

Christiana Care Health System Leads National Colorectal Cancer Clinical Trial

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WILMINGTON, Del., March 24, 2011 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Christiana Care Health System's [Helen F. Graham Cancer Center](#) [1] is leading a national clinical trial to determine if Crestor® (Rosuvastatin), a cholesterol-lowering drug, can prevent new colon tumors from forming after colon cancer surgery.

(Logo: <http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20090407/DC95299LOGO> [2])

The study seeks to determine if Crestor can stop the growth of tumor cells by blocking some of the enzymes that affect cell growth. The trial will also determine if Crestor can keep new colon tumors from forming after surgery to remove a patient's initial colon cancer.

The study, entitled, "P-5: Statin Polyp Prevention Trial in Patients with Resected Colon Cancer," is conducted under the auspices of the National Cancer Institute by a network of cancer research professionals, the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP). It takes place at more than 200 medical centers throughout North America.

"Previous epidemiological studies looking back at patient data associated with statin use indicate these drugs lower the risk of colorectal cancer, but the evidence remains controversial," says Bruce Boman, M.D., Ph.D., study protocol chair. "Earlier studies were designed to investigate lipid-lowering or cardiovascular endpoints over the short-term rather than tumor development in the long run."

Dr. Boman is director of Cancer Genetics at the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center's Hereditary Cancer Risk Assessment Program. He is also a scientist at the Center for Translational Cancer Research who investigates how cancer stem cells drive tumor growth.

The study aims to recruit 1,740 patients who have recently been diagnosed with early stage colon cancer and who were not already taking statins for hi
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[1] <http://www.christianacare.org/cancer>

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[3] <http://www.bio-medicine.org/medicine-technology-1/Christiana-Care-Health-System-Leads-National-Colorectal-Cancer-Clinical-Trial-15738-1/>