Docs With a Cause to Rock Louder Than A Pink Ribbon

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They may have a record deal and a fervent fan base like other musicians, but the six band members in N.E.D. have an unlikely day job \tilde{A} ¢â?¬" saving the lives of women facing a formidable cancer.

Tulane surgeon Dr. William "Rusty" Robinson and five other prominent gynecologic surgeons from across the country formed the band three years ago and have been using their talents to raise money for cancer research and prevention. The group will perform a benefit concert in New Orleans at 7 p.m., Jan. 14 at Southport Music Hall, 200 Monticello Ave.

"Ultimately, our goal is to raise awareness of gynecologic cancers in the public mind," Robinson says. "Breast cancer awareness is everywhere, but women also suffer and die from gynecologic cancers, to which vastly less media attention has been directed, vastly lower amounts of money for research is spent, and vastly fewer people talk about. While breast cancer has a pink ribbon \tilde{A} ¢ \hat{a} ? \neg " and that"s great \tilde{A} ¢ \hat{a} ? \neg " gyn cancers have a rock band, and we can make a lot more noise!"

The band"s name is short for "No Evidence of Disease," a treatment goal that"s music to any cancer patient"s ears. Robinson, who plays bass guitar and harmonica, is chief of the Section of Gynecologic Oncology at Tulane University School of Medicine.

The New Orleans concert will raise money for Tulane Cancer Center"s Gynecologic Cancer Research Fund HPV Vaccine Program and the Foundation for Women"s Cancer. Concert tickets are \$25 for general admission and \$50 for VIP tickets, which include access to an after-party with the band. Buy tickets online at http://tulane.edu/som/cancer/nednola.cfm

N.E.D. released its first full-length album "Six Degrees" this summer after working with one of David Bowie"s former producers. The doctors, who write music and lyrics inspired by their work with patients, were recently profiled in TIME magazine"s online edition.

For more information about N.E.D., visit http://nedtheband.com