Tour Notes

March 26, 2004

Seattle Cancer Care Alliance

Date of Meeting: Friday, March 26, 2004
Location: Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, Seattle, Washington
Tour Given By: Facility Tour: given by Erica Karlovits, Volunteer Services Manager
Infusion Unit Tour: given by Sharol Bohl, Charge Nurse

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General Facility Notes

- The facility works with the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, The University of Washington and the Children’s Hospital and Regional Medical Center.
- The facility has about 400 visits that are transplant related per year, and several thousand that are oncological in nature. Most of the transplant visits, about 80%, are out-of-town patients whereas most of the oncology patients are from the Seattle area.
- There are pediatric transplant patients; however, the remainder of pediatric cancer patients are seen at the Children’s hospital.
- There is an apartment building a few blocks away that was established solely for patients and their families. This amenity is used most frequently by patients who will be receiving a Bone Marrow Transplant because the length of their stay is often several months. The concept of the apartments was developed to provide support for the extended family during the care of the patient. A shuttle is provided for family members to go to and from the grocery store and often the Volunteers will help to carpool the family to run other errands.
- Transplant patients are typically visiting a clinic for 4-6 months. All transplant patients have mailboxes in which they can receive mail and hospital-related mailers. The volunteer services provided to patients are given at their initial consultation but again distributed after a week at the hospital because they usually ignore the information when it's first distributed (because there is so much other stuff to think about).
- The clinics operate from 6am-9pm on Monday Friday; from 6am-5pm on weekends and a nurse is always available during the off-hours to answer questions and phone- triage patients during emergencies to determine if they should go to the ED or not.
- There are 5 chaplains in the system.
- Each waiting area has a designated isolation area for immune-sensative patients.
- If a patient is sick with a cold or other contagious illness, they are fast-tracked through the system. Upon arrival they are sent directly to an exam room to meet their physician. All nurses and other techs come directly to them and then the room is sanitized when they leave.
- The average waiting time from check in to exam room is 10 minutes (!!)
- The Breast Clinic has a separate waiting area because of the sensitive nature of these patients.
- Each waiting area has a phone and a computer for patient use.
- There are hospital and university based doctors in the clinics.
- All registration is decentralized.
- The transplant doctors rotate monthly: inpatient, outpatient, and research. The transplant patients; therefore, may have different doctors but their nurses are always constant.
- There is a small dental clinic for transplant patients because they often have mouth sores.
- There are about 500 staff who work in the building (but not all at once)
- The building opened 3 years ago and was designed to accommodate an entire additional wing on the south side. Studies for expansion were intended to begin 5 years after the opening; however, they have already outgrown their space, and this study has already begun.
Specific Floor-by-Floor Notes

Ground Floor:
- The large classroom is set up like a conference room with a divider for smaller meetings; and it can swing to become an emergency call center in case of a disaster.
- The small classroom is a resource center with a TV, a small table with a few chairs, two computer workstations and a printer and fax machine. It is one of the few quiet rooms within the facility and often is place for consultations.
- The sanctuary is set up to accommodate any religion. It is rather small, but has multiple services and support groups that meet daily.
- Upon arrival, all patients get their blood drawn on the Ground Floor before going up to Clinic.
- The reception desk is not working in the current configuration because the orientation does not allow for direct visual contact with people entering the facility through the front door; nor for people entering through the garage elevators.
- The resource center is entirely too small. There are three computer stations and a desk with a volunteer stationed all day. She shares cancer literature with people, gives them directions around Seattle, makes reservations, etc. Two resource center employees currently work in the closet within this room.

Second Floor:
- All non-directly-related cancer services were moved out of the building in order to make space for patients. Therefore, a large portion of the admin. space on this floor was converted to 4 or 5 more procedure spaces for radiology.
- The cafe is set up to serve the cancer patients with healthy organic food. There is no serving line, only soups and grab-and-go items.

Third Floor (no floor plan):
- Large Conference Center and shell space for future expansion. This shell space currently holds a lot of storage for volunteers, materials management, etc.

