Rare Disease Care Network Now Serves Michigan Patients

The Erdheim-Chester Disease Global Alliance is proud to announce the first ECD Referral Care Center to be located in Michigan

DeRidder, La - June 10, 2021

Erdheim-Chester Disease Global Alliance (ECDGA) is pleased to introduce the newest addition to the ECD Referral Care Center network, **University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center**, Ann Arbor, Michigan. The lead physician at this center is Dr. Asra Ahmed who specializes in hematology oncology. Having an Erdheim-Chester Disease (ECD) referral center located in this region will not only be beneficial to the 12 Michigan-based patients currently registered with ECDGA, but also allow access for more patients seeking a possible ECD diagnosis in the future. Forming this partnership ensures collaboration, education, improving early diagnosis, providing effective treatments, and support for the ECD patients in this part of the country.



Rogel Building



Dr. Asra Z. Ahmed

"Erdheim-Chester disease is extremely rare, which means it's critical for patients to be able to find the right expertise to ensure appropriate treatment. We are pleased to the only ECD referral care center in Michigan and look forward to coordinating care for patients throughout the state and region," says Asra Ahmed, M.D., assistant professor of internal medicine at Michigan Medicine, the academic medical center at the University of Michigan.

The ECDGA recognizes 35 centers of excellence across the globe. All institutions are required to communicate and collaborate with one another to ensure patients are receiving the most up-to-date treatment options and best care available. Another vital aspect of the ECD Referral Care Center network is making certain that in the event a patient cannot travel due to their illness, the ECD physicians at these centers can consult on the patient's case with their local doctor.

For more information on the ECD Referral Care Center network and how to contact them, please visit <u>www.erdheim-chester.org/care-centers/</u>.

<u>Erdheim-Chester Disease</u> is a rare multi-systemic histiocytic neoplasm with no known cause that is challenging to diagnosis and treat. Unless successful treatment is found, organ failure can occur.

The <u>ECD Global Alliance</u> is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to awareness, support, education, and research related to Erdheim-Chester Disease.

Contact: Jessica Corkran jessica.corkran@erdheim-chester.org (337) 502-8034