Our world-class clinical and research programs are engaged in the urgent effort to cure cancers and, where cures currently elude us, transform cancer into a manageable disease.
High-Tech, High-Touch Cancer Care

Breakthrough cancer care is made possible when integrated teams of physicians and scientists can easily and rapidly exchange ideas. By bringing together world-class cancer researchers and physicians, we speed the flow of knowledge from the bench to the bedside.

The UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center:

- Ranks consistently among the very top cancer care centers in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report’s “Best Hospitals” survey.
- Ranks fifth nationally in the amount of National Cancer Institute cancer center grant funding, resulting in research that has led to multiple Nobel Prizes and forms the basis for some of today’s most promising cancer studies.
- Developed a new class of targeted chemotherapy drugs, called immuno-liposomes, designed to reduce treatment toxicity and increase effectiveness.
- Pioneered and proved the effectiveness of a mapping technique that allows for the safe removal of tumors near language pathways in the brain.
- Played a leadership role in developing better treatment guidelines for early-stage prostate cancer, which reduces unnecessary treatment for men whose cancer may never progress.
- Routinely uses minimally invasive, robotic-assisted surgical procedures for cancers of the prostate, kidney, bladder, ovary and other organs. In the hands of expert surgeons, this approach can facilitate faster recovery and discharge from the hospital than more traditional approaches.
- Our experts are leading the way in precision medicine – the ability to tailor treatment based on a patient’s inherited or acquired genetic features and other characteristics.
- Developed a suite of tools to support quality patient decisionmaking.
Leadership in Cancer Care

Advances in our understanding of cancer are providing new therapies that treat disease, improve quality of life and offer new hope for the 1 million Americans diagnosed with cancer each year.

Putting Patients First

The UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center – with patient care and research programs on the Parnassus, Mount Zion, Mission Bay and Oakland campuses – treats all forms of cancer and is one of only 12 centers in the western United States to receive the prestigious designation of “comprehensive” from the National Cancer Institute. World renowned for its research discoveries and clinical care, UCSF has pioneered or refined surgical and oncological advances that have improved treatment and outcomes for nearly every type of cancer.

Alan Ashworth, PhD, FRS, one of the world's preeminent cancer scientists, is president of the UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center and senior vice president, Cancer Services, UCSF Health. Ashworth, a molecular biologist noted for his work on genes involved in cancer susceptibility, was a central part of the team that in 1995 discovered the gene BRCA2, which is linked to a heightened risk of some types of cancer, and developed a new approach for the treatment of BRCA mutation-related cancers.
The UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center sets the standard in personalized care, delivering advanced cancer therapies tailored to individual patient needs.

Redefining Possible in Cancer Care

The UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center offers patients and referring physicians unprecedented advantages for cancer care.

- Renowned cancer clinicians offer expert treatments for adult specialties ranging from colorectal and orthopaedic surgeries to gynecologic and urologic oncology.
- Pediatric specialists provide comprehensive programs focused on tailoring care to the unique needs of infants, children, adolescents and young adults with cancer and nonmalignant blood diseases.
- The Radiation Oncology team provides patients with the most advanced and greatest diversity of radiotherapy treatment options available today, offering the highest level of treatment planning and care to patients.
- The close proximity of the Mission Bay hospitals and outpatient building to UCSF’s biomedical research campus facilitates collaboration among scientists and physicians, thus accelerating the translation of laboratory discoveries into next-generation therapies and cures.
- UCSF is integrating specializations in medicine, basic discovery, computational health science, digital health and clinical discovery to create a precision medicine platform, to customize cancer treatment to the individual patient.
- Our new Cancer Immunotherapeutics program and Clinical Trials Unit exemplify our aggressive pursuit of precision cures. UCSF has been among the world’s leaders in immunotherapies, which activate the immune system against cancers.
- The newly established Center for BRCA Research builds on our strength in BRCA mutation-related cancers. As researchers discover new preventative measures and therapies, clinicians will work with those at risk for developing BRCA mutation-related cancers and those who already have such cancers.
- The affiliation of UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital San Francisco with UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland (formerly Children’s Hospital & Research Center Oakland) creates one of the largest children’s specialty hospitals in the world, and links a far-reaching network of medical offices and satellite clinics throughout Northern California.
Cancer Services Across UCSF Health

Comprehensive cancer care is achievable when patients have easy access to a multidisciplinary team of cancer specialists.