Fourth Floor
- No comments

Fifth Floor
- See Infusion Notes, below

Sixth Floor
- No comments

Seventh Floor:
- Lab space that is restricted to staff-only.

Volunteer Program Notes
- There are about 300 volunteers set up to handle the patient load at the SCCA. Erika and her two part-time assistants are in charge of the entire program; however, there is a lot of flexibility in the program so that her job
isn't too overwhelming. She does not track the hours of the volunteers; they do not check in the morning before they begin working but, instead, go directly to the area in which they work once their

- There are about 150 Patient/Family Volunteers. These volunteers are assigned to patient/family and follow them for the course of their visit. It's like an assigned friend. They are matched together using a system that Erika has set up in which the volunteer's interests are compatible with those of the patient/family. Usually these volunteers are more helpful to the family because the patients are too busy receiving treatment. The Volunteer Manager assigns these volunteers to a family but it is their responsibility to initialize contact and to develop a schedule of service with the family. That way the volunteer can spend as much time as she's got to help. Furthermore, the middleman is removed and Erika's role is primarily one of management if a problem arises.

- About 30 researchers on the campus also volunteer in the program because they want the patient contact with whom they are researching.

- A lot of donations are received, especially for the pediatric patients, during the holidays and currently all of these items are stored in the shell space (but not for long).

- The volunteers do not have an area for their belongings, but they take them with them to their work.

- The volunteers participate in a 6-week training course before beginning to work for the hospital. It meets every Tuesday evening for 5 weeks from 6:30-9 and then the following Saturday they take a grief counseling course.

- In order to encourage the communication between the greeter/volunteers and the patients, they have a bowl of candy on the desk that people can pick from. Often this is the only initial contact needed for the volunteer, social worker, greeter, etc. to begin a conversation about the patient's needs and experience at the hospital. Because the clinics rotate daily, often the volunteers will put out candy that is preferred by certain patients visiting on that day.

- Pediatric volunteers often read or play with the patients for a while to give the parents an opportunity to get some food or run errands if necessary; however, if a nurse has to "work on" the patient: take blood pressure, give an injection, etc. then the volunteer leaves the room and only returns once the procedure is complete. Therefore, the child won't associate anything negative with the volunteer.

**Infusion Notes**

- There is a small waiting area dedicated for Children. There's a room that is used for art classes and other child-related activities that is supported by the volunteer program. They have two mobile Nintendo units that children can play on too.

- The pharmacy serves the patients from the waiting area and the infusion unit from within the unit. -Meeting space and locker space is inadequate for staff throughout the facility.

- There are about 50 staff that work in infusion.

- It's nice to have the nurse manager on the floor.

- The flow for a patient is they check-in at the registration desk and then via computer the patient-flow tech, who works within the clinic, recognizes that the patient has arrived and finds an infusion room for them.

- There is casework between every 2 infusion bays that contains a sink (one with an eyewash for chemo spills) and storage above for linens.

- Each infusion area has a mobile med cart for supplies that is very convenient, rather then requiring the nurse to go back-and-forth to a med room / clean supply.

- There are 46 infusion bays, 12 of which are chairs and the rest are private rooms with beds. Most of the dividers are curtained between all of the bays; however, there were some glass sliding doors installed of the bed-bays in which patient privacy was an issue: at the pharmacy, at the nurse stations.
• Each bay has a television, a donated VCR and a network cable for laptop. Some of the chair-bays were improperly designed because the TV faces the exterior wall, so the patient faces the interior; however, the gases and suctions and the call-button aren't located together.

• The WelchAllyn fixtures are nice looking and keep all of the services together (thermometer, BP, ear light, etc.) but the BP is very difficult to use mounted to the wall.

• The shades covering the windows in the bays are inside of the window, which is great to reduce dust and cleaning of each room.

