



## October 2017 Newsletter

Volume 5 Issue 9

### A Letter from the Founder, Dr. Christine Brezden- Masley

Dear CCTC Members,

Since the launch of the CCTC in 2011, the consortium has remarkably expanded to over 260 members across 31 institutions, including 12 of the major cancer centres in Ontario.

We greatly value any input, feedback, and suggestions in order to make your experience with the site as user-friendly as possible. E-mail us at [cometrials@smh.ca](mailto:cometrials@smh.ca) and we will be more than happy to assist.

Sincerely,

Dr. Christine Brezden-Masley  
Founder, CCTC

### A Letter from the Project Manager, Nicole Veloce

Hello CCTC Members,

Thank you to all our members for your continued support.

Please feel free share CCTC with your oncology colleagues. We are always happy to have new members join the CCTC network! CCTC is continuing to grow with over 270 members and 31 institutions.

If you have an accruing trial you would like to highlight, please email [cometrials@smh.ca](mailto:cometrials@smh.ca) to nominate it to be one of our next *Trials of the Month*.

As always, please contact me at [cometrials@smh.ca](mailto:cometrials@smh.ca) any time with questions, comments or concerns.

Kind Regards,

Nicole Veloce  
Project Manager, CCTC

## ARTICLE RECOMMENDATION

### Perceptions of control and unrealistic optimism in early-phase cancer trials.

Jansen LA, Mahadevan D2 Appelbaum PS, Klein WMP, Weinstein ND, Mori M, Degnin C, Sulmasy DP.

J Med Ethics; 0:1.

DOI: 10.1136/medethics-2016-103724, Published August 2017

**Purpose:** Recent research has found unrealistic optimism (UO) among patient-subjects in early-phase oncology trials. Our aim was to investigate the cognitive and motivational factors that evoke this bias in this context. We expected perceptions of control to be a strong correlate of unrealistic optimism.

**Methods:** A study of patient-subjects enrolled in early-phase oncology trials was conducted at two sites in the USA. Respondents completed questionnaires designed to assess unrealistic optimism and several risk attribute variables that have been found to evoke the bias in other contexts.

**Results:** One hundred and seventy-one patient-subjects agreed to be interviewed for our study. Significant levels of perceived controllability were found with respect to all nine research-related questions. Perceptions of control were found to predict unrealistic optimism. Two other risk attribute variables, awareness of indicators ( $p=0.024$ ) and mental image ( $p=0.022$ ), were correlated with unrealistic optimism. However, in multivariate regression analysis, awareness and mental image dropped out of the model and perceived controllability was the only factor independently associated with unrealistic optimism ( $p<0.0001$ ).

**Conclusions:** Patient-subjects reported that they can, at least partially, control the benefits they receive from participating in an early-phase oncology trial. This sense of control may underlie unrealistic optimism about benefiting personally from trial participation. Effective interventions to counteract unrealistic optimism may need to address the psychological factors that give rise to distorted risk/benefit processing.

## TRIALS SNAPSHOT

Trial Type	Any Malignancy	Breast	CNS	GI	GU	GYN	Head & Neck	Heme	Lung	Mel	Total
Imaging Study	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	3
Observational	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	6
Prevention	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Radiation	-	3	-	3	5	-	1	-	6	-	18
Supportive Care	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Surgical Therapy	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	4
Systemic Therapy	1	8	1	12	16	6	2	9	11	6	72
Therapeutic	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	3	-	-	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>117</b>



