

A Group of American Experts in Cancer Research Visited China

by: Dongfeng Tan, MD (June 20, 2008)

From June 3, 2008 to June 18, 2008, a group of cancer researchers and clinical investigators from The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center (Houston, TX) and The University of Nebraska Eppley Cancer Center (Omaha, Nebraska) visited China. The mission of the trip was to present information on new concepts in basic, translational and clinical cancer research and to coordinate cancer research, patient care, and educational programs to facilitate application of new knowledge about the etiology, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of cancer. The special trip was jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, the General Consult of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese Association of Professionals in



Science and Technology, and various universities and hospitals. The delegation consisted of eight members: Keping Xie, MD, PhD (director; cancer neovascularization), Joe Chang, MD, PhD (radiation oncology), Zhen Fan, MD, PhD (tumor receptor and target therapy), Suyun Huang, MD, PhD (tumor metastasis), Chun Li, PhD (nanotechnology), Mingfong Lin, MD, PhD (cancer biology), Dongfeng Tan, MD, PhD (tumor pathology), and Qingyi Wei, MD, PhD (molecular epidemiology). The delegation visited Fudan University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine, Shanghai Ruijin Hospital, Medical College of the Fourth Military Medical University, Xian Jiaotong University, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Zhejiang University College of Medicine, Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University, Zhejiang Cancer Hospital, Changzhou No. 2 People's Hospital of Nanjing Medical College, and Yixing People's Hospital. The delegation's activities included a wide range of interactions with administrators, scientists, clinicians, graduate students, medical students, and the like. Delegation members delivered a total of 38 talks at various universities and cancer hospitals that focused on the new concepts of modern oncology, including carcinogenesis and neovascularization of gastric and pancreatic cancers, mechanisms of brain metastases, signal transduction in prostate carcinogenesis, the molecular classification of gastric cancers, molecular epidemiology of upper gastrointestinal cancers, nanotechnology of tumor diagnoses, radiation therapy for lung and esophageal cancers, and targeted therapy of colorectal cancer. They also gave keynote speeches at the Shanghai Symposium of Cancer Research and Clinical Oncology and the World Cancer Congress. To raise public awareness of cancer, the delegation delivered a special seminar to the high school students in Hangzhou on daily life and cancer prevention. Ultimately, the tour was a great success and has garnered positive feedback from our colleagues in China, and a number of potential collaborations have been established.