction done by this disease.

According to Dr. Tschen, three new modalities are effective in treating skin cancers caught early. One is photodynamic activation therapy (PDT), which involves a light-activated drug either injected into the body or applied to the affected skin. The drug, when exposed to a special light

source, produces a chemical that kills the cancer cells.

A new topical cream called Aldara has been very effective in killing precancerous and very early cancer cells, avoiding the need for patient surgery and radiation. In addition, the FDA recently approved an injectable medication to be used in the treatment of melanoma.

The greatest advance in the diagnosis of cutaneous melanomas and other skin lesions, according to Dr. Tschen, is the technology of hand-held illuminating microscopy used by dermatologists. He said, "The advanced magnification capability greatly improves our ability to detect early stages of cancer, particularly melanoma. All skin cancers have encouraging cure rates when they're treated early."

## Your Best Protection Against Skin Cancer – Yourself!

Although heredity and complexion does factor into some types of skin cancer, everyone can benefit from the protection offered by sunscreen and common sense. A few guidelines for this summer:

- Avoid sunburns and stay out of the direct sunlight from 10 am – 4 pm. Dr. Tschen advises, "If your shadow is shorter than you are, the sun is too hot to be safe."
- Protect yourself with appropriate clothing and wear waterproof sunscreen with a SPF of 15 or above. Reapply every 30 minutes before exercising or going into the water.



## 1984

The Educational Scholarship program receives the Cooperative Employer of the Year Award from Texas A&M University, an honor previously held by Dow Chemical and NASA.

## 1988

The entire June issue of *The Houston Medical Journal* is devoted to the Foundation's research and clinical work with malignant melanoma. Results from the hyperthermic perfusion operation show a 300% increase in survival rates and the virtual elimination of amputations for patients with advanced melanoma of the extremities.

## 1988

The Foundation publishes one of the largest studies of liver cancer ever conducted by a single institution, involving 414 patients.



## 1988

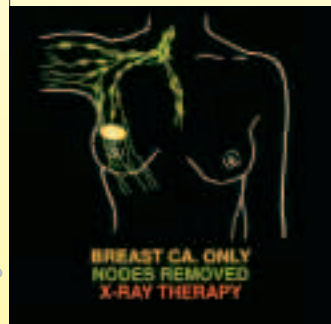
Scientists from Johns Hopkins and New York Universities approach Foundation scientists regarding collaborative studies on the Camptothecin family of drugs.

## 1989

Foundation scientists report in *Science Magazine* the strong anticancer activity of a Camptothecin derivative against human cancers growing in nude mice.

## 1990

The National Cancer Institute affirms Dr. Stehlin's non-radical, less mutilating treatment for breast cancer as its treatment of choice.



## Advice for Teens:

# Are Tanning Salons Safe?

For most teens, getting a tan is part of a great summer vacation or getting ready for a hot date. Although dermatologists have warned us that tanning is the most avoidable risk factor in the prevention of skin cancer, studies show we forget this advice in favor of the bronzed look.

"The most dangerous part of tanning salons," says Dr. Jaime Tschen, dermatopathologist, "is not just that the bulbs emit UVA rays, but that they're unregulated. People with fair skin are getting the same dosage as people with dark skin – and no one is controlling the output."

The only safe tanning? The spray-on and wipe-on self-tanning types. Fortunately, these products improve every year and provide the appearance of tanned skin, without the lasting damage.

- Teach your children good sun protection habits. The damage that leads to adult skin cancers starts in childhood.
- Examine your skin, head to toe, at least once every three months. Look for sores that won't heal, changes in mole appearance, and discoloration.
- Always seek medical attention if you see changes on your skin. Experts recommend that at-risk people (fair skin, multiple moles, family history) get dermatological exams annually. Everyone should be checked regularly after age 50. □

- 1 The Skin Cancer Foundation, [www.skincancer.org](http://www.skincancer.org)
- 2 *ibid*

### 1992

The Foundation becomes the first in the country to test non water soluble Camptothecin, an anticancer drug derived from a Chinese tree, in human clinical trials.



### 1995

The Foundation wins federal approval to start clinical human trials with 9-Nitro Camptothecin for the treatment of cancers of the pancreas.



## Stehlin Foundation Welcomes New Colleague

Dr. Simeon Wrenn's 18-page resume includes an impressive education (two doctorates from Emory University); rigorous training at Harvard Medical school; academic appointments at prestigious universities including Baylor College of Medicine and Johns Hopkins University; and experience with private laboratories specializing in drug development and commercialization.



