

# TOBACCO SETTLEMENT REVENUE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

**Jessica M. Valdez, MD, MPH**

**UNM Pediatric Oncology**

Director Pediatric Oncology Clinical Research

Institutional Principal Investigator Children's Oncology Group

Division of Pediatric Hematology Oncology

Department of Pediatrics

University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center

# Tobacco Settlement Funding Support

---

- Personnel

- Projects

- Patients

# UNM Pediatric Oncology

---

- Our goal is to decrease the burden of childhood cancer through comprehensive clinical service, research and education
- The University of New Mexico is the only tertiary pediatric oncology center in the state of New Mexico providing comprehensive clinical care
- We strive to provide the most up-to-date cancer treatments to children and young adults across the state of New Mexico

# Children's Oncology Group

---

- National Cancer Institute supported clinical trials consortium
- Devoted to childhood and adolescent cancer research
- More than 10,000 members at more than 200 hospitals in North America, Europe, Australia and New Zealand.
- 90% of children diagnosed with cancer in the United States are cared for at COG institutions

***Through COG and similar research groups we have improved the survival of children with cancer from 10%, 50 years ago to a combined 5-year survival rate of 80% today.***

# Children's Oncology Group

---

- Offering the most up-to-date, clinical trials and cutting edge research
  - *Targeted therapies*
  - *Precision medicine approach to cancer treatment*
  - *Decreasing toxicities and long term side effects*
  
- Keeping New Mexico families close to home
  - *~100 newly diagnosed patients per year*
  - *~70 seen at UNM Pediatric Oncology*

# COG Pediatric Research Trials at UNM

---

- Currently: 20 open clinical trials
  - 12 therapeutic trials
    - Leukemia: ALL, AML, Relapsed
    - High Risk Neuroblastoma
    - Low Grade Glioma
    - Standard Risk Germ Cell Tumors
    - Hepatic Malignancy
    - High Grade Glioma
- High Priority Pending Trials: 7
- Second Tier Trials To Open: 10
  - High Grade Glioma
  - Relapsed Hodgkin Lymphoma
  - Rhabdomyosarcoma
  - Relapsed Leukemia

Renal Cell Carcinoma  
AML  
Medulloblastoma  
Desmoid Tumors

# UNM Pediatric Oncology Enrollments

---

- July 2021- September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021
  - 15 new diagnoses to date
  - 100% of patients approached for clinical trials
  - 7 patients enrolled, 2 declined due to religious reasons, 6 pending
  
  - 5 patients eligible for therapeutic trial
  - 5 patients enrolled on therapeutic trial

# Development of New Programs to Meet the Needs of New Mexico

---

- Cancer Predisposition Clinic
  - *Only program in the state*
  - *Partnered with Genetics*
- Vascular Lesion Clinic
  - *Multidisciplinary clinic*
- Pediatric Oncology Focused Palliative Care
  - *Focused on the specific needs of our patient population*
- Survivorship Clinic
  - *Rapidly growing cancer survivor population*

# Research Initiatives

---

- Collaboration with Boston Children's and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital to evaluate clinical trial enrollment practices among minority patients
- Collaboration with New Mexico Tumor Registry and Department of Epidemiology to characterize pediatric cancers in New Mexico from 1980-2019
- National publications in scientific research journals

# Future Goals

---

- Increasing support for Division of Pediatric Oncology
  - *Genetic Counselor*
  - *Faculty*
  - *Increased clinical support for families and patients*
- Expansion of clinical trials available for patients
- Continued departmental research and collaborations with outside institutions

# Thank You

---

- We are very appreciative of the support this funding provides which allows us to care for the patients and families in New Mexico
- We look forward to additional support through this program and any other avenue available
- Until there's a cure...

# Questions

---



