



PSMA Molecular Imaging Agent Approved by FDA – Only Available in Orange County at Hoag

June 17, 2021

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved the use of Pylarify, a PSMA-targeted molecular imaging agent for the detection of disease in men with prostate cancer. Hoag has been the only location in Orange County to offer this imaging agent, as part of an ongoing clinical trial.

“There have been tremendous advancements in prostate cancer through the use of both molecular imaging and molecular therapy,” said Gary Ulaner, M.D., Ph.D., director, Hoag Molecular Imaging & Therapy. “Hoag is pleased to have brought these innovative cancer therapies to Orange County patients, while contributing to the data that shows their clinical efficacy.”

The PSMA imaging agent is available at only a few sites in the world, including Hoag Family Cancer Institute, and is for men diagnosed with prostate cancer who are at risk for metastatic disease, as well as men who have received standard of care treatment and have suspected recurrence.

Now Enrolling Breast FES Imaging Trial Patients

Hoag’s Molecular Imaging & Therapy Program is also the first and only hospital in California to provide a clinical trial studying the use of molecular imaging in breast cancer patients. This trial is for newly diagnosed breast cancer patients who are at risk for metastatic disease, as well as women who have received treatment and now have suspected recurrence.

Eighty percent of breast cancer tumors express estrogen receptors. In this trial, Dr. Ulaner administers specially designed molecules that target and detect the estrogen on the surface of breast cancer cells. Because of this highly sensitive detection, treatments plans can be altered to more accurately address a patient’s cancer.

Contact Us

If you have a patient who meets criteria for a trial above or are interested to learn more about Hoag’s Molecular Imaging & Therapy Program, including other available clinical trials, please call 949-557-0285.

Important Corporate Compliance Update: Confidentiality of Hoag Information

Hoag is fully committed to protecting Hoag confidential information while maximizing the efficiency of health care and business operations.

Hoag Confidential Information is data or information that is collected and generated during the delivery of services and operations at Hoag. That includes but not limited to protected health information, employee information, financial information, physician information, strategic plans, project updates and Hoag presentations.

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Special Wellness Offer for Employees

The Hoag for Her Center for Wellness offers comprehensive health and wellness services specifically designed to meet your unique needs through every stage of life.

Hoag’s expert team is excited to offer a discount to Hoag employees for acupuncture or Pilates services.

- Acupuncture has been recognized for treating 40 common disorders, and is also proven to relieve stress and improve depression and anxiety.
- Hoag’s Pilates program is the perfect blend of muscle conditioning, stretching and balance training. Offerings include prenatal, postnatal and general wellness. No prior experience is required.

Book your first session of acupuncture or Pilates and get 20% off your next visit (second visit must be booked within 30 days for discount to apply).

Call 949-764-7239 or email wellness@hoag.org for more information or to schedule today.

Classes & Events

Save the Date

Hoag Vascular Imaging Symposium

February 19, 2022

Hoag Embracing Excellence in Oncology Nursing Practice

March 11-12, 2022

Hoag Neuroscience Nursing Conference

April 1, 2022

Registration information to follow.

Online Training for Microsoft Available

No code is required for the following:

- Office and Windows courses: <https://support.office.com>
- Dynamics: <https://docs.microsoft.com/dynamics365>
- MS Certifications: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/certifications/>

Microsoft Teams Training

Hoag would like to remind staff that Microsoft Teams training materials including guides and videos are available on the WAVE at the following page: wave.hoag.org/MSTeams/

Staff can also locate the page by visiting the WAVE and clicking on the Microsoft Teams Training page under the Education menu.

Hoag to Participate in Groundbreaking Study Aiming to Help Prevent Memory Loss Due to Alzheimer's Disease

Hoag's Pickup Family Neurosciences Institute has started recruiting volunteers for a study testing an investigational treatment that aims to help prevent the earliest stages of memory loss due to Alzheimer's disease.

Funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Eisai Inc., a U.S. subsidiary of Eisai Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Tokyo), the AHEAD Study is the first Alzheimer's disease research study to recruit people as young as 55-years-old who are at risk of developing symptoms of Alzheimer's disease as they get older. It introduces a personalized approach that will tailor treatment dosing levels to a participant's particular risk of memory loss related to Alzheimer's disease.

The AHEAD Study consists of two different clinical trials testing the same investigational treatment (known as BAN2401 (lecanemab)). Participants are enrolled in one of the two trials based on the level of amyloid in their brain. Amyloid is a protein that builds up in people who can go on to have memory problems and develop Alzheimer's disease.

