



CALENDAR LISTING:

- WHAT:** “Outsmarting Brain Tumors,” a FREE one-day educational conference for patients with brain tumors and their caregivers
- WHO:** Cedars-Sinai Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute
- WHERE:** Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Harvey Morse Auditorium, 8700 Beverly Blvd., LA
- WHEN:** Saturday, Oct. 11, 2003, 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- WHY:** This conference will provide the latest information on research and treatment for adult and pediatric brain tumors, as well as information on alternative therapies, diet and practical matters related to treatment and recovery.
- OTHER:** The conference is free, and parking will be validated, but advance reservations are required. Call 1-800-CEDARS1 (1-800-233-2771).

NEWS RELEASE HIGHLIGHTS:

A variety of specialists from Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and its Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute, as well as guest speakers from Duke University and the House Ear Clinic, will present the latest information on research and treatment for adult and pediatric brain tumors. The Oct. 11 conference is designed to educate brain tumor patients and their caregivers about the latest research that has been translated into surgical and non-surgical treatments, and to provide information on alternative therapies, diet and practical matters related to treatment and recovery. The all-day conference is free and open to the public, but advance reservations are needed. Please call 1-800-233-2771 (1-800-CEDARS1).

KEITH BLACK, M.D., AND CEDARS-SINAI MAXINE DUNITZ NEUROSURGICAL INSTITUTE HOST “OUTSMARTING BRAIN TUMORS” CONFERENCE

LOS ANGELES (September 8, 2003) – Cedars-Sinai’s Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute will present a daylong conference, “Outsmarting Brain Tumors,” for adult and pediatric brain tumor patients, their families and caregivers on Saturday, Oct. 11, 2003. The conference is designed to educate brain tumor patients and their caregivers about the latest research that has been translated into surgical and non-surgical treatments, and to provide information on alternative therapies, diet and practical matters related to treatment and recovery.

The free conference will be held in the medical center's Harvey Morse Auditorium from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided and parking will be validated. Advance reservations are needed, and may be made by calling 1-800-CEDARS1 (1-800-233-2771).

Following opening remarks by Institute Director Keith L. Black, M.D., a keynote address on novel chemotherapy treatment will be presented by Henry Friedman, M.D., the James B. Powell, Jr., Professor of Neuro-Oncology at Duke University. Dr. Friedman is co-director of the Clinical Neuro-Oncology Program of The Brain Tumor Center, professor of pediatrics and associate professor of surgery and medicine at Duke.

Dr. Black will present a keynote address on bench-to-bedside medicine, the application of laboratory discoveries to patient care. The founder of the Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute in 1997, Dr. Black serves as director of Cedars-Sinai's Division of Neurosurgery and the Comprehensive Brain Tumor Program. He holds the Ruth and Lawrence Harvey Chair in Neuroscience.

Conference topics and presenters include:

Vaccine and Stem Cell Therapy – John S. Yu, M.D., neurosurgeon and co-director of the Comprehensive Brain Tumor Program at Cedars-Sinai.

Gene Therapeutics – Pedro Lowenstein, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Gene Therapeutics Research Institute, co-director of the Division of Molecular Medicine, and holder of the Bram and Elaine Goldsmith Chair of Gene Therapeutics at Cedars-Sinai.

Radiation Therapy and Radiosurgery – James Fontanesi, M.D., chairman of the Department of Radiation Oncology at Cedars-Sinai.

Seizures Associated with Brain Tumors and Their Management – Asha Das, M.D., director of the Neuro-Oncology Program at the Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute.

Decadron, Anti-Convulsants and Other Common Drugs Used by Patients with Brain Tumors – William Young, M.D., specialist in internal medicine and pulmonary diseases at Cedars-Sinai.

Pituitary Tumors – Brian Pikul, M.D., neurosurgeon at the Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute.

Acoustic Neuromas – Rick Friedman, M.D., Ph.D., guest speaker from the House Ear Clinic in Los Angeles.

Surgical and Radiosurgical Treatment of Meningiomas – Dr. Yu.

The Role of Imaging Studies in Diagnosis and Treatment of Brain Tumors – Frank Moser, M.D., director of Clinical Neuroradiology and Interventional Neuroradiology at Cedars-Sinai.

Integrative Medicine – Evan Ross, Licensed Acupuncturist and Doctor of Oriental Medicine at Cedars-Sinai.

Novel Approaches to Treating Pediatric Brain Tumors – Moise Danielpour, M.D., neurosurgeon and director of Pediatric Neurosurgery at the Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute.

Chemotherapy Treatment for Pediatric Brain Tumors – Carol Hurvitz, M.D., director of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at Cedars-Sinai.

Neurologic Complications of Pediatric Brain Tumors – Dr. Das.

Novel Gene Therapies for Pediatric Brain Tumors – Maria Castro, Ph.D., co-director of the Gene Therapeutics Research Institute and co-director of the Division of Molecular Medicine at Cedars-Sinai.

Radiation Treatment and the Side Effects for Pediatric Brain Tumors – Dr. Fontanesi.

“Outsmarting Brain Tumors” is supported by the American Brain Tumor Association, the National Brain Tumor Foundation, the Florida Brain Tumor Association, and The Wellness Community.

Cedars-Sinai is one of the largest nonprofit academic medical centers in the Western United States. For the fifth straight two-year period, it has been named Southern California's gold standard in health care in an independent survey. Cedars-Sinai is internationally renowned for its diagnostic and treatment capabilities and its broad spectrum of programs and services, as well as breakthroughs in biomedical research and superlative medical education. Named one of the 100 "Most Wired" hospitals, the Medical Center ranks among the top 10 non-university hospitals in the nation for its research activities.

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