Cancer Center Facts

Clinical Cancer Care

- Full screening services and diagnostics
- Advanced treatments for all forms of cancer
- Most frequent cancers at the Cancer Center: Breast, Gastrointestinal, Skin, Lung
- 17 interdisciplinary oncology programs; each patient’s case is considered by a team of oncologists, surgeons, radiologists, nurses, and other specialists who collaborate to recommend individualized treatment programs
- Care provided close to home through regional centers in Keene, Lebanon, Manchester, and Nashua, NH, and St. Johnsbury, and White River Junction, VT, and in partnership with community hospitals in Claremont, Lancaster, Littleton, New London, Peterborough, and Plymouth, NH and Bennington, Brattleboro, and Springfield, VT
- Close collaboration with each patient’s community physician
- Broad program of clinical trials of new therapies
- Phase I Clinical Trials Program develops new treatment protocols that link the latest Cancer Center research to clinical care
- Familial Cancer Program offers comprehensive cancer genetic services including family history analysis, risk assessment, genetic testing and counseling, and prevention recommendations
- Patient and family-centered cancer care across the continuum, and survivorship support including a range of services, survivor care, and palliative care
- Bone Marrow Transplant Program offering autologous and allogenic transplants in inpatient and outpatient settings
- Molecular Tumor Board
- Hematology/Oncology Fellowship Program, training the next generation of physicians

Community Support

The Friends of Norris Cotton Cancer Center is a community support group that was formed in 1982 to raise money and awareness for Norris Cotton Cancer Center. In 2011, a Friends South group was formed in the Manchester-Nashua region. The Friends groups raise more than $3.5 million annually for research and patient services.

Leadership

Steven D. Leach, MD
Director, Norris Cotton Cancer Center
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
Professor of Molecular and Systems Biology
Preston T. and Virginia R. Kelsey Distinguished Chair in Cancer Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth

Professional Staff

- More than 160 senior investigators pursue research studies in cancer biology, causes, prevention, and treatment
- More than 200 cancer specialists work in the areas of diagnostics, medical oncology, hematology, nutrition, social services, bone marrow transplantation, radiation oncology, surgical oncology, psycho-oncology, palliative care, and genetics counseling
- More than 90 oncology nurses coordinate patient services and support, and masters-trained Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) engage in research and education to ensure center-wide excellence in oncology nursing

Clinical Oncology Groups

Care is delivered through interdisciplinary programs focused on specific types of cancer:

- Breast
- Endocrine
- Gastrointestinal
- Genitourinary/Prostate
- Gynecologic
- Head and Neck
- Lymphoma/Leukemia
- Melanoma/Skin
- Molecular
- Neuro/Brain
- Pediatric
- Sarcoma
- Spine
- Thoracic/Lung

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Number of Patients
- More than 3,700 new cancers diagnosed in our system annually
- More than 32,000 patients served annually

Cancer Help Line: (800) 639-6918
- Provides information about cancer treatment, clinical trials, prevention programs, support services, events, and other resources

Research
- Core Funding from the National Cancer Institute: $3.1 million/year (More than 38 consecutive years of funding)
- Research Funding to Cancer Center Members: $50 million in National Institute of Health (NIH), NCI, and other grants and contracts

200+ Research Projects within 6 Research Programs
- Cancer Epidemiology
- Cancer Control
- Molecular Therapeutics
- Cancer Mechanisms
- Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy
- Cancer Imaging and Radiobiology

Clinical Trials
The Cancer Center has over 160 open clinical trials, including Cancer Center-initiated clinical trials, national multi-center trials, and pharmaceutical-funded trials

Clinical Trials Affiliations
The Cancer Center is active in national networks of researchers and institutions participating in collaborative clinical trials:
- Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology (CALGB, ASCOSOG, NCCTG)
- Cancer Immunotherapy Trial Network (CITN)
- Children’s Oncology Group (COG)
- Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG)
- Gynecology Oncology Group (GOG)
- New England Oncology Network (NEON)
- RTOG ( Radiation Therapy Oncology Group)

Facilities
- The Barbara E. Rubin Building (2003) at DHMC houses clinical space for outpatient care, treatment with radiation therapy and chemotherapy, cancer prevention research activities, and administrative offices
- Full-service inpatient oncology care unit (28 beds) at DHMC with nine beds dedicated to bone marrow transplant
- Research Laboratories in the Borwell Research Building at DHMC
- Remsen and Vail Research Laboratories at Dartmouth College in Hanover
- The Williamson Translational Research Building (2015) houses Geisel research teams including cancer science, the Center for Genomics and Advanced Testing, and the DHMC Clinical Pathology Department
- Shared Resources serve research needs in Bioinformatics, Biostatistics, Clinical Pharmacology, Genomics and Molecular Biology, Immune Monitoring and Flow Cytometry including Dart Lab, Irradiation, Pre-clinical Imaging, and Microscopy, Mouse Modeling, Office of Clinical Research, Pathology Shared Resource, and Trace Element Analysis.

Regional and National Role
- One of 51 institutions nationwide designated as a Comprehensive Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute
- Broad programs of community outreach, education, information, and support
- Continuing education and consultation for physicians and cancer care professionals throughout the region
- Affiliations with national service agencies such as the American Cancer Society
- Preventing cancer in the catchment area via National Cancer Institute support for a National Outreach Network Community Health Educator