"The tailored approach of this study, starting treatment years before memory loss has begun, has the potential to be a breakthrough step in our aim to prevent Alzheimer's disease," said William R. Shankle, M.S., M.D., F.A.C.P., program director of Memory & Cognitive Disorders at Hoag and the Judy and Richard Voltmer Chair in Memory and Cognitive Disorders at the Pickup Family Neurosciences Institute, who is serving as the principal investigator of the study at Hoag. "It can potentially serve as a model to improve future clinical trials in Alzheimer's research and other diseases."

The AHEAD Study will be conducted in the U.S., Japan, Canada, Australia, Singapore, and Europe. Hoag was selected to participate in the parallel, 216-week study in part because of its renowned Orange County Vital Brain Aging Program and track record of successfully conducting complex clinical studies.

"Hoag's Pickup Family Neurosciences Institute has pioneered a comprehensive program to maintain cognitive health as we age, and to combat the community's fear of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, through the Orange County Vital Brain Program," said Michael Brant-Zawadzki, M.D., F.A.C.R., Hoag's senior physician executive and the Ron & Sandi Simon Executive Medical Director Endowed Chair of the Pickup Family Neurosciences Institute. "As a result, we are able to offer our community unique opportunities to participate in studies like the AHEAD Study. This is well-aligned with the mission of our Institute, and we are very excited to be a part of this pioneering effort to help identify ways to prevent Alzheimer's disease."

People may be eligible to enroll in the trial if they are between the ages of 55 and 80 and meet certain eligibility criteria. For more information on the study and the study participation, please email clinicalresearch@hoag.org.

HOAG TIMES

To submit an idea, please contact Brittany Vafamanesh at Brittany.Vafamanesh@hoag.org.

Confidentiality of Hoag Information CONT.

To further protect Hoag Confidential Information, the *Confidentiality and Privacy of Hoag Information policy* went into effect on June 1, 2021. All staff members are encouraged to visit PolicyStat which can be accessed via the WAVE and read through the policy in its entirety. Staff will also be assigned a course through SuccessFactors to highlight key points in the policy and will be required to sign a revised Confidentiality Agreement.

In addition, Hoag templates have been updated on the WAVE to include the following statement: *For Internal Use Only – Not for External Distribution. This document is the property of Hoag and includes proprietary and confidential information.* This statement must be included on any documents that will be presented or shared with any non-Hoag individual(s) or organization(s). If you are presenting a document, please ensure that this statement is added.

If you have any questions, please contact Corporate Compliance by emailing #CorporateCompliance or CorporateCompliance@hoag.org.

Employee Health Services Update

Hoag would like to remind all staff that on Thursday, June 10, the Employee Health Services (EHS) department began using the Zendesk platform for all email and phone communication to provide staff with consistent and timely responses. This is the same platform that the Human Resources Solution Bar uses.

There is no required change on your end. To further streamline communication, EHS now has one centralized phone line for both EHS offices, 949-764-6590. Staff may also continue to contact EHS via email at EHS@hoag.org.

As a reminder, EHS office locations and hours are below.

Irvine

16300 Sand Canyon Avenue, Suite 801
Irvine, CA 92618
Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Newport Beach

510 Superior Avenue, #200F
Newport Beach, CA 92663
Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Please note that this change does not impact the Employee Health Services Portal, ReadySet. All staff should continue to utilize ReadySet to complete required health surveys, review test results and other employee health records.

Peer Recognition

Congratulations to the following employees who were recognized for their commitment to Hoag Pride in the following categories: helping others, excellence through teamwork, outperforming expectations, dazzling a customer, willingness to do whatever it takes, and Hoag Pride.

Laura Pineda - Care Management - Newport Beach

Laura is always so helpful and remains calm in difficult situations. She is comforting to patients and families, and always advocates for them. Collaborating with Laura to bring patients to the acute rehabilitation department is seamless. She is hardworking and is an amazing case manager. Thank you, Laura.

- Monica Jones

Theresa Vega - Registration - Newport Beach

A discharged ED patient entered the main lobby after being uncooperative with ED staff during her visit and was refusing to leave the property. Theresa immediately observed that the patient was being difficult with the screeners and began to de-escalate the situation. She was able to use effective communication to gain the trust of the patient. Theresa continued to talk with the patient and was able to have her agree to accept a cab ride. Theresa has outstanding professionalism, and the ability to communicate so well with patients and visitors. Theresa does this daily and is a great representation of Hoag.

