A Randomized Study of New Vaccine for Brain Cancer

Principal Investigator: Linda M. Liau, MD, PhD
UCLA Division of Neurosurgery
10833 Le Conte Avenue, CHS 74-145
Los Angeles, CA 90095-6901

Purpose of Research: The purpose of this clinical research study is to test the safety and effectiveness of an investigational vaccine called DCVax™-Brain for the treatment of brain cancer. As many as 140 patients will take part in the study at multiple clinical study sites in the United States. Approximately 28 patients are expected to be enrolled at UCLA.

Eligibility Criteria:
- Patients with a newly diagnosed primary brain tumor (glioblastoma) for which surgical removal at UCLA is indicated.
- No previous radiation therapy or chemotherapy.
- Age 18 – 70 years old, capable of informed consent.
- Life expectancy of > 8 weeks.
- Subjects must be able to care for self and do activities of daily living prior to initiating treatment. (Karnofsky Performance Score > 70)

Risks & Possible Benefits: Possible risks include allergic reactions to the vaccine, brain inflammation, infection, delayed autoimmune diseases, fatigue, fever, and injection site reactions. Possible benefits may include prevention/delay of brain cancer recurrence and/or prolonged survival. However, because this vaccine is experimental and individuals respond differently to therapy, any benefits directly resulting from the research procedures are yet unknown.

Time Commitment: Subjects will be followed for up to 36 months. Those randomized to the experimental vaccine group will receive up to ten injections of DCVax™-Brain (at weeks 0, 2, 4, and at months 2, 4, 8, 12, 18, 24, and 30 following surgery).

Contact Information:
Emma Young at (310) 267-2621 or elyoung@mednet.ucla.edu