

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Rosanne Fohn

Phone: 210-677-8808

E-mail: rfohn@swog.org

Southwest Oncology Group contributes to new NCI recommendation for treating advanced ovarian cancer

The Southwest Oncology Group conducted studies that have collectively contributed to the evidence that chemotherapy delivered both intravenously and into the abdominal cavity after surgery improves overall survival for women with advanced ovarian cancer.

On Jan. 5, the National Cancer Institute issued an [announcement](#) recommending the combined regimen. Data show that overall survival is improved by about a year. An intergroup trial led by the Southwest Oncology Group and a second trial in which the Group participated were among eight studies that evaluated the combined method and demonstrated its success. The NCI announcement was made in connection with the publication of the eighth study assessing the approach.

“We are pleased to know that our research helped confirm the value of peritoneal chemotherapy in improving survival for women with advanced ovarian cancer,” said Chairman Laurence H. Baker, D.O. “This validates the Southwest Oncology Group mission of conducting clinical trials that measurably improve the outcome of patients with cancer.”

Following are descriptions of the two trials in which the Southwest Oncology Group participated:

- [SWOG-8501 \(INT-0051\)](#), a Southwest Oncology Group-led intergroup trial coordinated by David S. Alberts, M.D., was the earliest of the eight trials listed. It is titled “Intraperitoneal Cis-Platinum/Intravenous Cyclophosphamide Versus Intravenous Cis-Platinum/Intravenous Cyclophosphamide in Patients with Non-Measurable (Optimal) Disease Stage III Ovarian Cancer.”

- The Southwest Oncology Group also participated in an intergroup trial led by the Gynecologic Oncology Group ([GOG-115, SWOG-9227](#)), titled “Phase III trial of standard-dose intravenous cisplatin plus paclitaxel versus moderately high-dose carboplatin followed by intravenous paclitaxel and intraperitoneal cisplatin in small-volume stage III ovarian carcinoma.”

(MORE)

About the Southwest Oncology Group

The Southwest Oncology Group is one of the largest cancer clinical trials cooperative research groups in the United States. The Group is a network of more than 5,000 physician-researchers located at nearly 650 institutions. In addition to their regular medical practices, Group investigators work together on clinical trials funded by the National Cancer Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health, to prevent and treat cancer in adults. Among the Group's institutions are 17 of the NCI's 61 designated cancer centers. The Group enrolls nearly 7,200 patients each year and has about 120 clinical trials underway at any given time. The Southwest Oncology Group Headquarters Office is at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Mich., the Operations Office is in San Antonio, Texas, and the Statistical Center is in Seattle, Wash.

For more information about the Southwest Oncology Group contact Rosanne Fohn at 210-677-8808 or rfohn@swog.org.

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