• From my impression of the space, and Sharon’s comments, I don’t think that she, and maybe even none of the nurses were involved in the DD/CD design of the spaces because she made many comments about the poor location of certain elements: the call-button, the patient room signs at the bays are at the same height as the pendant light fixtures so that your view of the numbers is obstructed, etc.
1st FLOOR
Classroom (1006-1008)
Blood Draw
Library
Patient Financial Services
Public Phones (local calls)
Public Restrooms
Radiation Oncology (treatment)
Resource Center (fax, internet, copier, maps, health info and activities)
Sanctuary

2nd FLOOR
Administration
Radiology (Ultrasound, MRI, Nuclear Medicine, X-Ray, Port Inserts, CT Scan, Breast MRI)
Red Brick Bistro – Cafeteria (Stamps, Phone Cards)
Treatment Suite - Procedure Suite (Endoscopy)
Vending Machines

3rd FLOOR
Classroom (3100)
Eastlake Exit (Accessible)
Faculty Offices

4th FLOOR (#7771 – Check In)
Breast Center (Breast Biopsy, Mammograms)
Intake Office
General Oncology Clinics (Hematology, Sarcoma, Melanoma, Gynecology)
Pain Management
Patient Care Coordinator
Unrelated Donor Search Office

5th FLOOR
Apheresis
Infusion Service
Pharmacy
Playroom

6th FLOOR
Transplant Clinic (Consult Appointments)
Long-Term Follow-Up
Nutrition Services
Pulmonary Function Lab
Oral Medicine Service
Patient and Family Services (Housing, Pastoral Care, Social Work, Child Life, Psychology, Psychiatry, Volunteer Services)
Health Information Management (Medical Records)
Oral Med - Dental
Hazardous Waste Disposal

7th FLOOR (RESTRICTED)
Clinical Laboratories
Fifth Floor
Seattle Cancer Care Alliance
Outpatient Clinic

- Closed rooms, HPPC
- Inadequate locker space
- Renovated for more infusion bays
How can Volunteer Services help you?

We have caring, compassionate and well-trained volunteers to help you during your treatment here at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. Please take a look at the many ways we can best help you. Contact us if you have any questions or if you would like to utilize Volunteer Services.

**Patient/Family Volunteers** provide practical (shopping trips), social (sightseeing, outings) and emotional support to our patients and their families. Volunteers are matched with patients and family members from outside of the western Washington area for the length of their treatment here in Seattle.

**Volunteer Drivers** transport patients, donors and caregivers who are from outside of the western Washington area to and from Seattle-Tacoma Airport and Boeing Field. If possible, please give three business days advanced notice as this service is dependant upon volunteer availability.

**Volunteer Concierge** is located in the Patient and Family Resource Center on the first floor of the SCCA outpatient clinic. They provide information about the Seattle area, offer support services for patients and families as well as passes and tickets to local concerts, museums, sports games, etc. (please check for passes and ticket availability). The Volunteer Concierge are available 9:00am to 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.

**Volunteer Greeters** provide a welcoming presence, information and assistance (wheelchair escort, patient parking validation, taxi requests, shuttle information) to all patients and visitors of the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance outpatient clinic. Volunteer Greeters can be found in the Main Lobby on the first floor Monday through Friday.

**Child Life Volunteers** offer diversionary activities, playgroups and companionship for pediatric patients and patients' family members (ages 0-18yrs) in the 5th floor playroom of the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance outpatient clinic. Activities include crafts, games, storytelling, watching videos, and friendship!

**Patient Events** occur one Saturday of each month at different locales with the majority at the Hutch School located in the Pete Gross House. These events give patients and families an opportunity to take part in an activity with other patients and volunteers in a safe and inviting social setting. Flyers for these patient events can be found in the Patient and Family Resource Center on the first floor of the SCCA. Past events include bingo night, craft parties, movies, back to school dances and holiday activities.

**Crafts & Conversation** is an excellent opportunity for patients and family members who are interested in learning or continuing to hone their skills in craft making. It is also a great way to be active and social with other patients of the SCCA. Please check the "Connecting Mind, Body and Spirit" Calendar for monthly dates.

