

---

**Subject:** Newsletter Oct/Sept 2009

To view this email as a web page, go [here](#).



### **MDS Update Education Program**

*October 29, 2009*

*6:00-7:00PM*

The Desert Mountain States Chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society will be hosting a patient education program on Myelodysplastic Syndromes. The presentation will be by Dr. Ruben Mesa. He is a Hematologist/Oncologist at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale. Come join the Society at the Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center and learn about the latest MDS updates. It is a complimentary program and open to the public. To register you can log on to: [www.lls.org/dm/patienteducation](http://www.lls.org/dm/patienteducation) or by calling the patient services department at 602.567.7599 or email [victor.carrasco@lls.org](mailto:victor.carrasco@lls.org).

*\*\*Pre-registration is required.*

### **Program Update...**

The Patient Services Office of the Desert Mountain States Chapter just completed a year long collaboration assisting the Tohono O'odham Nation in Sells, AZ with that community's Cancer Plan. The Chapter's collaboration included active participation in the 2009 Cancer and Education Conference held over the summer. It was the first of its kind for this rural community. The event was very successful and inspiring. In addition, the Chapter collaborated in heading the Children and Cancer Committee charged with completing a chapter on Children and Cancer for this community. It was a great opportunity and honor for the Chapter to have been involved in this project.

### **Services and Support**

#### **Family Support Groups**

In Arizona, there are 7 Family Support Groups throughout the Valley, including Tucson. Groups are guided by two volunteer oncology health professionals, and provide information and support, and encourage greater communication among patients, families, friends and health

### **Research Corner**

**August 3, 2009** (Research Reports) - As more people with cancer survive and try to return to their former lives, a side effect of chemotherapy is getting more and more attention. Its name is apt, if unappealing: chemo brain. Nearly every chemotherapy patient experiences short-term problems with memory and concentration. But about 15 percent suffer prolonged effects of what is

known medically as chemotherapy-induced cognitive impairment.

**August 13, 2009:** Attention research professionals: Apply for a **2010 Award. Our Career Development Program** provides salary support to young investigators. LLS will use proposalCentral for electronic preliminary and full application submission in 2010. Their url is <https://proposalcentral.altum.com>. **Deadlines:** A letter of intent is mandatory for those applying for a Career Development Program grant and must be completed online via proposalCentral by 3 p.m. ET, Sept. 15. Full applications must be received electronically via proposalCentral by 3 p.m. ET, Oct. 1.

### Fast Facts:

- Possible cause of MDS (and some types of leukemias) is repeated exposure to benzene. Tobacco is now the most common type of benzene exposure.
- From 2002-2006 there were approximately 56,821 cases of MDS in the U.S.

## Financial Aid

### Patient Financial Aid Program

For more than 31 years, the Society has helped patients demonstrating significant need to obtain financial assistance to cover a portion of their treatment costs. Please visit [www.lls.org/dm](http://www.lls.org/dm) to download an application. New program guidelines as of July 1, 2009

### Co-Pay Assistance Program

In January 2007, The Society launched The Co-Pay Assistance Program. Patients must meet financial eligibility-criteria and have a specific disease diagnosis. Patients can call 877-557-2672 or go online at [www.lls.org/copay](http://www.lls.org/copay). **\*\*\*Subject to funds availability\*\*\***



Each year, in communities all across the United States, families, friends, neighbors and teams from local businesses and national companies come together for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS's) Light The Night Walk events to bring help and hope to people battling blood cancers. In **Arizona:** Southern Arizona Walk Saturday, September 26, 2009; Greater Phoenix Walk Saturday October 17, 2009; and Westside Walk Saturday November 14, 2009. In **Utah:** Friday October 2, 2009 Sugar House Park, SLC. Join our team at [www.lightthenight.org/dm](http://www.lightthenight.org/dm).



**September** is "Leukemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma Awareness Month"

care professionals.

### First Connection

First Connection links newly diagnosed patients to a peer volunteer who has experienced a similar diagnosis. A trained patient-volunteer currently in remission phones (or visits) the new patient to share information and support.

### The Trish Greene Back to School Program for Children with Cancer

This program is designed to increase communication among health care professionals, parents, patients and school personnel to assure youngsters a smooth transition from active treatment back to school. Printed literature, videos and other materials to aid the process are available.

### Advocacy

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Office of Public Policy is charged with pursuing the Society's mission through advocacy aimed at governmental decision-makers. The Society's strategic plan for 2008-2011 identifies advocacy as one of the organization's core avenues to achieve its mission.

This email was sent to: **lewissd@azdhs.gov**

This email was sent by: The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
3877 N. 7th Street Ste. 300 Phoenix, AZ 85014 USA

We respect your right to privacy - [view our policy](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [One-Click Unsubscribe](#)