

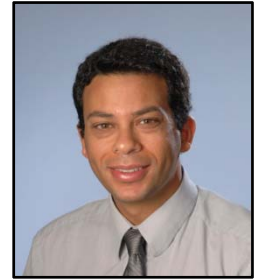
# Practice-Changing Therapies for Late-Stage Lung Cancer Patients as a Result of Hoosier Oncology Group Study Outcomes

By Deb Cole

Many Hoosier Oncology Group (HOG) research studies produce practice-changing results, but one study in particular has garnered a significant amount of attention in the oncology community over the past 3 years: LUN01-24. As more of the data is mined and the findings are presented, the study continues to get recognition, such as the manuscript publication in the prestigious Journal of Clinical Oncology in December 2008.

For many years, the standard treatment for non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) patients in the U.S. was chemoradiation followed by consolidation chemotherapy.

As the "Guardians of Good Research", the Hoosier Oncology Group conducted an investigator-initiated, randomized, phase III study to re-examine this standard of care for its effectiveness and improved patient outcomes.



**Nasser Hanna, M.D., HOG Chairman and LUN01-24 Principal Investigator, Indiana University Mel and Bren Simon Cancer Center, Indianapolis, IN**



**Marcus Neubauer, M.D., Co-Investigator, U.S. Oncology, Overland Park, KS**

"Our study challenged this idea and demonstrated that the additional consolidation chemotherapy only increased toxicity and risk without improving outcomes. As a result, the practice of many physicians has changed." states Dr. Nasser Hanna, Thoracic Oncologist at the Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center and LUN01-24 Principal Investigator.

The study entitled "Cisplatin plus Etoposide plus Concurrent Chest Radiation with or without Consolidation Docetaxel in Patients with Inoperable Stage III Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC): A Randomized Phase III Study from the Hoosier Oncology Group and US Oncology", enrolled a total of 243 patients at research sites around the country. The initial data analysis indicated there was no increased survival rate for patients who received consolidation docetaxel over those who did not. Under the advisement of data and safety boards, the study was deemed futile and, therefore, terminated.

*"This is a very important study because it helps clarify the management of locally advanced NSCLC. It is compelling to give more chemotherapy to patients to improve outcomes but if outcomes aren't improved, then we are simply administering extra toxicity and cost. So studies like HOG LUN01-24 are just as important, in my opinion, as 'positive' [outcome] studies."*

*Marcus A. Neubauer, M.D., Medical Oncologist at the Kansas City Cancer Center and Co-Investigator on LUN01-24 study.*



**Ronald McGarry, M.D., Co-Investigator, Chandler Medical Center, Lexington, KY**

Ronald McGarry, M.D., Radiation Oncologist at the University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center in Lexington, KY, and co-investigator on the study, comments on the significance of the findings, "The LUN01-24 trial has good impact, in that it may spare patients from needless extra chemotherapy with the added side effects. Secondly, it represents a trial incorporating radiation planning with more current technologies. Radiation oncology has been evolving at a tremendous pace with the addition of CT-based planning, as mandated by the HOG LUN01-24 study. [These added capabilities] can help us sort out issues such as how CT-based planning has improved both local control of cancers and toxicity rates. This is important since much of the current practice is based on older radiation therapy studies that were not image-based, but used traditional clinical setups."

In addition to the recent publication in JCO, Dr. Hanna presented the study findings as an oral presentation at the 2007 World Lung Conference in Seoul, South Korea. The study outcomes were also presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) meetings in 2006, 2007, and 2008, as well as, at the American Society of Therapeutic Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) conference in Boston in 2008.

The Hoosier Oncology Group is proud of our reputation as the guardian of good research. We stand by our research, our data, and our outcomes. It may be some time before a true cure for all cancers is found. In the meantime, we strive to determine the best treatment therapies for cancer patients with less side-effects, improved prognosis, and a better quality of life, and we deliver these cutting-edge therapies to people within their communities.

We would like to thank all the investigators and research site personnel for their dedication to this study and all of our Hoosier Oncology Group researchers for their continued support of our mission.

2008 Journal of Clinical Oncology Manuscript

ASCO 2006 Poster Presentation | ASCO 2007 Poster Presentation | ASCO 2008 Poster Presentation

2008 ASTRO Annual Meeting Abstract

2007 Targeted Therapies of the Treatment of Lung Cancer Conference Poster

2007 World Lung Conference Presentation



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