Please contact Volunteer Services at (206) 288-1075 or volunteer@seattlecca.org for any of the above services that you would like more information on. Please let us know if we can help out!
SEATTLE CANCER CARE ALLIANCE
Volunteer Opportunities

The Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, a partnership of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, UW Medicine, and Children’s Hospital and Regional Medical Center, is seeking volunteers to provide practical support for people undergoing cancer treatment and their families. We are currently recruiting for the following volunteer positions:

**Patient/Family Volunteers** provide practical, social and emotional support to our patients and their families. Volunteers are matched with patients and family members from outside of Western Washington for the length of their treatment here in Seattle.

**Volunteer Greeters** provide a welcoming presence, information and assistance to all patients and visitors of the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance outpatient clinic, which is located at 825 Eastlake Avenue East. Volunteer Greeters work in the Main Lobby on the first floor. Weekday shifts are available.

**Child Life Volunteers** offer diversionary activities and companionship for pediatric patients and patients’ family members (ages 0-18 yrs) in the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance outpatient clinic, which is located at 825 Eastlake Avenue East. Activities include crafts, games, storytelling, watching videos, and friendship! Weekday shifts are available.

**Physical Therapy Volunteers** assist the department and Physical Therapist by supporting patients undergoing treatment at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance outpatient clinic, which is located at 825 Eastlake Avenue East. Responsibilities include transporting patients, assisting with equipment maintenance, and observing treatment. A three-month commitment of one 2-hour shift per week is required. PT experience or persons pursuing PT certification necessary.

**Volunteer Tour Guides** offer tours of in-patient units at the University of Washington Medical Center and Children’s Hospital and Regional Medical Center, and tours of recommended housing options in the Lake Union, First Hill and University areas for consultation patients and families. Volunteers are encouraged to use the Volunteer Services van, but may use their own vehicle. Weekday on-call volunteers are needed.

**Volunteer Drivers** transport patients who are from outside of western Washington and their family members and friends who are primary caregivers from and to Seattle-Tacoma Airport and Boeing Field. Transportation times are negotiable. Volunteers are encouraged to use the Volunteer Services van, but may drive their own automobile. Volunteers must be at least 21 years of age.

**Volunteer Concierge** provide information about the Seattle area and support services for patients and families in the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance Clinic’s Patient and Family Resource Center. Volunteer shifts are available during the day, Monday through Saturday. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age.

**Hutch School Volunteers** assist teachers with meeting the educational needs of pediatric patients and family members of patients, who are in kindergarten through 12th grade. Volunteers Tutors assist high school and middle school students with learning math, sciences, foreign languages and web page design, and the younger students with reading, writing and math. People who have expertise in teaching music, art, sciences, Macintosh computers, English, and Spanish can serve as teacher's aides in the classroom. Volunteers must be at least 21 years of age.

Please contact Volunteer Services at (206) 288-1072 to receive a volunteer application and information on training opportunities. For more information and a complete training schedule, please visit our website at [http://www.fhcr.org/donating/volunteer_services/](http://www.fhcr.org/donating/volunteer_services/).
The Significance of Our Alliance

COMBINING WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH
WITH FIRST-RATE CARE

The Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA) brings together the outstanding adult and pediatric oncology patient care services of three world-renowned institutions: the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, the University of Washington, and Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center (Children's).

Through the collective research of these organizations, Alliance patients benefit from leading-edge treatments, improved outcomes, and strong cancer prevention programs. In addition, patients and their family members benefit from access to a unique array of support services. Our specialized expertise and state-of-the-art approaches can reduce complications, speed recovery, improve long-term survival, and enhance the quality of life for cancer patients.

A major focus of our Alliance is to more rapidly transfer new diagnostic and treatment techniques from clinical research settings to the community, advancing the standard of cancer care available throughout the Pacific Northwest. This will be accomplished by building on our collaborations with physicians and hospitals throughout the region.

"This will be a powerful alliance, one that may well turn out to be a model for other parts of the country."

Richard Klausner, M.D.
Director, National Cancer Institute
The Strength of Our Record

FRED HUTCHINSON CANCER RESEARCH CENTER:

- Ranked first nationwide among academic and research institutions in grant funding from the National Cancer Institute.
- Pioneered the development of bone marrow transplantation, offering a cure to more than 50,000 people a year diagnosed with leukemia, lymphoma, and other potentially fatal blood disorders.
- Increased cure rates for some types of leukemia from nearly zero to more than 80 percent through bone marrow transplantation.
- Achieved more precise marrow-donor matches through DNA sequencing, resulting in a higher success rate for marrow transplants.