Simeon Wrenn, Ph.D.

From 1997-2004, he was Vice President of Biotechnology and Preclinical research at SuperGen, Inc., where he directed preclinical research, conducted studies, and worked with federal agencies on the development and manufacture of new drugs.

He will draw on all his academic, research and industry experience in his current position as a pharmacologist at the Stehlin Foundation for Cancer Research, a position he assumed in late March.

When asked why it was a good fit, Dr. Wrenn responded, "I am a scientist by training, experienced in medical research. In addition, my business development background will be helpful as the

Foundation proceeds with the drug commercialization process."

### The Camptothecin Challenge

Dr. Wrenn and the Stehlin Foundation got acquainted during the clinical trials for Orathecine, one of the camptothecin anti-cancer drugs developed by the Foundation. "I very much liked the people at the Foundation," commented Dr. Wrenn, "and I believe that this drug has enormous therapeutic potential.

It seemed to me that the infrastructure was in place to make great strides forward."

Dr. Wrenn is clearly excited about the possibilities of both CZ48 and 9-Nitro – "All we have to do now is prove their potential." He also believes there are other technologies and innovations that could increase the effectiveness and applications of camptothecin drugs. "I'm here to help continue the development of existing candidates," he remarked, "but I also have a few ideas of my own." □



### 1998

Dr. Stehlin receives the Distinguished Surgeon of the Year award from the Houston Surgical Society.

### 1999

*The Best Medicine*, a book exploring the important relationships between doctors and patients, features the Stehlin Foundation as a model of cooperation between doctor, research scientist and patient.

**HOLD THE DATE!**  
**2005 Friends Gala**  
**Saturday, October 15**  
**Westin Galleria**

# 2004 Gala Sparkles



*The Stehlin Foundation extends heartfelt appreciation to the many foundations, businesses and individuals whose contributions made the 2004 gala a resounding success.*

## 2002

Dr. Stehlin retires from clinical practice to concentrate full time on Foundation activities.



## 2003

Dr. Joachim Liehr, a Stehlin researcher, receives national attention for his groundbreaking work on the complex link between estrogen and cancer.



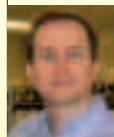
## 2004

Stehlin researchers continue to work on "metronomic chemotherapy," a less arduous form of chemotherapy, using lower doses of drugs to prevent growth of new tumor capillaries.

## 2005

The Foundation begins using Green Fluorescent Protein Technique, which enables researchers to see human cancer xenografts growing into the internal organs of nude mice and to follow their growth by serial photographs. It also shows visually the effect of anticancer drugs on these tumors.

## 2005



With the assistance of Victoria and Patrick Scranton, the Foundation initiates a new research program on the experimental treatment of Desmoplastic Small Round Cell Tumors.

## 2005

Stehlin researchers begin animal tumor screening of nine new camptothecin derivatives that emerged as most active from the tissue culture screening of more than 200 new compounds synthesized in the Stehlin laboratory.

**to be continued...**



Dear Friends,  
 We were so honored to co-chair the 2004 Friends of the Stehlin Foundation Gala in November, in conjunction with Young Texans Against Cancer.  
 The Friends have always been known to put on a great party — and we did it once again, under the theme of “Forever Diamond.” Young and old grooved to the wonderful songs performed by Super Diamond, a Neil Diamond alternative experience, and Memphis Train. All of us delighted in the retro atmosphere of sparkling mylar, disco balls, diamond ice sculptures and colorful mood lighting.  
 As a fundraiser, the evening was a great success, thanks to the generosity of many and the fresh ideas and enthusiasm generated by our young YTAC partners. The gala was attended by 740 guests and raised over \$650,000, which will be used in the Foundation’s research and clinical effort in the battle against cancer.  
 Our connection with the Friends of the Stehlin Foundation began seven years ago when our friend, Bill Sarosky of Southbury, Connecticut, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and qualified for the clinical trials of Orathecine, the anticancer drug developed at the Stehlin Foundation. After numerous trips to Houston and lots of prayer, we witnessed his healing over 18 months.  
 It was such a pleasure to have Bill and his wife Debbie enjoying the evening along with us, healthy and cancer-free!  
 We owe Bill’s remarkable recovery, along with that of many others, to the generous people who provide support to the Stehlin Foundation for Cancer Research. In addition, we want to personally thank the physicians, scientists and staff of the Stehlin Foundation for their dedication and commitment. These people are truly the “Diamonds” in our eyes.

