



**The Scottsdale Clinical Research Institute
at the Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center
Scottsdale Healthcare Shea**

On April 1, 2005, The Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust generously awarded a \$4.6 million grant to Scottsdale Healthcare Foundation to assist in developing the infrastructure needed to create the Scottsdale Clinical Research Institute (SCRI) at the Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center at Scottsdale Healthcare Shea. Since its beginning, the SCRI has seen a whirlwind of activity, including its official launching to the public on October 19, 2005.

- Since funding began in April 2005, nearly 20 Phase I and Phase II clinical trials have been opened. Since then, more than 50 patients have enrolled in these studies. At least four of the clinical trials opened have been “first in man” studies, allowing researchers at the SCRI to enroll the first humans in the world in these clinical trials. Currently, a number of patients are awaiting approval to participate in open clinical trials, and it is anticipated that an additional ten studies will be open by October 1, 2006.
- In February 2006, Scottsdale Healthcare was the recipient of a \$4 million grant from Debi and Jerry Bisgrove to help the SCRI develop and expand genomic medicine and individualized therapy programs in partnership with TGen. The grant will fund a clinical trial to determine the effectiveness of individualized therapy in patients with advanced cancer. In honor of this generous gift, Scottsdale Healthcare has named the research building at the Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center the Debi and Jerry Bisgrove Cancer Research Pavilion.
- Under the direction of Daniel Von Hoff, M.D., the SCRI hired its first Drug Development Fellow, Mitesh Borad, M.D., in July 2005, and is actively recruiting two additional fellows to join the team. The SCRI has successfully recruited two additional physicians who will begin in August 2006. Steven Anthony, M.D., will join us from U.S. Oncology in Spokane, Washington. His efforts will focus on the clinical aspects of the SCRI. In this capacity, Dr. Anthony will work towards opening additional clinical trials and increasing patient accrual in these trials. Raoul Tibes, M.D., whose area of expertise lies in hematology, is currently completing a fellowship program at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. With an increasing number of leukemia patients seeking treatment at the Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center, Dr. Tibes’ expertise in the treatment of leukemia will prove to be invaluable. During his first two years, Dr. Tibes will work on plans to develop a dedicated leukemia research service within the SCRI.

- Plans are in the final stages for the build out of the second floor of the Debi and Jerry Bisgrove Cancer Research Pavilion. The 10,000 square-foot space will house all of the SCRI's clinical research endeavors, including ten treatment chairs, ten exam rooms, five private treatment rooms, five physician offices and space for five research nurses. Construction will also include the build out of shelled space located on the third floor to accommodate research support areas, such as the Institutional Review Board (IRB), regulatory affairs and additional office space. We anticipate having the construction of both spaces completed by January 2007.

As you can see, the last year has been an exceptionally busy one as we have worked diligently to get the SCRI up and running. One might say that it has taken off with a flurry of activity, already making it possible for an increased number of patients to enroll in new clinical trials.

It is through your philanthropy – and that of many other thoughtful and generous Circle of Distinction members – that the finest care for cancer patients is available through the Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center and the SCRI. Your continued generosity allows us to expand our thinking and move into the most sophisticated kinds of clinical trials. The people throughout our community, our state, and, indeed, throughout the country are the continued beneficiaries of your kindness.