

If you have colorectal cancer that has spread to the liver and you are scheduled to receive chemotherapy that includes the drug bevacizumab (the brand name is Avastin), your doctor may ask you to consider joining this study.

Colorectal cancer, like most cancers, can grow only when provided with an ongoing blood supply. Angiogenic factors in the body promote the growth of cancer and the spread of tumor cells to other parts of the body. The drug Avastin works by blocking the blood supply to tumors. This drug action is called anti-angiogenic therapy. Avastin, combined with traditional chemotherapy drugs, has been shown to be an effective way to limit the growth of colon cancer tumors. Also, Avastin may help improve the delivery of chemotherapy drugs to cancer tumors.

The study's goal is to learn if the procedure dynamic contrast-enhanced magnetic resonance imaging (DCE-MRI) can evaluate changes in the blood flow to tumors in patients receiving chemotherapy that includes Avastin. This information may increase our understanding of how Avastin works, and may allow doctors to better understand the nature of tumor growth. In the future, tests such as DCE-MRI may help doctors to know more about the effectiveness of chemotherapy for specific types of cancer, and to direct patients toward the best cancer treatment.

Who can join this study?

You may be able to join this study if:

- You are at least 18 years of age and have cancer of the colon or rectum that has spread to the liver
- You are scheduled for chemotherapy with Avastin
- You have not received prior therapy with Avastin
- You have no evidence of recurrence of any other cancer for which you received treatment
- You are able to undergo an MRI scan with gadolinium contrast

Who cannot join this study?

You cannot join this study if:

- You have serious wounds, ulcers, or bone fractures that are not healing properly
- You have had a heart attack, poorly controlled angina (chest pain), or a stroke within the last 6 months
- You have poorly controlled high blood pressure

What happens if I choose to join this study?

During a visit with a study doctor or a nurse, you will receive detailed information about the study's goal, procedures, benefits and risks. This visit offers the opportunity for you to ask questions in order to make a decision about participation. Should you decide to join the study you will have the following procedures as a study participant:

- Two DCE-MRI scans of your abdomen (liver) at least 48 hours apart and no more than 14 days before your first chemotherapy treatment
- Your first scheduled chemotherapy treatment with your oncologist
- One DCE-MRI scan about 8 to 14 days after your first, and before your second, chemotherapy treatment
- Continued scheduled chemotherapy treatments under your oncologist's care

What is a DCE-MRI scan?

An MRI is produced using a powerful magnet linked to a computer to create detailed images of areas inside the body without the use of radiation. During a DCE-MRI scan, a contrast agent called gadolinium is given through a small intravenous line placed in a vein in your arm. You lie flat within the MRI scanner during the 40-50 minute exam. Earplugs or earphones are provided to help block the tapping/thumping sounds made by the scanner and the technologist is able to see, hear, and speak with you at all times. Although you will be asked to remain still during most of the exam, slight movement is permitted between the series of images obtained.

What type of chemotherapy will I receive?

The exact chemotherapy treatment you will receive will be determined by your doctor and is not affected by participation in this trial. Details of your exact treatment should be discussed with your doctor.

For information contact:

Name:

Telephone #:

Email: