Our Specialists

Pancreas Program Coordinators
- Areli Nunez, AAS
- Denise Shekian, BS

Surgery
- John Allendorf, MD

Gastroenterology and Biliary Endoscopy
- Stavros Stavropoulos, MD
- Shahzaf Iqbal, MD
- David Friedel, MD

Panreatology
- James Grendell, MD

Medical Oncology
- Alexander Hindenburg, MD
- Harry Staszewski, MD
- Alice Zervoudakis, MD

Radiology
- Douglas Katz, MD

Radiation Oncology
- Jonathan Haas, MD
- Alice Gittleman, MD

Genetics and Prevention
- Monika Zak, MS

Pathology
- Virginia Donovan, MD
- Mala Gupta, MD
- George Turi, MD

Nurse Practitioners
- Barbara Moskowitz, NP  Surgery
- Elizabeth Marchand, NP  Oncology

Clinical Nutritionist
- Arlene Stein, MS, RD, CDN

Social Worker
- Trish Schussler, ACSW, LMSW, OSW-C

Nurse Navigator
- Christine Guarnieri, RN
Welcome....

Pancreatic cancer is a complex disease that requires expert care from multiple providers spanning several disciplines. Our program is mission driven, goal oriented, disease based and patient focused. We have assembled a team of outstanding practitioners dedicated to providing comprehensive care to patients with pancreatic cancer and the precursors of the disease.

Here at our program we welcome the opportunity to help your patients and their families with the management of this challenging disease.

John D. Allendorf, MD, FACS
Vice Chairman, Department of Surgery
Chief of Surgical Oncology
Director, Pancreas Program

Our Mission

The mission of the Pancreas Program is to be a center of excellence dedicated to decreasing the burden of pancreatic cancer by providing outstanding medical care, pioneering prevention and early detection techniques, educating patients and clinicians, and training physicians to become experts in the treatment of pancreatic cancer, all with the goal of making the disease a controllable illness.

Goals of the Program

- To maximize outcomes for patients with pancreatic cancer
- To maintain the best possible quality of life for individuals with pancreatic cancer
- To be the regional center with the most expertise in treating pancreatic cancer
- To provide genetic testing and counseling for at-risk individuals
- To give patients access to the newest drugs through clinical trials
- To be a magnet site for industry to test new drugs and devices developed for the treatment of pancreatic cancer care
- To erode the fatalism that is commonly expressed about pancreatic cancer.

Comprehensive Care for Patients with Pancreatic Neoplasms

At our program we provide comprehensive care to patients with pancreatic cancer and the precursors of the disease.

Genetic Testing: Two full time geneticists work with the medical faculty to identify patients at high risk for developing pancreatic cancer. Within the high risk registry, patients are screened for precursors of pancreatic cancer with the aim of preventing the disease before it develops.

Pancreatic Cyst Surveillance Program: Within this program, patients with pancreatic cysts are closely monitored for signs of developing a malignancy in an effort to prevent cancer before it happens.

Interventional endoscopy: Using ERCP, Endoscopic Ultrasound (EUS), Intraductal Ultrasound (IUDS), and advanced endoscopic surgical techniques our expert biliary endoscopists, diagnose pancreatic cancer, relieve obstructive jaundice, and treat intractable pain.

Surgery: Patients with operable tumors will undergo surgery using established and innovative minimally invasive techniques. For patients with “inoperable” pancreatic cancer, we have an aggressive protocol that will ultimately lead to surgical removal of the tumor in a majority of the patients.

Medical Oncology: Chemotherapy is delivered to patients in our easily accessible and newly opened infusion center. Our faculty members are principle investigators on multiple clinical trials available to patients who progress through first line therapy.

Radiation Oncology: Using both conventional IMRT and Cyberknife, radiation treatment is an integral component of treatment for many patients with pancreatic cancer.

Nutritional support: Ongoing nutritional support is provided to our patients by a dedicated staff of clinical nutritionists.

Advocacy: Our center actively collaborates with national organizations including Pan Can and the Lustgarden Foundation to raise money for pancreatic cancer research and to heighten awareness about the disease.