## October 2017 Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 9

### TRIALS OF THE MONTH

Type	Acronym	Study Title	Description	Site(s)
Breast	<u>MonarcHer</u>	A Phase 2, Randomized, Multicenter, 3-Arm, Open-Label Study to Compare the Efficacy of Abemaciclib Plus Trastuzumab With or Without Fulvestrant to Standard-of-Care Chemotherapy of Physician's Choice Plus Trastuzumab in Women With HR+, HER2+ Locally Advanced or Metastatic Breast Cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HER2 Positive</li> <li>• Locally Advanced or Metastatic</li> <li>• Systemic Therapy</li> </ul>	Southlake Regional Health Centre
GU	<u>PACE</u>	International Randomised Study of Laparoscopic Prostatectomy vs Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy (SBRT) and Conventionally Fractionated Radiotherapy vs SBRT for Early Stage Organ-Confining Prostate Cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prostate Cancer</li> <li>• Newly Diagnosed</li> <li>• Radiation Therapy</li> </ul>	London Health Sciences Centre
Heme	<u>Portal HTN</u>	Screening for Asymptomatic Portal Vein Thrombosis and Portal Hypertension in Patients With Philadelphia Negative Myeloproliferative Neoplasms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Myeloproliferative Neoplasms</li> <li>• Maintenance</li> <li>• Imaging Study</li> </ul>	Odette Cancer Centre
GYN	<u>Cervical Pro</u>	Feasibility and Acceptability of Measuring Cervical Cancer Specific Patient-Reported Outcomes in Clinical Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cervical Cancer</li> <li>• Adjuvant</li> <li>• Observational</li> </ul>	Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre
Lung	<u>ALMERA</u>	A Phase II Study to Investigate a Combination of Metformin With Chemo-Radiotherapy in Patients With Locally Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-Small Cell</li> <li>• Adjuvant</li> <li>• Systemic Therapy</li> </ul>	Kingston General Hospital Grand River Hospital
Mel	<u>CA184-143</u>	A Multi-National, Prospective, Observational Study in Patients With Unresectable or Metastatic Melanoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Melanoma</li> <li>• Stage IV</li> <li>• Systemic Therapy</li> </ul>	London Health Sciences Centre
GI	<u>JAVELIN Gastric 100</u>	A Phase III Open-label, Multicenter Trial of Maintenance Therapy With Avelumab (MSB0010718C) Versus Continuation of First-line Chemotherapy in Subjects With Unresectable, Locally Advanced or Metastatic, Adenocarcinoma of the Stomach, or of the Gastro-esophageal Junction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gastric/Stomach Cancer</li> <li>• Metastatic</li> <li>• Systemic Therapy</li> </ul>	Humber River Regional Hospital Odette Cancer Centre



[Click here to NOMINATE your trial for Trials of the Month!](#)



## MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

**270 members**

**31 institutions**

**117 accruing trials**



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The CCTC has been funded by unrestricted educational grants from the following supporters:



## CONTACT US

Do you have any questions, feedback, suggestions? Please do not hesitate to contact us.

30 Bond Street  
Toronto, ON Canada  
M5B 1W8

[comettrials@smh.ca](mailto:comettrials@smh.ca)  
(416) 809-3915

[@COMET\\_Trials](https://www.comettrials.com)

[www.comettrials.com](http://www.comettrials.com)

## INSTITUTIONS

Institution	Location	Members	Trials
Cambridge Memorial Hospital	Cambridge	3	3
Grand River Hospital	Waterloo	9	1
Humber River Regional Hospital	Toronto	5	5
Kingston General Hospital	Kingston	4	25
Juravinski Cancer Centre	Hamilton	7	-
Lakeridge Health Corporation	Oshawa	21	-
London Health Sciences Centre	London	9	62
Mackenzie Health Hospital	Richmond Hill	6	-
Markham Stouffville Hospital	Markham	4	1
Mount Sinai Hospital	Toronto	2	4
North York General Hospital	Toronto	13	5
Odette Cancer Centre/Sunnybrook	Toronto	53	37
Ontario Institute for Cancer Research	Toronto	4	-
Ottawa Hospital	Ottawa	2	-
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre	Toronto	23	1
Quinte Health Care	Belleville	1	-
Rouge Valley Health System	Ajax	3	-
Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre	Barrie	23	16
Scarborough General Hospital	Toronto	2	-
Southlake Regional Health Centre	Newmarket	19	11
St. Joseph's Health Centre	Toronto	4	-
St. Joseph's Healthcare	Hamilton	4	-
St. Michael's Hospital	Toronto	14	4
Sudbury Regional Hospital	Sudbury	1	-
Thunder Bay Regional	Thunder Bay	2	-
Toronto General Hospital	Toronto	3	1
Toronto East General Hospital	Toronto	6	-
Trillium Health Partners	Mississauga	17	-
William Osler Health Systems	Brampton	4	-
Windsor Regional Hospital	Windsor	1	-
Wingham and District Hospital	Wingham	1	-