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Erdheim-Chester Disease Global Alliance Welcomes New Care Center

The ultra-rare cancer group welcomes the second center of care knowledgeable in treating ECD in the Florida region this year.

DeRidder, LA – September 21, 2022

Erdheim-Chester Disease Care Centers are available to help ECD patients find knowledgeable doctors to confirm a diagnosis and to provide treatments and ongoing care. The Erdheim-Chester Disease Global Alliance is pleased to welcome the Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, FL to our growing network as a referral center. The ECD Care Center at the Moffitt Cancer Center is led by Lubomir Sokol, MD, Ph.D. Dr. Sokol is a Senior Member at Moffitt Cancer Center and a Professor of Oncologic Sciences at the University of South Florida. His clinical and laboratory research focus has been on diagnosing and treating lymphoid malignancies and histiocytic disorders. He leads Moffitt Cancer Center Histiocytic Multidisciplinary Team and Tumor Board that provide consultations requested by patients with rare histiocytic disorders.

Dr. Sokol states *“I have been interested in diagnosis and therapy of rare lymphoproliferative and myeloproliferative disorders including histiocytic disorders for many years. Since we did not have designated specialists for patients with these rare diseases at that time, I started seeing them in my clinic. With the growth of our center, increased volume of patients, and a lack of expertise in Florida, we decided to establish a multidisciplinary team focused solely on the management of histiocytic disorders. Recent advances in molecular biology and genetics suggested that most histiocytic disorders are clonal neoplasms derived from myeloid cell lineage. Mutated genes coding for oncogenes that drive the proliferation of histiocytic disorders can be targeted with novel therapeutic agents. The advent of targeted agents enriched our treatment armamentarium and offered patients with histiocytic disorders more effective and less toxic treatment options.”*



Dr. Lubomir Sokol, MD, Ph.D

The Moffitt team includes ECD-knowledgeable specialists in nephrology, dermatology, neurology, endocrinology, radiology, cardiology, and pathology, with referrals for pulmonology, ophthalmology, and psychology available.

The Moffitt Care Center is located at 12902 USF Magnolia Drive, Tampa, FL. You may also reach the center by phone at 1-813-745-8212 or Dr. Sokol has kindly offered his email: lubomir.sokol@moffitt.org.

To learn more about our ECD Care Center Network, here is our webpage: <https://erdheim-chester.org/care-centers/>.

[Erdheim-Chester Disease](#) is an ultra-rare condition that is believed to be underdiagnosed. It is considered a histiocytic neoplasm (type of blood cancer). The illness is characterized by the accumulation of histiocytes, cells that normally fight infections, in tissue and organs. The tissue and organs become dense and fibrotic due to the infiltration of the histiocytes and can lead to organ failure unless a successful treatment is found.

The [ECD Global Alliance](#) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the awareness, support, education, and research related to Erdheim-Chester Disease.