

The Westchester Brain Tumor Program

Winter 2013 Newsletter
3008

914-948-



Help us fight brain cancer through research.

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WBTP is first program to offer novel non-chemo brain cancer therapy in Westchester

The Westchester Brain Tumor Program is now offering **Tumor Transfer Fields (TTFields) therapy**, a non-invasive alternative to chemotherapy for patients with recurrent glioblastoma multiforme. TTFields therapy uses alternating electrical fields to slow and reverse tumor growth by disrupting the uncontrolled division of cancer cells. WBTP is using the [Novo TTF \(TM\)](#) system from Novocure.

WBTP is the first brain cancer program to offer TTFields therapy in Westchester. Only three other programs in New York State provide this treatment outside of New York City. [MORE >>](#)

New molecular test allows WBTP to identify tumor biomarkers and

WELCOME POMCO MEMBERS

Brain & Spine Surgeons of New York, a WBTP physician group, has joined the POMCO Group provider network, and now welcomes POMCO patients. POMCO provides health coverage to Westchester County employees and many Westchester school districts.

Seeking patients for clinical trials

Fatal brain tumors such as glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) often claim their victims two or three years after diagnosis, so even a few months of extra life is a

pinpoint best treatment options

Patients being treated for complex brain tumors at the Westchester Brain Tumor Program now have the potentially life-extending option of cutting-edge testing that profiles individual tumors at the molecular level.

The molecular profiling identifies biomarkers specific to an individual patient's tumor—including a tumor's unique signature for DNA, cell surface receptors, and proteins—and pinpoints the best treatment options. [MORE >>](#)



gift. We are conducting clinical trials of vaccines that have been shown to retard the disease's progression. Click on the links below to see if you're eligible for these promising trials.

[Rindopepimut \(CDX-110\) Vaccine](#)

[DCVax®-L Vaccine](#)

About the Westchester Brain Tumor Program

The Westchester Brain Tumor Program is a collaboration of four outstanding entities in cancer care, the [Westchester Neuroscience Research Foundation](#), the [Cancer Care Center at Northern Westchester Hospital](#), [Brain & Spine Surgeons of New York](#) and [Maria Fareri Children's Hospital](#).

Working together, these partners can offer the best brain tumor care possible. For patient referrals, contact [Dr. Abrahams](#) or [Jan Strack, R.N.](#), WBTP coordinator, at 914-948-3008.

wbtp.org



Meet Dr. Avinash L. Mohan, Pediatric Neurosurgeon

Youngsters suffering from medulloblastomas, the most common brain tumor in children, now have a higher survival rate than ever before --80 percent, up from 50 percent just ten years ago. That is due in part to dedicated physicians like Avinash L. Mohan, M.D., a

pediatric neurosurgeon at the Maria Fareri Children's Hospital and new member of the Westchester Brain Tumor Program team.

Ever since Dr. Mohan cared for his first medulloblastoma patient ten years ago during his New York Medical College residency at Maria Fareri, he has dedicated himself to finding better treatments for children with medulloblastomas. He was deeply involved in medulloblastoma research while a fellow at NYU School of Medicine and then at Chicago's Children's Memorial Hospital before returning to Maria Fareri in 2008. [MORE >>](#)

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