INTERVIEW WITH DR. URI TABORI, CLINICAL PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGIST

"Molecular pathology enables personalized medicine. Each patient's genetic mutations determine the medicine or treatment needed"

OMPRN
Ontario Molecular Pathology Research Network

SPECIALTY AREA:

Pediatric Oncology

KEY FOCUS:

Genetic testing, surveillance, and prevention in children

WHO THIS IS FOR:

- *Families with a history of cancer, or those interested in genetic testing*
- *Parents of children with cancer*

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- *Some childhood cancers are hereditary and can be monitored before symptoms appear*
- *Early detection and regular surveillance can improve outcomes*
- *Genetic counselling is important for understanding your family's cancer risk*

Read the whole interview here:

HOW DO YOU DETERMINE THE TREATMENT PLAN FOR EACH PAEDIATRIC PATIENT?

"The treatment for each type starts with each tumour and each genetic mutation. If there is a clinical trial, we enroll our patient in the trial. If there is no clinical trial, we treat our patient with the standard of care that is uniform across Canada".

WHAT OTHER PROFESSIONALS ARE INVOLVED IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF A PAEDIATRIC PATIENT?

"For paediatric patients who have a brain tumour, the other professionals who are involved include neurosurgeons, radiation oncologists, neuropathologists, neuro imaging technologists, nurses, nurse practitioners, social workers, psychologist and neuropsychologists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, and endocrinologists".

HOW DO YOU STAY UPDATED WITH THE LATEST RESEARCH AND TREATMENT OPTIONS IN ONCOLOGY?

"The world of neuro-oncology is a community that interacts frequently through multiple meetings every year, routine emails, and sharing of new papers with research studies and findings".

HOW DOES MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY RELATE TO THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF PAEDIATRIC BRAIN TUMOURS?

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ARE YOU INVOLVED IN RESEARCH? IF SO, WHAT IS/ARE YOUR RESEARCH FOCUS(ES)?

" My research focus is on translational medicine in pediatric brain tumors, cancer genetics and low-grade gliomas".

DR. TABORI, PLEASE TELL US A BIT MORE ABOUT THE PATIENTS YOU TYPICALLY TREAT?

"During the week I focus on pediatric patients with brain tumours. On weekends, I also treat pediatric patients with different cancers".