Fondly,  
 Tim & Nancy White

PS – We are looking forward to the 2005 Gala, to be held October 15, 2005, at the Westin Galleria Hotel. It’s bound to be another spectacular evening — stay tuned for more details!



Dear Friends,  
 Thank you so much for allowing us the opportunity to co-chair the 2004 “Forever Diamond” gala on behalf of Young Texans Against Cancer (YTAC). We enjoyed working with all of you and were thrilled by the turnout for the evening and the support that you all showed for the Foundation.  
 YTAC was founded four years ago by a group of young professionals who had either lost or witnessed a loved one fighting cancer. When we were asked to co-chair the “Forever Diamond” gala, we were excited to be able to continue our mission of raising money for local cancer charities. Little did we know when we agreed to co-chair the gala how rewarding the experience would be.  
 The evening exceeded all of our expectations — from the decorations, to the bands, to the auction, to the number of guests and, finally, to the money raised to help in the fight against cancer. We could not have been more delighted to be part of such a wonderful event.  
 We hope to continue YTAC’s relationship with the Stehlin Foundation and we look forward to seeing you on October 15th!

Ashley, Catie and Erin



## New Study Targets Cancer That Strikes Young

**D**esmoplastic Small Round Cell Tumor (DSRCT) is an aggressive cancer that usually occurs in multiple masses in the abdomen and affects the lymph nodes and lining of the pelvis and abdomen. Associated with Ewing's Sarcoma, DSRCT usually affects children, adolescents and young adults. Survival rates are poor.

Unfortunately, because this form of cancer affects only a small number of children and even fewer adults, the research aimed at improving treatment results has been limited.

The Stehlin Foundation recently launched a study that involves growing DSRCT samples in the laboratory's nude mice, and evaluating the effectiveness of both standard and camptothecin drugs in treatment of the tumors.

To date, the Foundation has received tumor samples from DSRCT patients in Canada, Japan and the US based on a support group web site developed and maintained by Patrick Scranton, himself a DSRCT patient (*see story below*). Patients in the program are not charged for these studies.

DSRCT is one of the cancers that could be studied through the GFP Tumor Metastasis Study. Said Doug Coil, Associate Laboratory Supervisor, "The research we have performed over the past 30-plus years for solid tumors may be of benefit to our new research on DSRCT. We fully expect to 'jump start' this new research based upon our background of knowledge." □



*Patrick Scranton, diagnosed with DSRCT in 2003, became an active participant in providing information and funding research on the disease.*

## Saying NO to the Status Quo

**I** imagine you are Patrick Scranton – a 40-year-old, vital, energetic entrepreneur – and you become the oldest person ever diagnosed with DSRCT, an aggressive form of cancer that strikes mostly juveniles. Imagine that you can't really find much information about the rare disease. Imagine being frustrated by debilitating treatments and feeling strongly that there must be an alternative. What do you do?

What Patrick did was start his own campaign to, first, gather and provide as much information as possible to other patients via the Internet, and, second, to provide funding for continued research into the disease and its treatment.

Diagnosed in 2003, Patrick launched a DSRCT web site ([www.dsrct.com](http://www.dsrct.com)) in April of 2004. "My goal was to create a place where everyone on the planet who

had this disease could share their experiences and the options for treatment. It can save people thousands of hours of time."

Patrick was well into a traditional cancer treatment program when he learned about the research on human tumors used at the Stehlin Foundation. "With my short time frame, I was intrigued by the idea of research paying off immediately," he said.

As a result of his findings, Patrick decided to help fund the Stehlin Foundation's DSRCT tumor cancer study, where patients send samples of their tumors to be grown in nude mice and tested for various treatments. "I am specifically interested in the Foundation's role as a

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clearinghouse for DSRCT information to be shared by everyone," he said.

DSRCT patients who log onto Patrick's web site are encouraged to become part of the Stehlin study, and Patrick's family has been helping with the fundraising efforts. "The results may actually be too late for me," said Patrick, "but the Stehlin Foundation has the people and approach to make a real leap in cancer treatment." □

*After a long and courageous battle with DSRCT, Patrick Scranton died May 5, 2005. A tireless friend of the Stehlin Foundation and DSRCT patients and families everywhere, Patrick will be sorely missed.*

# HOPE

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