



520 8TH. AVE. N.
MYRTLE BEACH, S.C.
843-448-1180

CRUISE **PLAY POOL** **DANCE**

OPEN DAILY AT 5 PM FOR COCKTAILS
Happy Hour 5-8 • No Cover 'Til 9 PM
Private Club, Call ahead for arrangements

Calendar

MONDAYS

Female Impersonation
Show at Midnight!
Featuring:
Leslie Lain &
Special Guests

WEDNESDAYS

Black Out Night
Party in your Underwear!

THURSDAYS

Locals Night - No cover for
locals - free pool for everyone!

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS

Sat., May 12

C.L.A.W.S. Leather Club Show

Fri. & Sat., May 18 & 19

Men of Seduction - Male Strippers

Fri. & Sat., May 25 & 26

Southern Comfort - Male Strippers

Fri., June 1

Brooklyn Dior & The Boys

Every

Sunday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Karaoke
75¢ Draft	\$2 ⁵⁰	Black Out Night	Free Pool until Pool Tourney at 11 pm	Tuesdays & Sundays
\$3 Pitchers	Rum Drinks	\$2 ⁵⁰ Bourbon Drinks	\$2 ⁵⁰ Vodka Drinks	

Patio Bar Open On Weekends

THE HOTTEST DANCE MUSIC ON THE BEACH WITH D.J. MACKEL

For booking information (female impersonators/male dancers) contact Ken @ 843-448-1180, 10am-1pm

reason for hope

On the horizon

by David Scondras
Special to Q-Notes

[This is the second installment of a three-part series.]

Soon we will have better versions of the drugs we are currently using to fight HIV. These drugs will fight resistant virus, have fewer side effects, and be easier to take.

One a day

One new protease inhibitor being made by Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS) looks like it can be used once a day. For now, it is called BMS232632. It appears to be at least twice as strong as any other protease inhibitor and seems able to get viral load down in people whose virus is resistant to three protease inhibitors. It has kept virus at undetectable levels in people taking it once a day for 48 weeks so far! Also, there has been no evidence yet of any increase in total cholesterol or triglycerides. If the studies continue to show these results, this may be a "kinder, gentler" protease inhibitor, with less diarrhea and much less lipodystrophy of the type connected with protease inhibitors. Perhaps this will also mean less impact on body shape, but this is far from certain.

There are other once a day cocktails coming out. One very interesting study put together a cocktail combining Boehringer Ingelheim's Viramune (nevirapine) with Dupont's Sustiva (efavirenz) and BMS's Videx (DDI), creating a once a day cocktail without any use of protease inhibitors. (Videx now comes in a simple small capsule that is much easier to take than the giant alka-seltzer size pill from the old days.) The 26 people in this study did very, very well (90 percent had very low viral loads after one year). The findings are still preliminary, so this therapy is not recommended until other studies can confirm them — but it is one to watch for.

A new kind of nucleotide, Gilead's Tenofovir, will also be a once a day drug when

it is approved by the FDA. Tenofovir fights virus resistant to nukes (drugs like AZT, DDI, 3TC and ABC) even though it is similar. We have hopes it will be the next drug available, but people who need this new chance at getting their virus down now should have their doctors call 1-800-GILEAD-5 (the number is 33-1-44-90-34-46 for those in Europe). This number will put callers in contact with the company's compassionate use program. Eligibility for the program is limited, but this might be an important option for some.

Protease advances

Dupont is developing two second generation protease inhibitors (DPC 681 and DPC 684) that could work on virus that is highly resistant to all of the other FDA-approved protease inhibitors. They tried these new PIs against virus that was resistant to four or more current protease inhibitors and the new drugs look good against all of them.

A Washington scientist has discovered a special protease inhibitor. No matter what HIV does, this protease inhibitor usually sticks to the virus and stops it. The drug is being tested by Tibotec, a drug company in Belgium.

NNRTI shows promise

A real problem with NNRTI drugs, like Sustiva and Viramune, is that they are very cross resistant. This means if your virus gets resistant to one, it is probably resistant to both. Well, good news is finally coming down the pike. Tibotec is making a similar drug temporarily called TMC120 that seems to work when the other two fail. Stay tuned for results of tests in people to see if this is as effective as predicted.

Entry inhibitors

Entry inhibitors stop HIV from getting into cells. These new drugs will transform the world of HIV therapy because people who have used up their options will still respond to them and their side effects will be different and hopefully less serious than those of the drugs we already use. If the studies that are now starting are successful, Roche will be marketing T-20, the first of the inhibitors, soon. You should call your local study centers if this is of interest to you. (Those eligible are anyone who has already had resistance develop to at least one medicine in each of the three drug classes that we use to make up present day cocktails, and who is ready to switch to a new combo.)

Still to come

Many more new drugs are in the planning stages.

Panacos Pharmaceuticals is working on a new powerful kind of inhibitor, 4 methyl DCK, that works early in the life cycle of HIV.

Achillon Pharmaceuticals is developing a new nuke that avoids mitochondrial toxicities. This means it may be less toxic than drugs we take now. It also appears to be powerful against virus that is very nuke resistant. It is called ACH-126,443.

Triangle Pharmaceuticals is testing DAPD, a new nuke that works on virus resistant to both AZT and 3TC.

Also on the horizon is a booster for some of the current drugs. It appears that mycophenolic acid makes Tenofovir, ABC and DDI stronger.

Early experimentation is revealing that a cocktail of DDI, Ribavirin and Interferon Alpha can fight both HIV & Hepatitis C. If the results hold up, this would be a very important discovery for the many people who are co-infected.

New tools

Several companies, including ViroLogic, have new tests that help doctors decide if a drug is still effective at holding back the virus. These tests are called "phenotypic and genotypic resistance assays." Shortly, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will be funding these tests through Medicaid. Medicare already does this, as do most private insurance companies. These tests are very good news for people whose regimens are failing and need to know which drugs are not working. ▼

[David Scondras is the founder of Search For A Cure, a not-for-profit organization providing education and advocacy for people living with AIDS. Contact Search For A Cure at 34 Ederly Road #1, Boston, MA 02115; call 617-536-2474; fax 617-266-0051; email hope@sfac.org; online www.searchforcure.org. This article was reviewed by Dr. Alfred De Maria, Assistant Commissioner of Communicable Disease, Massachusetts Department of Public Health.]



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Sat., May 16
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Bear's Nite Out

Come BEAR the heat at the Rail!

Sat., May 16
Tradesmen's
Nite Out

Patio Bar Open Full force!

<p>MONDAY \$1.75 well drinks & \$5 Bud or Bud Lite longnecks Beer Bust-all you can drink 5pm-2am</p>	<p>TUESDAY Miller & Miller Light Long Necks \$1.00 & \$1.75 well brand cocktails</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY Pool Tourney (Top Gun) \$50 prize - members only Check out our website: brassrail.8m.com email: brassrailbar@yahoo.com</p>	<p>THURSDAY \$1.00 domestic beer \$1.75 well drinks Pool Tourney (\$20 bar tab)</p>	<p>FRIDAY & SATURDAY PARTY NIGHTS!</p>	<p>SUNDAY Partners Pool Tourney (\$50 Prize - members only) \$1.75 well drinks; Brass Rail Cookout served at 7:30pm</p>
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Mon-Sat 5:00-2:30, Sun 3:00-2:30 • FREE Pool Mon-Fri 5-8pm • Well lit parking lot