



AMSCHWAND SARCOMA CANCER FOUNDATION
Offering love, hope, and tangible support

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMSCHWAND SARCOMA CANCER FOUNDATION HONORS REX MARCO, MD AT THE 10TH ANNUAL CATWALK FOR A CURE

HOUSTON, TEXAS October 29, 2013 / -- **Amschwand Sarcoma Cancer Foundation (ASCF)** is honored to present the inaugural ***Commitment to Care*** award to **Rex Marco, MD** for his dedication in treating sarcoma patients and for the care and compassion he offers to both patients and families battling the rare disease. Dr. Marco will receive the award November 7, 2013 at the 10th annual **Catwalk for a Cure** awareness gala chaired by **Laura & Mark Dalton** and **Aynsley & Palmer Letzerich**. The 2013 **Commitment to the Cause** award will also be presented that evening to the **Johnny O'Leary family**, and **Stuart Hendley** will be recognized as this year's ***Sarcoma Survivor of the Year*** honoree.

Born and raised in California, Dr. Marco completed his pre-med studies at the University of California at Irvine where he graduated Magna Cum Laude. Following college, Dr. Marco completed a research fellowship at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute – National Institutes of Health and later received his Medical Degree from the UCLA School of Medicine. He followed medical school with an internship at Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle and then completed his orthopaedic surgery residency training at The University of California – Davis Medical Center. Dr. Marco had a deep interest in spine surgery, but also had a passion for oncology and treating patients with orthopaedic cancers. He decided to double-specialize and completed two fellowships. The first was a musculoskeletal oncology fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. He later completed a spine surgery fellowship at Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago. Dr. Marco is one of the only surgeons in the world with training and expertise in the treatment of patients with complex spinal disorders and musculoskeletal tumors.

Dr. Marco started his career as a spine surgeon and musculoskeletal oncologist at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston in 2000. He is now a Professor in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at The University of Texas Medical School at Houston, where he is also the Chief of Spine Surgery and Musculoskeletal Oncology. Dr. Marco also has faculty appointments with Baylor College of Medicine – Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Rice University – Department of Bioengineering, Weill Cornell Medical College/Methodist Hospital Orthopaedic Surgery Residency and with Texas Children's Cancer Center. Additionally, he is Co-Director of the Spine Service at Shriner's Hospital for Children in Houston.

About The Amschwand Sarcoma Cancer Foundation

Since ASCF's inception in 2001, the Houston-based non-profit organization continues to focus on fulfilling its mission of increasing awareness of sarcoma, directly funding sarcoma research and providing tangible support to families affected by the rare cancer that affects thousands of men, women and children each year. This year alone, almost 14,000 men, women and children will be newly diagnosed with sarcoma (a cancer of the

connective tissue). The disease can originate almost anywhere in the body making it difficult to diagnose early. Sarcoma cancers account for almost 20% of all pediatric cancers. ASCF's physician scientist program provides sarcoma specific funding to researchers around the country, including leading specialists in the Texas Medical Center. Each year, ASCF provides nearly one-thousand nights of free housing to sarcoma patients traveling to Houston for medical treatment, second opinion or follow-up. Through a multitude of channels, ASCF continues to raise awareness of the deadly cancer and the needs of those affected by it.

Contact

For more information on the 2013 Catwalk for a Cure event or to become a sponsor, please contact Melissa Amschwand Bellinger at info@sarcomacancer.org. To learn more about the Amschwand Sarcoma Cancer Foundation, please visit www.sarcomacancer.org.

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