Unique Cancer Survivors' Summit Unites Patients From Across the Nation to Celebrate Life

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SAN DIEGO, Oct. 11 /PRNewswire/ -- More than 120 cancer survivors and caregivers, cancer-treating physicians, and patient advocates gathered in San Diego to share their Proleukin® (aldesleukin for injection) treatment experiences. The theme of the meeting, Celebrating Our (Un)Common Journey Patient Summit, is believed to be the largest-ever gathering of metastatic renal cell carcinoma (kidney cancer) and metastatic melanoma (skin cancer) survivors.

The Summit, which featured a series of informal group discussions and presentations, offered participants a unique opportunity to share their personal stories of struggle and triumph, and discuss ways to make the journey easier for those currently undergoing treatment and for those who are treated in the future.

"A cancer diagnosis can be devastating, and can make you think you're all alone in fighting the disease," commented kidney cancer survivor Bob Gallner. "Meeting all these other people who have survived metastatic kidney cancer and metastatic melanoma reinforces, for me, the importance for patients to be aware of all their treatment options, because as this weekend demonstrated, there is possibility for a lasting solution to these advanced cancers."

More than 58,000 cases of kidney cancer are diagnosed each year in the U.S., and nearly 13,000 Americans are expected to die from the disease by the end of 2010(1). Melanoma, the most serious form of skin cancer, strikes an estimated 68,000 U.S. adults annually, and claims approximately 8,700 lives a year(2). The metastatic forms of these cancers can be treated with Proleukin, a form of immunotherapy that enhances the body's natural immune system to help fight cancer. Proleukin is the only FDA-approved treatment available that may provide a durable, complete response for either disease(3)(4)(5)(6).

"The Patient Summit is an example of our ongoing commitment to the cancer community," explained Joseph M. Limber, President
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SOURCE [1]

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