The Platinum Study has now enrolled over 1,400 men throughout the U.S., Canada and the U.K. We continue to analyze data provided by you, the study participant, and present abstracts of scientifically important information at national and international levels. In addition to the six abstracts mentioned in previous newsletters, six additional abstracts were presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) annual meeting held June 3-7, 2016 in Chicago, IL. Additionally, two abstracts were presented at the American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) annual meeting held October 18-22, 2016 in Vancouver, Canada. For links to these abstracts, please visit The Platinum Study website at the address below. As always, all data are presented in aggregate; no personal identifiers are used.

We extend our best wishes to you in 2017 and sincerely thank you for your role in this research. We remain committed to gaining knowledge to improve the health outcomes for future patients receiving cisplatin-based chemotherapy.

New Publication:

In June of 2016, the high-impact Journal of Clinical Oncology published another article (with editorial) authored by The Platinum Study team including Drs. R. Frisina, H. Wheeler, S. Fossa L. Einhorn and L. Travis. This article describes, for the first time, comprehensive audiometric analyses (including testing at higher frequencies) and other hearing assessments in any population of adult-onset cancer survivors after cisplatin-based chemotherapy. Our thanks to all who have completed their hearing exams to date!

You can find this article on the web at: http://ascopubs.org/doi/pdf/10.1200/JCO.2016.66.8822
Featured Clinician:

Dr. Robert Hamilton is a urologic oncologist at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre in Toronto, Canada. Rob completed his medical school and residency at the University of Toronto. During residency he completed a Masters of Public Health at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Research Fellowship at Duke University Medical Center. After residency he completed a Urologic Oncology fellowship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center before coming on Faculty at Princess Margaret.

Rob’s main clinical interests are testicular, prostate and kidney cancer. He leads the multidisciplinary testicular cancer clinic at Princess Margaret, is Chair of the Medical Advisory Board of Testicular Cancer Canada and Chair of the Research Steering Committee of Movember’s Global Action Plan in testicular cancer translational research. His research interests focus on minimizing treatment morbidity for patients with testicular cancer by identifying better biomarkers to predict relapse and personalizing surveillance and treatment.

The team at Princess Margaret that has been instrumental in assisting with The Platinum Study includes: medical oncologists Philippe Bedard and Aaron Hansen; radiation oncologists Padraig Warde and Peter Chung; nurses Rebecca McKinney, Ana Lisa Wilson, and Judianna Law; and research coordinator Lynn Anson-Cartwright.

Investigator Presentations

Dr. Lois Travis, Indiana University’s Lawrence H. Einhorn Professor of Cancer Research, Director of the Cancer Survivorship Research Program, and Principal Investigator for The Platinum Study continues to present research pertinent to the care of cancer survivors. In our last newsletter, we briefly mentioned her presentation as the featured speaker at the 2016 American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) annual meeting titled, ‘What Have We Learned from Survivors of Adult-Onset Cancer?’ and later she was selected to present a lecture on, ‘Late Effects of Cancer Treatment in Survivors of Adult-Onset Cancer: Past, Present, and Future’ at the 8th Biennial ACS-NCI Cancer Survivorship Research Conference held in Washington, DC in June 2016. In the AACR presentation, Dr. Travis summarized the past few decades of research in cancer survivors, focusing on adolescent and young adult cancers (in particular, Hodgkin lymphoma and testicular cancer) and early-stage breast cancer. Overarching themes included cardiovascular disease and second malignant neoplasms. In the ACS-NCI presentation, Dr. Travis included a discussion of the importance of study design and of re-visiting the known toxicities of longstanding chemotherapeutic regimens in the era of molecular genetics in order to maximize cure while minimizing toxicity. Most recently, Dr. Travis presented as an invited speaker at the Society of Urologic Oncology annual meeting held in San Antonio, TX. Her talk was entitled, ‘The Platinum Study: Clinical Translational Research in Testicular Cancer Survivors,’ and she presented highlights to date of the genetic findings with regard to cisplatin-associated hearing loss.
2016 Meeting of the American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG)
Abstracts & Posters: Your samples and data in action...

Genome Wide Association Study of Cisplatin-Associated Hearing Loss

Dr. Heather Wheeler achieved a remarkable accomplishment of being selected for a PLATFORM presentation at the 2016 meeting of ASHG. She is shown here with her poster presentation at the 2016 meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

Genome Wide Association Study of Cisplatin-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy (CIPN)

Omar El-Charif (shown on the left) was recognized with a 'Reviewers Choice' award on his abstract (rated in top 10% of all abstracts at the ASHG.) Dr. Wheeler is on the right.

GWAS: (Genome-wide association study)
An approach that rapidly scans markers across complete sets of DNA, or genomes, of many people to find genetic variations associated with a disease. The goal is to improve strategies to detect, treat and prevent disease as well as to lay the groundwork for more personalized treatment approaches. Preventive programs and treatments might then be based on a person’s unique genetic makeup.
(from www.genome.gov)

Please visit the website for links to these and other Platinum Study abstracts & publications.
http://cancer.iu.edu/platinum

Please remember... Schedule your Hearing Test

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!
The information provided by this test is extremely important for helping us to advance this research and understand the types of hearing loss that may be associated with cisplatin-based chemotherapy.

If you haven’t completed your hearing test, please contact your study site to schedule this important study exam.

The visit should only take 15 to 20 minutes using state-of-the-art audiology, helping us learn more than ever before about hearing after cisplatin-based chemotherapy in you, the survivor.
Featured Research Study Coordinators

Abigail Blauch
Abigail (shown on the left) earned her bachelor’s degree in Anthropology with a concentration in Human Biology from Temple University and is currently earning her Master of Public Health degree at UPenn. Aside from the PT study, she coordinates a multitude of other studies including testicular, breast, and young adult cancer survivor studies. Her two dogs, Gus and Henry keep her very busy. In her free time she enjoys going for hikes with her boyfriend and spending time with friends and family.

Donna Pucci, MHK
Donna (shown on the right) has worked in the Cancer Survivorship Program for 9 years and has found this growing field to be an exciting journey. As Program Coordinator she is involved with clinical and research programs for breast cancer survivors, young adult survivors of pediatric cancers, and testicular cancer. Originally from Rochester, New York, she received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Windsor in Ontario, Canada. She moved to Philadelphia in 1993 and is now busy raising 3 teenagers—her 17 year old daughter and 15 year old twin boys.

Recipe Sweet Potato, Black Bean, Turkey Chili

Heat oil in a pot on medium-high heat with onion and ground turkey. Once turkey is completely cooked add sweet potato and cook, stirring often.

Add garlic, chili powder, cumin, jalapeno and salt and cook, stirring constantly, for 30 seconds. Add water and bring to a simmer. Cover, reduce heat to maintain a simmer and cook until the sweet potato is tender, 10 to 12 minutes.

Add beans, tomatoes and lime juice; increase heat to high and return to a simmer, stirring often. Reduce heat to low and simmer for an hour stirring often. Remove from heat and stir in cilantro. Add low-fat cheese and tortilla chips (optional).


Servings: 4 • Size: 1 cup • Calories: 307 • Fat: 10 g • Carb: 51 g • Fiber: 2.5 g • Protein: 20 g • Sugar: 0 g Sodium: 494 mg • Cholest: 45 mg