**Mission Bay Campus**
- The [UCSF Ron Conway Family Gateway Medical Building](https://www.ucsfhealth.org/) houses dedicated spaces for physician practices specializing in adult and pediatric cancer care, as well as infusion centers and an outpatient radiation therapy treatment center.
- [UCSF Bakar Cancer Hospital](https://www.ucsfhealth.org/) is a state-of-the-art facility that provides our oncologists and surgeons – experts in nearly every form of cancer – with lasers, robotics, telemedicine systems and other advanced technology.
- At the [UCSF Betty Irene Moore Women’s Hospital](https://www.ucsfhealth.org/), women with cancer have access to specialists who understand women’s distinct needs – as well as access to the latest diagnostic tests and treatments that help specialists personalize care to individual biology and preferences.
- [UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital San Francisco](https://www.ucsfhealth.org/) was designed from the ground up with kids in mind, and provides revolutionary medical research and specialized patient care.
- The state-of-the-art [Helen Diller Family Cancer Research Building](https://www.ucsfhealth.org/) houses scientists investigating cancer's basic biological mechanisms and unites scientists of the UCSF Brain Tumor Research Center in one place. It is the first UCSF building specifically focused on translational research for one particular disease.
- Future plans anticipate a six-story outpatient precision cancer medical building that will provide space for more cancer programs, including an expanded precision cancer medicine program.

**Mount Zion Campus**
- [UCSF Medical Center at Mount Zion](https://www.ucsfhealth.org/) is a hub for ambulatory care, including medical and surgical oncology, infusion services and radiation oncology, as well as the Osher Center for Integrative Medicine.

**Parnassus Campus**
- [UCSF Medical Center at Parnassus](https://www.ucsfhealth.org/) provides services in inpatient cancer, hematology and blood and bone marrow transplant, neuro-oncology, infusion and radiation oncology.

**Oakland Campus**
- The Cancer and Blood Diseases Center at [UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland](https://www.ucsfhealth.org/) treats pediatric cancers and blood diseases and offers subspecialty expertise in all areas of childhood cancer.

For a complete list of locations and services, visit [www.ucsfhealth.org/cancer](http://www.ucsfhealth.org/cancer).
Coordinated teams of specialists deliver innovative, evidence-based treatments at locations in San Francisco and Oakland.
Comprehensive Patient Care Services

Because we know that healing is a complex process that involves both mind and body, the UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center has assembled a portfolio of services to complement the outstanding medical care provided by our cancer specialists.
Our innovative approach to care extends to services designed to help patients better cope with cancer.

GENETIC TESTING
Genetic testing and counseling help patients and families make more informed treatment and prevention decisions.

SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT SERVICE
This pioneering service addresses issues such as pain, fatigue and depression.

EMOTIONAL NEEDS
Psychologists and psychiatrists help patients deal with the emotional needs and stresses of medical treatment.

SOCIAL WORKERS
A team of social workers helps patients and families navigate the health care system and deal with the practical aspects of living with cancer.

RESOURCE CENTER
The services of the Ida & Joseph Friend Cancer Resource Center include assistance accessing community services, a large network of peer support volunteers, support groups and educational programs.

HOLISTIC MEDICINE
The Osher Center for Integrative Medicine provides consultation and treatment services that include acupuncture, guided imagery and biofeedback.

NUTRITION
Dietitians offer individualized nutrition assessment and planning.

ART FOR RECOVERY
The Ernest H. Rosenbaum MD Art for Recovery program provides the opportunity to express through art the intense feelings that can arise during a life-threatening illness.

CHILD LIFE
Because young patients can require frequent or lengthy stays, our nationally recognized Child Life Department provides an accredited classroom, creative arts and digital arts studios, a playroom and a teen lounge.
Advancing Care Through Clinical Trials

When cancer doesn’t respond to standard treatments, UCSF provides access to clinical trials that offer patients more options – and hope.

Translating knowledge into treatment

Not all patients respond to standard treatment. For those challenging cases, clinical trials represent an opportunity to receive care at one of the nation’s top academic medical centers and a potentially promising treatment not available to the general public. UCSF’s new hospitals at Mission Bay are adjacent to its research enterprise, so physicians and scientists in the vanguard of cancer medicine are able to accelerate the translation of laboratory discoveries into therapies and cures.

- As a leading health sciences university, UCSF is actively involved in more than 250 cancer-specific clinical trials spanning all cancer types, serving both adult and pediatric patients.
- UCSF is expanding trials in new treatment areas such as immunotherapy, precision medicine and molecular imaging.
- In addition to treatment trials, UCSF conducts trials in prevention, screening and supportive care.
- Multiple studies have shown that enrollment in trials correlates with better clinical outcomes. In 2014, 1,117 patients enrolled in trials where they received diagnostic, therapeutic, behavioral or support interventions to help them stay alive and improve their quality of life.

For more information on clinical trials at UCSF or to refer a patient, call 877-827-3222 or visit cancer.ucsf.edu/trials.

“Clinical trials provide access to new strategies and novel drugs and afford hope to many patients. UCSF, with its large research base and strong clinical programs, is uniquely suited to bring the latest science from the bench to the bedside.”

Pamela Munster, MD
Director of the Early-Phase Clinical Trials Unit Leader of the Developmental Therapeutics Program