- Performed the first successful marrow transplant for multiple myeloma and the first transplants in children with acute lymphoblastic leukemia, thalassemia major, and acute myelogenous leukemia.
- Advanced the application of stem cell transplantation to a variety of cancers, as well as genetic and immune disorders.
- Developed the first FDA-approved antibody-targeted chemotherapy, making chemotherapy less toxic and more effective.
- Developed a technique to insert changes into genes, leading to the first successful application of gene therapy in humans.
- Pioneered the first antibody-targeted therapy against a marker specific to non-Hodgkins lymphoma, an approach now used to treat thousands of people every year.
- Determined that a high-vegetable diet is significant in the prevention of prostate cancer.
- Together with the University of Washington, developed a technique to target radiotherapy using radiolabeled antibodies.
- Found that vitamin A supplements do not prevent lung cancer in high-risk populations.
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

- Ranked among the top hospitals in the United States for cancer treatment by U.S. News & World Report.
- Top public university in research grant funding from the National Institutes of Health.
- One of only four hospitals in the United States with dedicated clinical programs involving high-energy radiation therapy with linear accelerator and neutron therapy using a cyclotron.
- World leader in the use of high dose radioimmunotherapy with stem cell transplantation for leukemia and lymphoma.
- Widely acclaimed for the expertise of its faculty, the radiology program utilizes state-of-the-art equipment, including positron emission tomography (PET) to provide unique insight into cancer diagnoses and response to treatment.
- One of a few select Phase I protocol sites nationwide for the Gynecology Oncology Group.
- Pioneered work in the use of stereotactic radiosurgery for brain and other central nervous system tumors.

Partner Through a Patient’s Treatment

We believe that our relationship with referring physicians begins before the point of referral and continues even after the patient returns to the referring physician for care. We are particularly committed to maintaining communications with referring physicians and actively encourage ongoing connections with the patient’s care. To make this easier, the Alliance offers U-Link for physicians whose patients are admitted to University of Washington Medical Center (UWMC). This system gives physicians instant Internet access through a secured password to current information about their patients, including dictated notes, lab tests and results, medication records, operative reports and discharge summaries. For more information about U-Link, call (206) 598-5683.

- Focused on coordinated, multidisciplinary evaluations and treatment plans for many diseases, including breast, gynecologic, prostate, sarcoma, melanoma, and liver cancers.
- Leader in development and application of sentinel node biopsy techniques to allow minimally-invasive surgery, reducing the need for unnecessary lymph node removal in diseases such as breast cancer and melanoma.
- Recognized internationally as a leader in research on the genetics of breast cancer risk.
- Renowned prostate cancer program, with specialized expertise in nerve sparing surgery, conformal radiotherapy, and newer immune and chemo therapies.
- Led the development of chemotherapy and limb-sparing surgery for adults with sarcoma – now in the forefront internationally with PET metabolic imaging for recurring disease and grading response assessment.
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AND REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER:

- Recognized nationally for its pediatric bone tumor and brain tumor programs.
  - One of nine centers nationwide to participate in the Pediatric Brain Tumor Consortium.
  - Pioneered the concept of multidisciplinary care of the pediatric brain tumor patient.
  - The Pediatric Neurosurgical Oncology Service provides leading-edge technology to patients with brain or spinal cord tumors, including the use of functional brain mapping and the latest frameless stereotactic equipment.
- Pioneered work in the pharmacology of chemotherapy for acute lymphoblastic leukemia and neuroblastomas.
- Developed a program, using Hutchinson Center protocols, that utilizes radioisotopes for the treatment of AML, ALL, neuroblastoma, and Ewing's sarcoma in children.
- Formed the most comprehensive, multidisciplinary team of pediatric cancer experts in the Pacific Northwest. This diverse group of pediatric specialists—all present in one location and all focused on the care of children—allows delivery of the most effective and efficient treatment for pediatric cancers.
- Treats more pediatric cancer cases than any other provider in the region. Follows more than 3,000 children and begins care for 200 newly diagnosed pediatric cancer patients annually.
- The Pediatric Bone and Soft Tissue Sarcoma Service provides advanced care to children and adolescents with musculoskeletal tumors, including the use of newly developed metabolic imaging methods that improve the ability to see musculoskeletal abnormalities, and transplantation and skeletal reconstruction procedures that now leave patients with more function.
Our Comprehensive Range of Programs

