

# Bile Duct Cancer (Cholangiocarcinoma)

**UCSF** Helen Diller Family  
Comprehensive  
Cancer Center

The **UCSF Patient and Family Cancer Support Center** is the hub of support, information and resources for people with cancer at the **Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center**. Learn more about UCSF's supportive care programs at <https://cancer.ucsf.edu/support/crc/patient-support-center>

The **Cancer Support Center at Mission Bay** is located at 1825 4th St., 1st Floor, Room M-1210. The **Cancer Support Center at Mt. Zion** is located at 1600 Divisadero St., 1st Floor, Room B-101 (MZ. Zion location is currently not open for walk-ins)

The complete list of Patient Education Resource Pages is available to view at <http://cancer.ucsf.edu/support/crc/patient-education-resources>

## Overview

Cholangiocarcinoma is a rare cancer found in the tissue of the bile ducts, occurring in approximately two out of 100,000 people. Men and women are equally affected and most cases occur in people over age 65. The bile duct is a small tube that connects the liver and gallbladder to the small intestine. The ducts carry bile – the liquid that helps break down fat in food during digestion – out of the liver.

Tumors can develop anywhere on the bile ducts and are typically slow growing. However, by the time a diagnosis usually is made, many of the tumors are too advanced to be surgically removed. Other conditions such as primary sclerosing cholangitis, bile duct cysts and chronic biliary irritation, are associated with an increased risk of cholangiocarcinoma. Learn more about signs, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, and other information at the link provided. Website: <https://www.ucsfhealth.org/conditions/cholangiocarcinoma>

## UCSF Resources

### UCSF Gastrointestinal Medical Oncology/Surgery Clinic

The clinic offers the most advanced and effective treatments available for cancerous as well as benign gastrointestinal conditions. These include conditions involving the anus, bile duct, colon, esophagus, gallbladder, liver, pancreas, peritoneal cavity, rectum, small intestine, spleen and stomach. Website: <https://www.ucsfhealth.org/clinics/gastrointestinal-medical-oncology-clinic> | Phone Number: (415) 353-9888



## Publications

Biliary Tract Cancer: Epidemiology, Radiotherapy, and Molecular Profiling

Website: [https://ascopubs.org/doi/full/10.1200/EDBK\\_160831](https://ascopubs.org/doi/full/10.1200/EDBK_160831)

National Cancer Institute: “Liver and Bile Duct Cancer”

Website: <https://www.cancer.gov/types/liver>

## Organizations

American Cancer Society (ACS) – What is Bile Duct Cancer?

At the American Cancer Society, we are on a mission to free the world from cancer. Until we do, we'll be funding and conducting research, sharing expert information, supporting patients, and spreading the word about prevention. All so you can live longer — and better.

Website: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/bile-duct-cancer/about/what-is-bile-duct-cancer.html>

Cancer Support Community – Bile Duct Cancer

As the largest professionally led nonprofit network of cancer support worldwide, the Cancer Support Community is dedicated to ensuring that all people impacted by cancer are empowered by knowledge, strengthened by action, and sustained by community.

Website: <https://www.cancersupportcommunity.org/bile-duct-cancer>

Cancer.Net – Bile Duct Cancer (Cholangiocarcinoma)

Comprehensive information for people with cancer, families, and caregivers, from the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), the voice of the world's oncology professionals.

Website: <https://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/bile-duct-cancer-cholangiocarcinoma>

Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation

This Foundation was born out of love, and every hour that has gone into it has been volunteered by board members each one having lost a loved one to cholangiocarcinoma or suffering from cholangiocarcinoma and surviving. Many others have volunteered their time and energy to filling a need. Our vision for the foundation expands every day; it is our hope to find a cure and in the meantime to provide support, to advocate for patients and to educate those who do not yet understand. Website: <https://cholangiocarcinoma.org/>

Medline Plus: Bile Duct Cancer

MedlinePlus is a service of the National Library of Medicine (NLM), the world's largest medical library, which is part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Website: <https://medlineplus.gov/bileductcancer.html>



## National Cancer Institute- Bile Duct Cancer

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is the federal government's principal agency for cancer research and training. NCI is deeply committed to the core values of equity, diversity, and inclusion that allow all staff to reach their potential and fully contribute to the Institute's cancer mission. Website: <https://www.cancer.gov/types/liver/bile-duct-cancer>

## National LGBTQIA+ Cancer Network



The National LGBTQIA+ Cancer Network works to improve the lives of LGBTQIA+ cancer survivors and those at risk by: EDUCATING the LGBTQIA+ community about our increased cancer risks and the importance of screening and early detection; TRAINING health care providers to offer more culturally-competent, safe and welcoming care; and ADVOCATING for LGBTQIA+ survivors in mainstream cancer organizations, the media and research.

Website: <https://cancer-network.org/about/> | Phone Number: 212-675-2633

*This information is intended to offer credible and reliable education resources for patients who want to learn more about their diagnosis. It is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all resources available.*

*Updated May 2025*

