

# **SECOND BHD SYMPOSIUM**

**Washington Marriot at the Metro Center  
WASHINGTON, DC  
April 22, 2010, 9:00am to 9:00pm**

## **COME JOIN US!**

The Second BHD Symposium follows up progress made in medical research into Birt-Hogg-Dubé syndrome in the past two years.

Birt-Hogg-Dubé Syndrome is an inherited genetic condition that leads to skin lesions, pneumothorax (collapsed lung) and an increased risk of renal cancer. (more information about BHD syndrome at <http://www.bhdsyndrome.org/>).

This Symposium is intended for researchers working on BHD and related conditions, from research student to senior academic level. Attendees will hear from the world's leading experts in BHD syndrome and leave with an understanding of current developments and treatments.

People affected by BHD syndrome, and their family members, are welcome to attend. Although this is an academic conference and the language is likely to be technical, there will be parallel patient-focused sessions. Register at <http://www.bhdsyndrome.org/the-second-bhd-symposium/>

Accommodation: 30 rooms will be available at the Washington Marriott at Metro Center Hotel on the 21st and 22nd April 2010. Each room will cost \$259 USD per night (for a single or a double), plus tax (currently 14.5%). [Book a room](#) (link uses our custom reservation code to obtain this rate).

The Symposium will take place directly after the [American Association for Cancer Research \(AACR\) Annual Meeting](#) (Washington, 17-21st April 2010), and we hope that as many people as possible will attend both meetings.

### **Announced Speakers:**

**Dr. Berton Zbar:**

This year's invited guest speaker is Dr. Berton Zbar, who has over 20 years experience in the field of renal cancer genetics and the organisers are delighted that he has agreed to address the symposium. The provisional title for Dr Zbar's presentation is "A personal view of renal cancer genetics: history and lessons".

Before his retirement, Dr Zbar was chief of the Laboratory of Immunobiology at the Center for Cancer Research, NCI-Frederick, USA, where he and his colleagues have studied families affected with the BHD Syndrome as well as von Hippel-Lindau (VHL) syndrome, hereditary papillary renal carcinoma (HPRC), and Hereditary Leiomyoma and Renal Cell Carcinoma (HLRCC).

**Dr Frank McCormack:**

Dr McCormack will be attending the conference and has agreed to talk about "LAM and BHD, similarities and differences".

Dr McCormack is an expert in the field of Lymphangiomyomatosis (LAM), a progressive lung disease that affects women almost exclusively and is characterized by the development of pulmonary cysts, which overtime, obliterates lung function.

**Joyce Graff:**

Joyce Graff is currently the Executive Director of the [VHL Alliance](#) and we are pleased that she will be sharing her vast experiences with VHL disease (both as a patient advocate and founder of the VHL Alliance) to the BHD community.

**Lindsay Middleton:**

Lindsay Middleton is a genetic counselor with the Urologic Oncology Branch, NCI, NIH, Bethesda, MD and a member of the National Society of Genetic Counselors. She will lead a session discussing topics of interest **to patients and their families such as what services are available at the NIH, familial communication, when to get genetic testing, how to tell your children they are at risk for BHD, recommended screening guidelines and health insurance concerns about genetic testing.**