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CANCER



Is There A Brain Tumor Virus?

Jeneen Interlandi

1/9/2009 12:00:00 AM

In 2002, UCSF neurosurgeon Charles Cobbs published a novel finding in a prominent cancer journal: nearly all of the two-dozen brain tumors he had analyzed were teeming with a common herpes virus called cytomegalovirus, or CMV. Normally, CMV is harmless—it lies dormant in roughly 80 percent of the population—but in Cobbs's tumor samples, the virus appeared to be actively replicating, even as it remained dormant in nearby healthy tissue. "When I first saw the data, I couldn't sleep for a week," says Cobbs. "I kept asking myself, 'can this be?'" If his findings were correct, they might shed light on the causes of brain cancer, or better yet, provide a new target for battling—maybe even preventing—the disease.

HRT Hype

Barbara Kantrowitz

1/2/2009 12:00:00 AM

If you're a woman in midlife, you probably read the recent headlines proclaiming that a new study had discovered a definitive link between the use of menopausal hormone therapy and breast cancer. Scary stuff. But you might also have noticed stories about another study that found that hormone users who do get breast cancer won't die of it. Maybe not so scary. What does this news mean for you? Does it tell you whether it's safe for you to take hormones if your hot flashes are making you crazy? Despite all the hysteria, the truth is that neither study—nor any other single study—can answer that question for an individual woman. But the publicity they prompted illustrates why so many patients are confused.

Sisters In Need

Barbara Kantrowitz

10/1/2008 12:00:00 AM

Not so long ago, talking about breast cancer was considered taboo in this country. That silence was deadly. Many thousands of women died because they weren't screened, didn't recognize early signs of the disease or were afraid to tell anyone about the lump they could feel in their breast. That's changed dramatically in the United States, but not in much of the developing world where death rates continue to rise and early screening is unheard of or unaffordable.

What the Next President Can Do

Jonathan Alter

9/6/2008 12:00:00 AM

I'm a four-year cancer survivor, and when people inquire how I'm feeling nowadays I say "good" and sincerely thank them for asking. But some well-wishers respond awkwardly. One politician I know has me in his mental file under "cancer" and accompanies his hearty hello with "Glad you beat it!" As anyone who has had advanced cancer can tell you, this is understandable but unhelpful. It also reflects why politicians are still so out of touch about the disease.

HEALTH

We Fought Cancer...And Cancer Won.

Sharon Begley

9/6/2008 12:00:00 AM

There is a blueprint for writing about cancer, one that calls for an uplifting account of, say, a woman whose breast tumor was detected early by one of the mammograms she faithfully had and who remains alive and cancer-free decades later, or the story of a man whose cancer was eradicated by one of the new rock-star therapies that precisely target a molecule that spurs the growth of malignant cells. It invokes Lance Armstrong, who was diagnosed with testicular cancer in 1996 and, after surgery and chemotherapy beat it back, went on to seven straight victories in the Tour de France. It describes how scientists wrestled childhood leukemia into near submission, turning it from a disease that killed 75 percent of the children it struck in the 1970s to one that 73 percent survive today.

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Freedom High Mourns Death Of 38-Year-Old Teacher, Coach

1/29/2009 9:12:32 AM

Eric Olsen, a history teacher and the head cross-country and boys' lacrosse coach at Freedom High School in South Riding, died Sunday after a ...

Source: Washington Post

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Alternative Therapy . . REIKI SESSIONS, 6:30-8 p.m. fourth Thursdays, Radiation Oncology Center, 44035 Riverside Pkwy., Suite 100, Leesburg. A ...

Source: Washington Post

Gene therapy cures form of 'bubble boy disease'

1/28/2009 5:22:22 PM

Gene therapy seems to have cured eight of 10 children who had potentially fatal "bubble boy disease," according to a study that followed their ...

Source: Washington Post

Steelers' Smith dealing with son's serious illness

1/28/2009 4:28:12 AM

Aaron Smith understands tough times, learning at a young age how medical issues can unsettle a family. He also knows that football can be a ...

Source: Washington Post

Woman Gets 8 Years in Shooting Husband to Death

1/28/2009 1:53:02 AM

A Fairfax County jury sentenced a woman who shot her husband to death to eight years in prison yesterday after convicting her last week of ...

Source: Washington Post

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GenVec Inc. is the latest in a string of biotech companies to cut staff in order to slim down expenses during this harrowing economy.. . The ...

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[Race for the Cure hits home for Martin County in-laws of Susan Komen](#)

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Twenty-six-years ago Susan Komen died of breast cancer at 36 years old. While dying painfully, she told her family, "Don't let anyone suffer like I...

Source: TCPalm

[Report: Eagles defensive coordinator Johnson has cancer](#)

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Philadelphia Eagles defensive coordinator Jim Johnson reportedly has been diagnosed with cancer.. According to the Philadelphia Inquirer, Johnson ...

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[VIDEO from Medialink and International HIFU: New Prostate Cancer Procedure Being Tested in US Clinical Trials](#)

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According to the American Cancer Association, prostate cancer affects one in six men in the U.S. and is the second leading cause of cancer deaths...

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[A cancer patient's genome decoded for first time](#)

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Scientists for the first time have decoded the entire genome of a cancer patient, identifying a series of genes never before linked to the type of ...

Source: Vancouver Sun

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