

RE: PTK787 / ZK222584 (PTK787) Clinical Trial

Dear Colleague:

The Angiogenesis Foundation is contacting you to discuss a pivotal clinical trial of an antiangiogenic therapy (PTK787) being co-sponsored by Novartis Pharmaceuticals and Schering AG. I am inviting you and your oncology colleagues to refer patients with advanced colorectal cancer to this study.

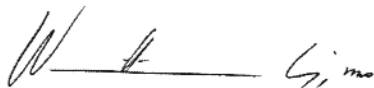
As you may know, approximately 170,000 patients in the US and Canada were diagnosed with cancer of the colon or rectum this year, resulting in over 58,000 deaths. A new molecular targeted therapy is being developed to control tumor growth by inhibiting the tumor blood supply. This clinical trial, called CONFIRM™ 2 (Colorectal Oral Novel Therapy For the Inhibition of Angiogenesis and Retarding of Metastases) uses an oral antagonist of vascular endothelial growth factor receptors, called PTK787, to block new blood vessel formation (angiogenesis) to prevent tumor growth in patients suffering from metastatic colorectal cancer. Results from a recent Phase 2 study were presented as a poster at the 2003 annual meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, and showed that 81% of 21 patients were stabilized or partial responders when given first line treatment with PTK787 in combination with the new standard chemotherapy regimen, FOLFOX-4. The median time to progression with this combination was 11 months.

What are the benefits to your patient? This clinical trial could offer a favorable treatment option for patients with metastatic colorectal cancer incorporating antiangiogenic therapy. If you have patients, male or female, 18 years of age or older, suffering from metastatic colorectal cancer, please call the Angiogenesis Foundation at (617) 576-5737 to speak with Alex Adler, our CONFIRM™ 2 trial specialist. We are a nonprofit medical organization dedicated to improving cancer care.

Attached please find some literature describing PTK787 and FOLFOX, a flyer with additional information, and more detailed inclusion/exclusion criteria for the CONFIRM™ 2 trial.

We very much look forward to speaking with you soon.

Sincerely,



William W. Li, M.D.
President and Medical Director
Angiogenesis Foundation

Attachments