

Welcome

Welcome to the first CRI quarterly newsletter. This newsletter is a new platform to showcase cancer-related research activities in the Faculty of Health Sciences to research colleagues, clinicians, funders and the public. The newsletter will be distributed quarterly via email and published on the CRI website:

<http://www.health.uct.ac.za/fhs/research/groupings/cri>

It's been an exciting start to 2019 for cancer researchers across the Faculty with numerous events, publications, awareness days, training sessions and seminars.

News & Events

- The **South African Medical Research Council's (SAMRC) Gynaecological Cancer Research Centre (GCRC)** held their **Annual Research Indaba** at the GSH Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department on 24 January 2019. The indaba brought together researchers, postgraduate students, supervisors and funders to share experiences around the challenges of gynaecological cancer in South Africa. **Prof Lyn Denny** expressed gratitude towards everyone's participation in the event.
- **2nd International Human Papillomavirus Awareness Campaign** was held from 4-15 March 2019. The campaign aimed to raise awareness about the availability of prevention tools, promote education about HPV, and encourage governments and individuals across the world to take action against HPV. **Dr Zizipho Mbulawa** was among the representatives of the operating partners for 2019 HPV International HPV awareness day.
- The **Prince laboratory**, in partnership with **CANSA**, hosted its annual Shavathon in the FHS on the 14th March 2019. The event was led by an eager team of lab members with a lot of hair spray, hair clippers and energy. The day was a fantastic success with over R4000 raised.



- The first CRI Seminar for 2019 was held on 28 March. **Prof Stefan Barth** presented on "*Antibodies as tools in cancer.*" **Dr Zainab Mohamed** and **Dr Dharshnee Chetty** responded followed by a lively Q&A session that focused on interdisciplinary engagement. Over 30 students, lecturers and UCT staff attended the seminar with 3 basic science and 3 clinical departments represented



- **Division of Otorhinolaryngology:** The 13th **UCT Karl Storz Fellow** in Advanced Head and Neck Surgery completed his training at the end of March.
- **Division of Radiation Oncology:** **Access to Care Cape Town** is in its 4th year of existence, training teams of radiotherapy professionals from throughout South Africa and Africa in transitioning from low key 2-D radiotherapy to conformal 3-D radiotherapy. Teams from Nigeria and Zambia and 2 local teams from Groote Schuur Hospital, Tygerberg Hospital and Kwa-Zulu Natal are currently participating in the training.



New websites launched

- Released in January 2019: **African Head and Neck Society (AfHNS) Clinical Practice Guidelines for Head and Neck Cancer in Developing Countries and Limited Resource Settings:**
<https://developingworldheadandneckcancerguidelines.com/>
- The **Gynaecological Cancer Research Centre (GCRC)** is excited to announce the launch of its new website. Watch this space for more details!

Recent Cancer Publications

1. Cervenka, B., Pipkorn, P., Fagan, J., Zafereo, M., Aswani, J., Macharia, C., ... Moore, M. (2019). **Oral cavity cancer management guidelines for low-resource regions**. *Head & Neck*, 41(3), 799–812. doi:10.1002/hed.25423
2. Bleloch, J. S., du Toit, A., Gibhard, L., Kimani, S., Ballim, R. D., Lee, M., ... Prince, S. (2019). **The palladacycle complex AJ-5 induces apoptotic cell death while reducing autophagic flux in rhabdomyosarcoma cells**. *Cell Death Discovery*, 5(1). doi:10.1038/s41420-019-0139-9
3. Fagan, J. J., Otiti, J., Aswani, J., Konney, A., Diom, E. S., Baidoo, K., ... Koch, W. M. (2019). **African head and neck fellowships: A model for a sustainable impact on head and neck cancer care in developing countries**. *Head & Neck*. doi:10.1002/hed.25615
4. Manana, W., Fagan J.J. **Cervicofacial flaps in head and neck reconstruction**. Open Access Atlas of Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Operative Surgery. Access: <https://vula.uct.ac.za/access/content/group/ba5fb1bd-be95-48e5-81be-586fbaeba29d/Cervicofacial%20flaps%20for%20head%20and%20neck%20reconstruction.pdf>
5. Moodley, J., Constant, D., Botha, M. H., van der Merwe, F. H., Edwards, A., & Momberg, M. (2019). **Exploring the feasibility of using mobile phones to improve the management of clients with cervical cancer precursor lesions**. *BMC Women's Health*, 19(1). doi:10.1186/s12905-018-0702-1
6. Saidu, R., Moodley, J., Tergas, A., Momberg, M., Boa, R., Wright, T., ... Denny, L. (2018). **South African women's perspectives on self-sampling for cervical cancer screening: A mixed-methods study**. *South African Medical Journal*, 109(1), 47. doi:10.7196/samj.2018.v109i1.13278
7. Scott, A. J., McGuire, J. K., Manning, K., Leach, L., & Fagan, J. J. (2019). **Quality of life after total laryngectomy: evaluating the effect of socioeconomic status**. *The Journal of Laryngology & Otology*, 133(02), 129–134. doi:10.1017/s0022215119000215

Please send any cancer-related news, events, publications and conference information for the period April-June 2019 for inclusion in our next quarterly newsletter to:
Amanda.Edwards@uct.ac.za