- David Lopez

Patric Blankenship - Nutrition Services - Newport Beach

Patric always maintains an upbeat and positive attitude. He is always eager to go above and beyond his job requirements and to help wherever he is needed. On Saturday, June 5, we were short staffed and Patric volunteered to help run trays for expo despite working a very busy floor. He always strives to be the best team player he can be.

- Amanda Loomis

Alexander Quintana - Telemetry - Newport Beach

Alexander spent the day sitting with a very challenging patient. The patient rambled and was often inappropriate. Alexander remained calm and understanding the entire time, which made the patient very happy at the end of the day. It made my day easier to know that Alexander had my back.

- Margaret McGurr

Gery Buezo - 3 East Brain and Spine - Newport Beach

I saw Gery responding to a bed alarm. The patient was insisting on getting out of bed to shower and shave. The patient would be returning to a memory care facility later that day but was unable to be left alone while out of bed for safety reasons. Gery calmed the patient down by offering to shave him. The patient was pleased with this compromise. I later found out that the patient was not even assigned to Gery. I loved that Gery jumped in to help and was willing to take the time to help calm the patient down. Great job, Gery.

- Jennifer Lozano

Submit your nomination for Hoag Pride Recognition on the WAVE by selecting the Employee Recognition button on the right-hand side. If your name appears in this column, Human Resources will send you a special prize.

Thank you for demonstrating your commitment to Hoag Pride.



Grateful Patients

Hoag would like to share some of the comments we receive from grateful patients. Below is a recent note:

"I just returned home after being at Hoag for about 7 hours. The care that I received there was top-notch. The doctors, nurses, and all staff took very good care of this grumpy old lady (just kidding). I was in a lot of pain and they were all very attentive to my needs. I received very prompt service. They made me feel comfortable while I was there. I would highly recommend going to Hoag for all your care."

Editor's Notes:

In order to ensure all employees have the opportunity to read about important news and events at Hoag, we are distributing printed copies of *Hoag Times* to departments who provide patient care and the support services for those areas since many of these employees are not always on computers to access email.

Please contact Brittany Vafamanesh at Brittany.Vafamanesh@hoag.org with distribution questions or updates to your department's quantity.

Hoag Orthopedic Institute Announces Election of Jeremy Smith, M.D., as Division Chief of Surgical Spine

Hoag Orthopedic Institute (HOI), one of the largest providers of orthopedic care in the nation, announced the election of orthopedic surgeon Jeremy Smith, M.D., as its division chief of surgical spine. Dr. Smith will work to identify necessary program elements and resource requirements for developing, implementing and maintaining the surgical spine program.

"Hoag Orthopedic Institute is proud to congratulate Dr. Smith on his appointment as our Division Chief of Surgical Spine," said Steven L. Barnett, M.D., chief medical officer of HOI. "We have complete confidence that Dr. Smith will continue to uphold HOI's unparalleled standards in surgical spine care."

Dr. Smith aims to improve public education and community outreach related to spine surgery, as well as create and proactively maintain open communication with other physicians to bring awareness to the program. Other responsibilities include creating and maintaining ongoing positive communications with, and dissemination of, information to members of the joint replacement program team and outside vendors related ongoing activities.

"I am excited to work with Hoag Orthopedic Institute to continue to innovate the field of spine surgery," said Dr. Smith. "I'm honored to lead this program, knowing we will be able to provide the highest quality of care to our patients."

Dr. Smith is fellowship trained in orthopedic spine surgery and specializes in the cutting-edge treatment of degenerative spinal conditions. Dr. Smith graduated magna cum laude from the University of California, Los Angeles. He then earned his medical degree from New York Medical College where he received Alpha Omega Alpha honors in his Junior year. Dr. Smith graduated number one in his medical school class, then completed his orthopedic residency at The University of California, Irvine, where he served as chief resident in his final year. He then completed an orthopedic and neurosurgical spine surgery fellowship at the Rothman Institute at the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital; widely regarded as one of the most sought after and prestigious spine fellowships in the country. His training there included complex surgery of the cervical, thoracic, and lumbar spine.

Dr. Smith also has significant interest in the treatment of spinal trauma, particularly spinal cord injury and has made significant laboratory and clinical contributions that have advanced the field.

HOI, the highest volume provider of joint replacements in California, has received consistent recognition from various publications and health care organizations for its patient-focused services since opening in 2010. For more information on the various accolades the hospital has received, visit www.hoagorthopedicinstitute.com/why-choose-hoi.