



Cedars-Sinai Surgical Oncologist Dr. Farin Amersi awarded unique patent.

Fifty percent of patients with stage IV melanoma present with disease that has spread to the small intestine. Through her research, Dr. Farin Amersi has found a chemokine receptor CCR9 that is only found on cutaneous melanoma that allows melanoma cells to migrate to the small intestine, where a specific ligand (a molecule that binds to another, for example a hormone or a neurotransmitter that binds to another entity) to this receptor is found. This was not seen in any other organs such as liver, colon, stomach and lung. Dr Amersi's work has been awarded a patent in the use of this receptor CCR9 and its ligand in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with melanoma.

Dr. Amersi is an attending physician at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center with offices in the Outpatient Cancer Center at the Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute. Her specialty is in surgical oncology with clinical expertise in breast cancer, and endocrine, melanoma, sarcoma and gastrointestinal surgery.