

Media Advisory

On September 4th, 2014 the FDA announced the approval of Merck's PD-1 Inhibitor for advanced or unresected melanoma that no longer responds to other drugs to Keytruda. PD-1 is a monoclonal antibody that inhibits the programmed death receptor-1 of activated T lymphocytes, blocking a major pathway by which cancer cells evade the immune system.

The Melanoma Foundation of New England is willing to speak about this development as well as to topics related to skin cancer and prevention, including media interviews and appearances. The MFNE is one of the leading foundations in New England for providing education, support, and guidance for the public related to skin cancer. Our Your Skin Is In program has been working for the last 8 years to encourage tans to engage in safe skin behavior and pledge not to tan both indoors and out.

Founded in 1999, the mission of the Melanoma Foundation of New England is to reduce the incidence of melanoma in the New England region. The Foundation provides a variety of educational programs targeting the prevention and early detection of skin cancer and melanoma for both children and adults.

The Foundation also assists patients and their caregivers struggling with melanoma by offering support groups, educational programs, and Billy's Buddies, a one-on-one patient advocacy and support program. These programs are all free.

A Medical Advisory Board and Board of Directors comprised of business people, health care professionals, and leading melanoma specialists provide guidance for the Foundation. Fundraising events provide funding for education and support programs aimed at prevention, early detection and support.

For more information about the MFNE please visit:

<http://mfne.org/>