Irish by birth, Trinity by the grace of God – a life celebrated

Denis Parsons Burkitt
(1911-1993)

Burkitt’s Lymphoma Symposium Featured Speaker:

Mitchell S. Cairo
Professor at Columbia University Medical Centre, New York, New York, USA

Mitchell S. Cairo received his M.D. from UC San Francisco, trained in pediatrics at UCLA/ Harbor General Hospital, was Chief Resident in pediatrics at UCSF, and completed a fellowship in pediatric hematology/oncology at Indiana University. He joined the hematology/oncology faculty of Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) in 1982 and established the BMT/Stem Cell Transplant program there in 1985. He was also the CHOC Principal Investigator for Children's Cancer Group, and the Principal Investigator of the Cord Blood Collection Center and Cord Blood Transplant Center under an NHLBI award. From December 1997 to February 2000, Dr. Cairo was a member of the faculty at Georgetown University where he was a Professor of Pediatrics, Medicine and Pathology, Chief of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Cellular and Gene Therapy, Director of Adult and Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplantation at the Lombardi Cancer Center, and Medical Director of the NHLBI Cord Blood Collection Center at Georgetown University Medical Center. He relocated to Columbia University in New York City in March 2000, where he was the Chief of the Division of Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplantation a Professor of Pediatrics, Medicine and Pathology at Columbia University and director of the Phase I Pediatric Cancer Therapeutics Program and Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Fellowship Training Program, the Chief of Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and Stem Cell Transplantation. More recently, Dr. Cairo has relocated in February, 2011 to the New York Medical College where is is the Chief of Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and Stem Cell Transplantation, Director of the Childhood and Adolescent Cancer and Blood Disease Center, Medical and Scientific Director of the Stem and Cellular Therapy Reengineering Laboratory and Professor of Pediatrics, Medicine, Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology and Cell Biology. Dr. Cairo has over 275 peer reviewed publications and over 850 national and international presentations. He is an international leader in childhood lymphomas and
leukemias, stem cell transplantation, pediatric cancer developmental therapeutics, unrelated donor stem cell transplantation and experimental hematopoiesis. His major research interests and expertise include blood and marrow transplantation, experimental and developmental immunology, molecular genetics of lymphoma, developmental therapeutics and clinical leukemia and lymphoma investigation.

Dr. Cairo has focused a major part of his research in Burkitt Lymphoma. Dr. Cairo has led the CCG/COG Burkitt Lymphoma studies for the past 20 years. He was one of the three Co-Chairs and the CCG Chair of the French-American-British (FAB) Burkitt Lymphoma study that resulted in a significant reduction in both chemotherapy and radiotherapy and an improvement in survival in this patient population. Dr. Cairo has also focused on novel immunological approaches both antibodies and cellular based therapies for Burkitt Lymphoma. Lastly, Dr. Cairo’s laboratory has identified a number of specific genetic defects in Burkitt Lymphoma and has developed targeted approaches to these genetic defects.