The Alliance forms the most comprehensive cancer treatment program in the Pacific Northwest, spanning all ages and disease areas. We offer a variety of treatment options, designed from the latest research findings, for malignant and non-malignant diseases including:

- Blood Disorders
- Breast Cancer
- Brain & Nervous System Cancers
- Digestive System Cancers
- Gynecologic Cancers
- Head and Neck Cancers
- Kidney & Bladder Cancers
- Leukemia
- Lymphoma
- Liver Cancer
- Lung Cancer
- Melanoma
- Mesothelioma
- Multiple Myeloma
- Pancreatic Cancer
- Pediatric Cancers
- Prostate Cancer
- Sarcoma

Research-based treatment protocols are available using stem cell and marrow transplantation, gene therapy, specialized antibody therapies, high dose chemotherapy, radiation therapy, immunotherapy, minimally-invasive surgical techniques, and other specialized therapies.

Inpatient Alliance services are provided at our new specially-constructed inpatient units: a 38-bed pediatric hematology/oncology unit at Children's and three adult hematology/oncology units at UWMC, totaling 86 beds. These integrated units are dedicated to hematology, oncology and hematopoietic stem cell transplant patients, with specially designed space for cancer patients and their families. The units offer advanced features such as HEPA-filtered air systems as well as lead-shielded rooms for therapy with radioisotope-labeled antibodies.

In addition to hospital-based services, a full complement of outpatient services for adult and pediatric patients will be available at the Alliance’s unique, multidisciplinary ambulatory clinic on the Hutchinson Center’s Lake Union campus. This seven-story, 150,000 square-foot building will open in January 2001. The SCCA clinic will be linked via a high speed, Next Generation Internet network to UWMC and Children’s, allowing real-time movement of images and other clinical information between sites.
Support for Our Patients and Families

The Alliance institutions are dedicated to meeting the emotional, spiritual, and practical needs of people undergoing cancer treatment. Patients and their family members have access to a full range of support services, including social work, pastoral care, volunteer services, support groups, and educational programs. We also offer:

- A K-12 grade educational program for school-age patients and family members. This one-of-a-kind program, known as the Hutch School, is affiliated with the Seattle School District. Teachers at Children's serve as liaisons to the Hutch School to provide continuity of learning.
- Coordination of lodging accommodations, including the Pete Gross House, a 68-unit apartment complex available for Alliance patients undergoing treatment who are staying in Seattle for an extended period. The Ronald McDonald House across from the Children's campus also provides housing for families of hematology/oncology patients treated at Children's.

Working Together to Cure Cancer

The Seattle Cancer Care Alliance is developing a clinical cancer care network to provide community-based providers with the latest cancer diagnostic and treatment information. Through an affiliation with the Alliance, oncologists will have access to information and services such as:

- The latest clinical research protocols.
- Current cancer care treatment guidelines.
- Rapid second-opinion service.
- Support for development and use of research-based treatments at community sites.
- Continuing medical education and training for community oncologists and other professionals.
- Current publications and research overviews of phase I, II, and III clinical trials.

