



## A NEW VACCINE THAT MAY DELAY CANCER RECURRENCE

*Vaccine Boosts Immunity Against Cancer Target*

A team of CRI/LICR Cancer Vaccine Collaborative researchers in Melbourne, Australia, and New York, NY, recently published findings in the July 13 issue of the scientific journal, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA*, reporting that they have co-developed a therapeutic cancer vaccine which has successfully induced a comprehensive immune response in patients and appears to delay cancer recurrence. This is the second time in the past year that CVC researchers in Australia have announced significant results in their cancer vaccine studies.

The phase I clinical study was carried out by teams of clinicians and scientists at the Austin Hospital and the Peter MacCallum Cancer Center in Melbourne, Australia, the Melbourne Branch of the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research based at Austin Hospital, the New York Branch of the LICR, and the Department of Pathology at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University, New York, NY. Researchers from the Australian biotechnology company CSL Limited, also contributed to the study.

The study treated 46 patients, most with melanoma, with three monthly doses of the NY-ESO-1/

ISCOMATRIX™ vaccine following surgical removal of the tumor. The vaccine combines the cancer-specific protein, the NY-ESO-1 antigen, discovered by LICR researchers, with an immune stimulant, the ISCOMATRIX™ adjuvant, developed by CSL Ltd. In the study, some patients received different doses of the vaccine, some received the NY-ESO-1 protein without the ISCOMATRIX™ complex, and some received an inactive placebo. Detailed studies of the patients' immune responses revealed that the NY-ESO-1/ISCOMATRIX™ vaccine, in contrast to vaccination with the pla-

cebo, induced the production of antibodies, and CD8 and CD4 T cells that target the NY-ESO-1 antigen on cancer cells. Vaccination with the NY-ESO-1 protein alone induced fewer responses than the NY-ESO-1/ISCOMATRIX™ vaccine.

"These results are very exciting," said Dr. Jonathan Cebon, Head of the Joint Austin Health/Ludwig Institute Oncology Unit in Melbourne. "They show that it is possible to stimulate an integrated immune response that has the potential to attack cancer from a number of different angles.

continued on page 4



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International Cancer Immunotherapy Symposia Series

**CANCER VACCINES 2004:  
THE NEXT DECADE**

*A Report from the World*

**October 4-6, 2004**

*The Manhattan Conference Center at the Millennium Broadway, New York City*

For registration materials and more information go to:  
[www.cancerresearch.org](http://www.cancerresearch.org)

## Cyclists Cross Country for Cancer Research

Recreational cyclist and Boston resident James Jones, age 40, along with several traveling companions, recently completed an astounding and inspirational 57-day, 4,000-mile cross-country bike

trip that began just north of Seattle, Washington, and ended in Provincetown, Massachusetts. Prompted by the death of his longtime friend Jim Holmwood, who



Day 1 in Anacortes, WA

passed away last December from complications stemming from cancer, Mr. Jones organized the trip to raise more than \$12,000 in donations for the Cancer Research Institute as well as several other charities. The group of friends traveled eastward through the Cascade mountain range, through Idaho and Montana, down into Wyoming's Yellowstone National Park and Big-horn Range.

"The entire state of Wyoming was really the best part of the whole trip," Mr. Jones said, commenting on the natural beauty of the landscape as well as the hospitality of the residents there.

From there, they continued through the South Dakota Badlands, which Mr. Jones said was the most difficult challenge to overcome mentally. "There's just nothing there, and we were in the middle of nowhere day after day. We had a lot of bad weather then, too." What kept his team going, he said, were the pledges and encouraging comments coming on his website each day. Continuing across the flat plains of Iowa and Illinois, the team then swung north through Chicago to travel along

the Lake Erie coast into New York, where they visited Niagara Falls and then New York City.

"You wouldn't think so, but the interior of New York State was the most physically challenging part of the whole trip, even tougher than the mountains out west. The grade of incline on western roads is much smaller given their relative newness and the superiority of technology used to create them compared to the much older roads through the hills in New York. We were totally whipped by the time we got to New York City."

From Long Island, they ferried across the sound to Connecticut, up through Newport, Rhode Island, and then onto Cape Cod, where they ceremonially dipped their bicycles into the Atlantic Ocean on the beaches of Provincetown, Massachusetts.



Day 57 in Provincetown, MA

Throughout the amazing journey, Mr. Jones and his friends kept a detailed online journal ([www.cross-countrybike-trip.com](http://www.cross-countrybike-trip.com)), which includes stunning photographs and

a narrative that is sure to inspire anyone considering taking on such an enormous challenge.

Mr. Jones said that he was very impressed with what he read in charity rating guides about CRI's efficiency. "In fact," he added, "CRI was responsible for driving much of the donations we received. Cancer touches a lot of people."

CRI extends deep gratitude and hearty congratulations to Mr. Jones and friends on their outstanding accomplishment. 🚴



# CRI c a l e n d a r

### Meetings & Events:

**September 20** • 10th Annual CRI Challenge, Golf Club of Purchase, Purchase, NY

**October 2** • 10th Annual Rhea (Rose Marie) Finnell Memorial Dinner Dance, North Hempstead Country Club, Port Washington, NY

**October 4-6** • Cancer Vaccines 2004 Symposium, Manhattan Conference Center, NYC, NY

To register or purchase tickets, please call 212-688-7515 or e-mail us at [events@cancerresearch.org](mailto:events@cancerresearch.org).

### Research Program Deadlines:

**October 1** • Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

**March 1** • Investigator Award Program

**March 1** • Predoctoral Emphasis Pathway in Tumor Immunology

**April 1** • Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

Updated information and application materials are available on our website at [www.cancerresearch.org](http://www.cancerresearch.org).

### Workplace Giving Programs Make Contributing Even Easier

Did you know that you can contribute to CRI through a payroll deduction plan at work? Just ask your human resources department.

CRI is part of the Combined Federal Campaign (member 0517) and participates in corporate workplace giving as a member of Community Health Charities. CRI also participates in United Way Donor Choice programs and in many state and local government employee campaigns.

## THE RESEARCHER

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