On March 24th, 2015, Columbia University Medical Center (CUMC) hosted a special panel discussion on how new research is changing the landscape of cancer. The discussion featured leading oncologists and scientists, as well as the producers of the upcoming documentary "Cancer: The Emperor of All Maladies," based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning book by Dr. Siddhartha Mukherjee of the Department of Medicine and the Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center at CUMC.

Watch the panel discussion at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4szND0h4dR4

The three-part six-hour series based on Dr. Mukherjee’s book is presented by the documentary filmmaker Ken Burns and produced and directed by Barak Goodman, a Columbia journalism graduate, in partnership with WETA in Washington D.C.

The series broadcast starts on March 30th, 2015, at 9:00 PM on PBS.

Learn more at: http://video.pbs.org/program/story-cancer-emperor-all-maladies/

During the post–World War II “wonder drug” revolution, antibiotics were viewed as a panacea for mastering infectious disease. But from the beginning, critics raised concerns about irrational usage and over-prescription. The first generation of antibiotic reformers focused on regulating the drug industry: their victories included the adoption of controlled clinical trials as the ultimate arbiters of therapeutic efficacy; the passage of the Kefauver-Harris amendments mandating proof of drug efficacy via well-controlled studies; and the empowering of the Food and Drug Administration to remove inefficacious drugs from the market. Despite such reforms, no entity was given the authority to rein in physicians who inappropriately prescribed, or overly prescribed, approved drugs.

Physician-historian Scott H. Podolsky tells the far-reaching history of antibiotics, focusing particularly on reform efforts that attempted to fundamentally change how antibiotics are developed and prescribed. His talk relates the struggles faced by crusading reformers from the 1940s onward as they advocated for a rational therapeutics at the crowded intersection of bugs and drugs, patients and doctors, industry and medical academia, and government and the media.

Concerns about the enduring utility of antibiotics – indeed, about a post-antibiotic era – are widespread, as evidenced by reports from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, academia, and popular media alike. Only by understanding the historical forces that have shaped our current situation, Podolsky argues, can we properly understand and frame our choices moving forward.

Scott H. Podolsky is an internist at Massachusetts General Hospital, an Associate Professor of global health and social medicine at Harvard Medical School, and the Director of the Center for the History of Medicine at the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine. He is the author of Pneumonia Before Antibiotics: Therapeutic Evolution and Evaluation in Twentieth-Century America. His newest book, The Antibiotic Era Reform, Resistance, and the Pursuit of a Rational Therapeutics, was published by the Johns Hopkins University Press this year.

Steve Novak, Head - Archives & Special Collections, Augustus C. Long Health Sciences Library
The convenience of using smartphones and tablets is not always frustration free. These commonly overlooked time savers can help.

**Connect to your computer to update.** Whether it’s just a few apps or the operating system that needs updating, using your cable to attach your device to your computer is almost always faster. Once connected, use the device’s sync program or app store’s site to find and review updates. Options to update everything at once should be available, but always look for unwanted changes or security issues in the update information and verified reviews first. Before doing large updates run a back up to your computer as well.

**Use airplane mode to charge fast.** Keeping connections to wireless, cellular, Bluetooth or GPS on even if you’re not actively using them consumes power. Temporarily disabling these by changing to airplane mode lets the battery recharge faster. If you need to be able to receive calls or messages while charging, enter the device’s Settings to turn off individual connections. Lowering the brightness on the display or turning off any backlight will also help charging finish more quickly.

**Use airplane mode before changing your email password.** For security measures, CUMC email accounts will automatically lock if a bad password is entered three times in a row. Devices that automatically check for new messages will lock the account by trying to connect with an old stored password. If your account does become locked you can visit [https://mypassword.cumc.columbia.edu](https://mypassword.cumc.columbia.edu) to unlock it immediately.

Oracle now bundles the installation of a “Search App by Ask” with its Java updates. While it is easy enough to de-check prompts to install Ask as you are beginning the update, it is also easy to miss if you’re used to just clicking Next buttons without reading the fine print. You can disable prompts for unwanted programs in future Java updates:

Open the Java Control Panel (Start – Programs – Java - Configure Java on Windows, or System Preferences - Java on Mac) and select the Advanced tab. Scroll to the bottom and check **Suppress sponsor offers when installing or updating Java**. Click Apply and OK to close the window and save your changes.

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**TIME SAVING TIPS FOR YOUR MOBILE**

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**HIPAA TRAINING DEADLINE IS APRIL 30TH**

All CUMC students, faculty and staff are required to complete online training on security and HIPAA related topics each year. The current period began on December 1st and must be completed by April 30th or access to system resources including Columbia Libraries, RASCAL, and AXIUM and CROWN will be automatically revoked. Log in to [http://securitytraining.cumc.columbia.edu/](http://securitytraining.cumc.columbia.edu/) to see your required courses and take any that you have not completed. If you miss the deadline be sure to finish the online training as soon as possible to regain any revoked access. It will be automatically restored within 2 business days of completing required courses. Additional information about the training is at [http://tiny.cc/1cedwx](http://tiny.cc/1cedwx).

**DISABLE PROMPTS FOR BLOATWARE IN JAVA UPDATES**

Oracle now bundles the installation of a “Search App by Ask” with its Java updates. While it is easy enough to de-check prompts to install Ask as you are beginning the update, it is also easy to miss if you’re used to just clicking Next buttons without reading the fine print. You can disable prompts for unwanted programs in future Java updates:

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**REGULAR HOURS**

Monday to Thursday - 8:00 AM – 11:00 PM
Friday - 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Saturday - 10:00 AM – 11:00 PM
Sunday - 12:00 Noon – 11:00 PM

24 Hour Computer Room - 24 hours/7 days
After Hours Study Room - 24 hours/7 days

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CUMC Library & Computing News covers research & tech issues relevant to members of the Columbia University Medical Center community. It is edited by Anca Meret (aom1@cumc.columbia.edu) with tech content on page 2 provided by Kristin Mullane Shimada (km2194@cumc.columbia.edu).