Working together with community providers, the SCCA will strive to advance the standard of cancer care available in the Pacific Northwest.
Working Together to Cure Cancer

SEATTLE CANCER CARE ALLIANCE
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
University of Washington
Children's Hospital & Regional Medical Center
To refer a patient or obtain information about the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, please call 206-667-SCCA. Additional information about the Alliance also can be found on our web site at http://www.seattlecca.org

CONTACT INFORMATION
Seattle Cancer Care Alliance
825 Eastlake Avenue East
P.O. Box 19023
Seattle, Washington 98109-1023

Phone: 206-667-SCCA (206-667-7222)
Fax: 206-667-6643
The Patient-Centered Approach to Care

Everyone and everything you might need for the evaluation and treatment of your cancer are available to you at the SCCA. Our multidisciplinary team of specialists consists of medical oncologists, surgical oncologists, radiation oncologists, and pathologists, as well as nutritionists, social workers, psychiatrists, and psychologists who are specially trained to help you and your family deal with quality of life, comfort, and treatment issues. The SCCA staff collaborates with one another and with you to develop the best possible treatment plan for you.

Leading-edge Clinical Research / Breakthrough Care

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, recognized internationally for its pioneering work in bone-marrow transplantation, attracts and trains some of the leading physicians and researchers in the nation. The center is home to two Nobel Prize laureates, Dr. E. Donnell Thomas who received the 1990 Nobel Prize in Medicine for his work concerning organ and cell transplantation in the treatment of human disease, and Dr. Lee Hartwell, the center’s president, received the 2001 Nobel Prize for his discoveries related to the cell cycle which are fundamental to all cancer research. Fred Hutchinson is also known for its efforts in the development of more targeted approaches to treating cancer. These efforts resulted in the first FDA-approved antibody-targeted chemotherapy for leukemia as well as a similar targeted therapy for non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma. Center scientists continue to lead the way in cancer research and treatment development. A more recent development was the “mini-transplant,” a less toxic bone-marrow transplant that is well tolerated by older patients as well as patients who could not tolerate the rigors of a high-dose transplant.

UW Medical Center ranks as one of the top hospitals in the United States and is one of only four hospitals with dedicated clinical programs involving high-energy radiation therapy with linear accelerator and neutron therapy using a cyclotron. Recognized for outstanding, compassionate care, UW Medicine has 40 years of experience in multidisciplinary oncology and has a wide range of oncology programs that support patient care, research and training activities. Its internationally acclaimed radiology program uses state-of-the-art equipment, including positron emission tomography (PET) to provide unique insight into cancer diagnoses and response to treatment. UW Medicine physicians conducted pioneering work in the use of stereotactic radiosurgery for brain and other central nervous system tumors. UW physicians focus on coordinated, multidisciplinary evaluations and treatment plans for many diseases, including breast, gynecologic, prostate, sarcoma, melanoma and liver cancers. The UW School of Medicine is part of UW Medicine and is considered a leader in the training of physicians.

Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center is the Pacific Northwest’s leading institution for pediatric care, research, education and child advocacy, and was ranked among the top three pediatric cancer programs in children’s hospitals across the nation in the February 2003 issue of Child magazine. Children’s physicians comprise the most comprehensive team of pediatric cancer experts regionally. They are recognized nationally for their multidisciplinary pediatric
bone and brain tumor programs and their involvement in clinical research trials. Specifically, Children's is one of nine centers nationwide participating in the Pediatric Brain Tumor Consortium. We have a long history in investigating new therapies and supportive care of children with cancer. Together with Fred Hutchinson, Children's is participating in clinical research trials that use radioisotopes for the treatment of acute myelogenous and lymphoblastic leukemias, neuroblastoma and Ewing's sarcoma in children and young adults.

The combined efforts of the partner organizations mean that you benefit from leading-edge research and the latest protocols. SCCA patients have access to clinical trials conducted by physicians at any of the SCCA partner facilities. If you participate in clinical trials, you have the first chance to benefit from treatments that have shown promise in earlier research. In turn, your participation makes an important contribution to medical science and helps doctors learn more about the disease for which you are being treated.

Clinical Programs & Services

SCCA is the most comprehensive treatment program in the Pacific Northwest.

