Commitment

The University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center provides advanced, evidence-based care for our patients with the goal of targeted and personalized therapies that result in more cures and fewer side effects. We also offer patient and family support services because we know that cancer affects not only the organs of the body but the whole body and the whole family.

Patient Care

Our experts are committed to providing patients with the latest ways to prevent, detect, diagnose and treat cancer. A patient’s health care team includes leading doctors, nurses, and specialists from the full spectrum of supportive services: psychological support, social work, nutrition counseling, financial assistance and complementary therapies such as art therapy. We also offer patients who qualify assistance with prescriptions, transportation, parking, lodging, wigs, meals and other needs, through the generosity of donors.

Leaders and Best™

Our Cancer Center is one of only 41 in the United States to earn the National Cancer Institute’s “comprehensive” designation. This means that we excel in:

- Extensive, interactive and innovative clinical, laboratory and population research
- Testing of new therapies in partnership with the National Cancer Institute
- Provision of patient education, community service and outreach
- Training for health professionals

The Cancer Center is also a founding member of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) which develops national guidelines for the delivery of cancer care.

Quick Facts, Fiscal Year 2012

- 93,319 outpatient visits
- 51,884 infusion treatments
- 75+ community events sponsored
- 4,184 radiation consults
- 285+ cancer-related clinical trials available

Connecting Patients with Research

Clinical trials allow researchers to develop the safest and most effective cancer treatments using a methodical, scientifically sound approach. Our patients benefit by gaining access to promising new therapies for cancer. The U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center offers free resources to match interested patients with clinical research studies.

- Cancer AnswerLine™, a dedicated phone line staffed by oncology nurses, is available five days a week, 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. at 800-865-1125.
- UMClinicalStudies.org/cancer provides in-depth information about cancer clinical trials, a current listing of studies, and the ability for potential volunteers to register for future updates on newly listed clinical trials.
Research
The only path to a cure for cancer is research. The U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center consistently ranks in the top 10 nationally in grant funding from the National Cancer Institute and is first among medical schools. We receive more than $167 million in grants annually from the NCI and other agencies. Each of the 366 core faculty members in the Cancer Center maintains an active practice in the care of cancer patients or collaborates in cancer prevention, laboratory, clinical or outcomes research.

Attacking Cancer at its Root
Our Cancer Center is a world leader in the investigation of cancer stem cells, the only cells capable of generating new cancer cells. Our goal is to translate research findings to develop innovative stem cell-based therapies for cancer patients. We believe new treatments designed to target and destroy cancer stem cells could revolutionize cancer treatment.

Translational Research
The U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center’s new Translational Oncology Program moves basic science research into clinical trials and new treatment opportunities for cancer patients. In the next 18 months, as many as 30 laboratory scientists and clinicians from the U-M’s Medical School, School of Dentistry, and Colleges of Engineering and Pharmacy, among others, will relocate to the University of Michigan’s North Campus Research Complex. Other teams are already in place and collaborating to identify and understand the molecular pathways at work in cancer, and target treatments to these pathways. The Cancer Center is a major beneficiary of the U-M’s expansive North Campus Research Complex.

Research Highlights
- Lisa Newman, M.D., studies triple negative breast cancer, an aggressive cancer that disproportionately affects African-American women. To understand the genetic basis for this, she travels to Ghana to treat African women and collect samples of their tumors. By learning about the disease in African women, Dr. Newman hopes to improve treatment options for all women with triple negative breast cancer.
- Cancer Center physicians have announced a ground-breaking clinical study for patients with advanced prostate cancer. It has the potential to impact the way future therapy is delivered. The clinical study builds on a U-M discovery that a pair of genes relocate and fuse together in more than half of prostate cancers. An existing drug has the ability in the lab to block an enzyme the fused, cancer-causing gene needs to function. The new U-M clinical study will measure the effect of this drug on the growth of prostate cancer cells in men whose prostate cancer has stopped responding to conventional hormonal therapy.

Community Outreach
Our Community Outreach Program is committed to educating the general public about cancer and its prevention through special events and partnerships with local organizations. To request a member of our Speakers Bureau for an event, call 734-998-7074. The Cancer Center’s Minority Outreach Program works to build relationships with communities of color by offering events tailored to their specific health concerns, and by serving as a liaison for cancer prevention research studies.

Be a Partner in Our Progress
Our mission cannot be fulfilled without the generosity of donors. When you give to the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center, 100 percent of your donation directly supports the many initiatives that set the University of Michigan apart. To discuss options for donations, call 734-998-6893 or visit www.mcancer.org/giving.

Connect with Us
Volunteer Your Time and Talent: Volunteers contribute their unique skills, knowledge and sensitivity to serve Cancer Center patients and families in a variety of meaningful ways. Learn how you can help by calling 734-936-8307 or visit www.mcancer.org/volunteer.

Learn More: To learn more about any aspect of the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center, call the toll-free Cancer AnswerLine™ at 800-865-1125 to speak with an oncology nurse or visit mcancer.org.

Visit Our Newsroom: Read about our latest advances in cancer research at mcancer.org/newsroom.

Join the Conversation: “Like” us on Facebook, “Follow” us on Twitter and join our blog at uofmhealthblogs.org/cancer.