Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists

Media Release **5 December 2011**

NEW WAY TO CHOOSE RIGHT PAIN DRUG FOR BONE CANCER

New research has developed a way to determine which pain relief medicine brings the most relief for patients who have bone pain due to the spread of cancer from the prostate gland into the skeleton.

Arjun Muralidharan, a PhD student at The University of Queensland will be presenting his findings at ASCEPT's Annual Scientific Meeting in Perth on the 5th December 2011.

Patients with prostate cancer have a 65-75% risk of getting bone secondaries. More than 20% of these men have severe pain and cannot get adequate relief with currently available medicines.

Arjun's PhD research that is being undertaken at The University of Queensland in Professor Maree Smith's pain research lab is focused on gaining novel insight into the complex mechanisms responsible for the development of prostate cancer-induced bone pain, so that new and improved drug treatments can be devised to improve quality of life of patients with prostate cancer.

The research is focused on looking at ways in which prostate cancer cells change bone and nerve fibre structure which leads to chronic bone pain. It is hoped that the findings will lead to the design of new analgesics for improved relief of cancer-induced bone pain.

National and international leaders in pharmacology and toxicology are meeting in Perth between the 4th and 7th December 2011 to discuss the latest research on drugs and chemical safety.

The program of plenary lectures, symposia and workshops, oral presentations and posters will be academically and scientifically stimulating and lead to new collaborations and research opportunities. Annual awards and prizes will also be presented at this meeting.

Ends.

For further information or to arrange an interview contact Fran Hagon
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