



Obituary

Dr. Irma H Russo

“We are saddened to announce the passing of Irma H. Russo, M.D., on June 25, 2013. Dr Irma H Russo, was born in San Rafael, Mendoza, Argentina and for the last 46 years she has been in the United States of America after graduating as a Medical Doctor in the University National of Cuyo. For the past 22 years Irma has worked at Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia; first as director of surgical and clinical pathology and then as director of the molecular endocrinology section of the Breast Cancer Research Laboratory, which she founded in 1975 with her husband, Jose. Irma was a pioneer in identifying the mechanisms of breast cancer prevention as mediated by pregnancy and worked towards developing a hormonal treatment for prevention of the disease using Human Chorionic Gonadotropin, and more recently, it’s replacement by a short amino acid peptide. The collaboration between Jose and Irma was so deep it was, at times, impossible to determine where one ended and the other began. Thanks to her innate sense of scientific collaboration and creativity, together they published five books, over 200 research articles and pulled in more than \$30 million in funding during her tenure at FCCC. Overall, Irma had a very distinguished career in research and remained devoted till the end to the mission of understanding the cellular and molecular basis of breast cancer. She will be remembered not only by her many friends, colleagues, and the more than 50 MDs and PhDs she trained and mentored over the years, but also by every human being who was touched by her good nature.

Sincerely yours

Prof. J. Russo, MD, FACP