Diseases treated include:

- Autoimmune Diseases
- Bladder Cancer
- Blood Disorders
- Bone-Marrow Transplant
- Brain & Nervous System
- Breast Cancer
- Breast Health
- Cervical Cancer
- Colorectal Cancer
- Endometrial Cancer
- Gynecologic Cancers
- Head & Neck Cancers
- Kidney Cancer
- Leukemia
- Liver Cancer
- Lung Cancer
- Lymphoma
- Melanoma
- Mesothelioma
- Multiple Myeloma
- Myelodysplastic Syndrome
- Ovarian Cancer
- Pancreatic Cancer
- Pediatric Cancers
- Prostate Cancer
- Sarcoma
- Stomach Cancer

Research-based therapies available through the SCCA include:

- Stem-cell and bone-marrow transplantation
- Gene therapy
- Specialized antibody therapies
- High-dose chemotherapy
- Radiation therapy and immunotherapy
- Minimally invasive surgery techniques
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

FHCRC is an independent, non-profit comprehensive cancer research center, as designated by the National Cancer Institute, whose mission is to eliminate cancer as a cause of human suffering and death. For more than 25 years, the Hutchinson Center has made major contributions toward understanding, preventing, and treating cancer.

The Hutchinson Center is renowned for its adult and pediatric bone marrow transplant program, the largest in the world, which treats leukemia, lymphoma, breast cancer, and a growing list of diseases. It also has the world’s largest cancer prevention program. The Hutchinson Center ranks first nationwide among academic and research institutions in grant funding from the National Cancer Institute. In addition to international recognition as a leader in the field of marrow transplantation, the Hutchinson Center is also known for its compassion and caring.

University of Washington

Oncology programs located at University of Washington support research, training, and patient care activities. The 400 bed University of Washington Medical Center (UWMC), located on the beautiful 680-acre UW campus, serves as a regional primary and specialty care, referral and treatment center; a teaching hospital of the UW School of Medicine; and a major research institution. U.S. News & World Report ranked UWMC’s cancer programs among the top in the nation this year, and regularly ranks the medical center among the nation’s best hospitals overall. In 1998, the UW ranked third nationwide in research grant funding from the National Institutes of Health.

UWMC complex on Portage Bay

FHCRC Campus (red brick in foreground) on the shore of Lake Union, Mt. Rainier in background
We are collaborating to advance the standard of cancer care through leading-edge technology, research, and treatment.

Seattle Cancer Care Alliance is a dynamic collaboration among three organizations known nationally and internationally for their patient care and research: Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, the University of Washington, and Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center.

Over the past 25 years, these institutions have worked together to support their missions of patient care, research, and education. The Seattle Cancer Care Alliance – a jointly governed, nonprofit entity – formally combines their adult and pediatric oncology patient care services. The Alliance combines the strengths of three of the best oncology organizations in the Pacific Northwest, making it the “host” for the cancer-care services delivered by the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, University of Washington, and Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center.

Through the Alliance, patients will have access to the latest research-based cancer therapies being developed by the three collaborating organizations, including treatments for a number of malignant and non-malignant diseases and disorders. Patients will receive their care from experts with years of oncology-care experience. Supporting this care is the latest technology available for treating people with cancer.

In addition to providing state-of-the-art cancer care, the Alliance will collaborate with physicians and hospitals in the region to advance the standard of care available throughout the Pacific Northwest.
**Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center**

With one of the strongest pediatric hematology-oncology programs in the country, Children's is the source for diagnosis and treatment of childhood cancer in the Northwest. Children's brings a commitment to clinical excellence and collaborative research efforts, and has a pioneering research program in gene therapy. There are more than 200 beds in the hospital, along with 50 clinics and outreach programs throughout the region. In July 1999, the hospital opened a new 38-bed inpatient unit that integrates hematology, oncology, and marrow transplant care. Other outpatient oncology services are provided through hematology, bone tumor, and neuro-oncology clinics.

**Seattle Cancer Care Alliance Clinical Sites**

The Alliance clinical practice sites are located on the respective campuses of the three Alliance organizations. Inpatient Alliance services are located at new state-of-the-art, specially constructed inpatient units: a 38-bed pediatric hematology/oncology unit at Children's and three adult hematology/oncology units at UWMC totaling 86 beds.

A seven-story, 150,000 square foot outpatient clinic building located on the Hutchinson Center's Lake Union campus, offers a comprehensive array of outpatient services for adult and pediatric patients, including marrow and stem-cell transplantation.