



# BREAST CANCER GRANT

## A Progress Report from Linda Vahdat, MD

Dr. Linda Vahdat is an Associate Attending Physician at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, a Professor of Medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College, and Director of the Weill Cornell Breast Cancer Center. She also serves on the Cancer Research & Treatment Fund Medical Advisory Board.

CR&T's impartial scientific board recommended renewal of Dr. Vahdat's grant this year so that she can continue her promising research in breast cancer.

Two of the projects she has been working on include correlative studies of angiogenesis (blood vessel formation) in women with breast cancer and a phase II trial of tetrathiomolybdate (TM) in female breast cancer patients at high risk for relapse. The goal of these correlative studies is to determine why certain breast

cancers metastasize (spread) while others do not. So far, her research has discovered that changes in early blood cells (stem cells) can predict relapse and response in breast cancer

is assessing the safety and tolerability of the drug in patients with high risk tumor recurrence and evaluating the effect of TM on the circulating surrogate markers

cells (cells that give rise to the cells that form blood vessel walls), which are believed to be critical for breast cancer recurrence.

CR&T will continue to monitor



patients. The phase II trial of tetrathiomolybdate (TM), a copper depleting compound,

of angiogenesis. Depleting copper levels has been shown to reduce endothelial progenitor

Dr. Vahdat's findings and bring you updates on this breast cancer research.