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FOREWORD: ANTI-ANGIOGENIC THERAPY: MAXIMIZING THERAPEUTIC GAIN

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On June 25, 2004, the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG, www.rtog.org) held a symposium, "Anti-Angiogenic Therapy: Maximizing Therapeutic Gain," in Washington, D.C., in conjunction with the RTOG's semi-annual meeting.

The symposium brought together a diverse group of clinicians and basic scientists, leading experts in the field, to foster the development of innovative research in multicenter cooperative group projects. The topics covered were the following: role of angiogenesis in normal tissue biology and cancer cell biology, mechanism of action in tumor-growth inhibition of selective anti-angiogenic inhibitors, effects of anti-angiogenic inhibitors on preclinical tumor models alone and in combination with cytotoxic chemotherapy and radiation therapy, issues regarding clinical trial design using novel agents, and the results of clinical trials using inhibitors of angiogenesis alone or in combination with radiation or chemotherapy.

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