

Melanoma Walk 2014 was a day to remember!

The Skin Cancer Institute hosted the 5th annual Melanoma Walk on Nov. 1, 2014. We had over 300 walkers participate, and raised over \$45,000 for the cause! In addition, our wonderful community doctors screened 70 individuals for skin cancer. They identified numerous basal and squamous cell skin cancers, and 3 possible melanomas!

It was a beautiful day for the Walk. It is always inspiring to us at the SCI to meet our walkers and see their great commitment. Thanks to everyone who came out to support the cause.

We also deeply appreciate our volunteers who generously gave their time to make the Walk so successful. A special thanks goes out to all of our sponsors and to those who provided in-kind donations.

Without the support of everyone, we could not make this powerful event happen.

See you next year!



Our mascot Ray making friends before the walk



A touching moment before the walk

Walk Tales

The Melanoma Walk gives people an opportunity to come together and share their stories. Here is one of those stories...

Bonnie's Story

"For me, being at the walk with my kids and grandkids, my mom and my husband is a wonderful and specific way of celebrating the years I have been THRIVING (I never use survivor---not my thing). Being there with Martha, her husband Danny and their kids makes it all the more special. Watching Martha's young children fill out their team bibs proudly noting they were walking for the best mommy anywhere was a moving moment. Martha and I have both outlived our expiration dates...everything looks different from this side!"



Bonnie at Martha at the Melanoma Walk

Research News

Afamelanotide, a drug that was first synthesized by researchers at the University of Arizona, has recently been approved in Australia and Europe to treat several serious sun-induced skin diseases. Afamelanotide is a photo-protective drug that increases melanin levels in the human skin to help protect against ultraviolet radiation (UVR) from the sun. The drug aims to treat people suffering from skin disorders caused by sun/UVR exposure. One such disease is erythropoietic protoporphyria (EPP), a debilitating disorder which manifests as extreme intolerance to sunlight/UVR. Patients with EPP suffer from pain, swelling, blistering and scarring when exposed to sunlight. Treatment with Afamelanotide significantly reduces these symptoms.

The SCI Thanks You!



Jill Rogers came to the SCI in 2010 as a student worker and was immediately loved by all! She was a nursing major in the honors college when she decided to do her thesis on sun safety and skin cancer prevention. She was an integral part in getting Project SASS (Students Are Sun Safe) up and running by creating the initial PowerPoint which teaches U of A students how to deliver the sun safe message to grade school and high school students. Even though Jill has moved on to become a nurse in the Phoenix area, she continues to volunteer her time for SCI events whenever she can. *"Everyone at the Skin Cancer Institute truly loves what they're doing, and it shows in all of the great programs and resources they provide to the Tucson community. I always look forward to volunteering at skin cancer screenings and catching up with everyone from the SCI. Thanks for such great experiences!"* Thanks for everything Jill. You continue to be an amazing part of the SCI team!



Janet Cooley is a melanoma survivor and has been a wonderful part of the SCI team since we created our mission back in 2005. We can count on her to be there to support every event and she always brings knowledge and enthusiasm with her! Her loyalty to the SCI is always appreciated and we look forward to seeing her every time she volunteers. We greatly value you and your undying spirit for the cause Janet!

"The Skin Cancer Institute is an important part of our community, and I am so proud to be a part of it. As a volunteer, and as a melanoma survivor, I look forward to helping out with the SCI's events every year!"

Year-End Giving

Think of the Skin Cancer
Institute this year for your
holiday donations!

All funds help move forward the
mission of the Skin Cancer
Institute to prevent and cure skin
cancer.

Visit: azskincancerinstitute.org to
make a donation today!

Celebrating 10 Years of Innovative Patient Care

The Skin Cancer Institute and the University of Arizona Cancer Center celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Cutaneous Oncology Program (COP) on October 19th. Physicians, nurses and patients came out for this event and shared their stories of why the program has been such an important collaboration and a step forward in medicine and patient care.

The COP was created to offer patients with melanoma, and other rare skin cancers, a "comprehensive, one stop care" model. During a clinic visit, patients have the opportunity to be evaluated by all the physicians they need to see for the treatment of their skin cancer, including dermatologists, oncologists, surgeons, nurses, educators and social workers. The COP has been an extremely successful program for the Cancer Center and continues to offer the gold standard in care for high-risk skin cancer patients. The program began in 2004 with members Dr. Cranmer, Dr. Curiel, Dr. Warneke and Dr. Bangert and has expanded to include an ENT oncology surgeon, radiation oncology, and hemepathology. In 2013, 8,500 patients were treated in the COP. The SCI is proud to be part of this unprecedented and innovative program, and we look forward to its continued success!



Dr. Lee Cranmer, Lynne Morrison, Dr. Clara Curiel and Jill Winter

Become a SPF partner today!

Skin cancer Prevention Friends (SPF)

Donate \$100 and receive a subscription to our newsletter and other publications, alerts for all of our events, and an invitation to an annual luncheon featuring speakers on melanoma and skin cancer treatment and prevention. **SPF Leaders** donate \$500+ and receive all of the above, plus play a leadership role in the SPF partnership, with a chance to review the progress of SCI and make recommendations for the growth of SCI and serve on an Action Committee:

- External review of seed grants
- Marketing of SCI programs
- Fund-raising

Call us today to learn more about this exciting new opportunity!
520-626-1074