

Swedish Cancer Institute

A Premier Center

A pioneer in the field of medicine, Swedish Medical Center established the first radiation therapy program west of the Mississippi (the Swedish Tumor Institute) in 1932. In the late 1960s, medical oncology became a formal part of the Tumor Institute. Three years ago, Swedish formed the Swedish Cancer Institute (SCI), bringing together a variety of cancer-related programs under one umbrella, which includes the Swedish Tumor

Institute, the Swedish Breast Care Centers, the Seattle Prostate Institute, inpatient cancer services, radiation therapy services at four partnering hospitals, the clinical research program, and all the other palliative and supportive care services of the oncology program.

“The Cancer Institute unites all these programs into a broader, more cohesive and integrated system of care,” said Albert B. Einstein, Jr., M.D., F.A.C.P., SCI executive director. Einstein believes this more formalized service line structure provides leadership, improves operations, enhances visibility in the community, and, most of all, creates

a true center of excellence in cancer treatment and clinical research. The SCI cared for more than 3,500 analytic cancer patients in 2001 and conducts more than 120,000 outpatient visits annually. The SCI strives to provide personalized, progressive, and comprehensive cancer care by offering patients a complete continuum of integrated cancer-related services including:

- *Prevention and early detection:* cancer screenings, genetic risk evaluation, and counseling
- *State-of-the-art treatments:* 3-D conformal radiation therapy, high-dose brachytherapy, IMRT, stem-cell transplantation, stereotactic



Selected Patient Support Services

- The SCI's integrated care model offers access to services such as massage therapy, music therapy, meditation, and stress management.
- Financial counseling, transportation services, nutritional counseling, and exercise programs are available.
- Emotional support is offered through individual and family counseling as well as various support groups.
- Patient education is available for both early detection and for making informed treatment choices. Such information can be found at the onsite SCI Cancer Education Center (<http://www.swedish.org>). Content provided by CancerSource.com.

Vital Statistics

- Total hospital bed size: 1,286 licensed beds at three campuses
- Dedicated cancer unit beds: 68
- Number of new analytic cancer cases seen per year: 3,520
- Managed care penetration in Washington state: 26 percent

PROFILE

radiosurgery, and investigational agents in clinical trials

■ *Complementary therapies:* acupuncture, herbal-medicine education, massage, nutritional counseling, and music therapy

■ *Supportive and palliative care services:* home health, hospice, a Cancer Resource Center, psychosocial care, pain management, online patient education, and spiritual care.

Comprehensive Breast Cancer Care and Research

The SCI manages Washington state's most active breast cancer screening and diagnostic program, which sees more than 45,000 women annually through four different breast care centers and a mobile mammography service.

Breast cancer is the most common type of cancer seen at Swedish, and represented nearly 24.2 percent (852 cases) of all new analytic cancer cases in 2000. The comprehensive Breast Cancer Program includes five dedicated breast surgeons, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, pathologists, and mammographers.

Breast cancer research efforts are led by such experts as Saul Rivkin, M.D., a medical oncologist at the SCI, who has been a national leader in Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG) breast cancer clinical trial research for more than 30 years.

Genetic screening and counseling for women at high risk are available, and a new Women's High Risk for Cancer Clinic is being established.

Marsha Rivkin Center for Ovarian Cancer Research

The SCI and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle jointly sponsor the Marsha Rivkin Center. In 1994 Saul Rivkin, M.D., established the center to honor his wife Marsha Rivkin, who died after a four-year struggle with ovarian cancer.

The Marsha Rivkin Center is a focal point for local research on the

early detection, prevention, and treatment of ovarian cancer. The center has established an ovarian cancer tumor bank for future studies.

Leading the Fight Against Prostate Cancer

Swedish continues to lead the region in the treatment of prostate cancer, both in volume of cases and clinical expertise. Prostate cancer is the sec-

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ond most common type of cancer seen at Swedish (852 analytic cases in 2000).

SCI-affiliated physicians at the Seattle Prostate Institute (SPI) are world-renowned for their experience in permanent radioactive seed implantation for early-stage disease. The institute's recently published 10-year results for this procedure show that 87 percent of patients with early-stage disease were disease-free at 10 years, and none have died from prostate cancer. Peter Grimm, D.O., the SPI medical director, holds three patents that enhance the quality of the procedure.

The SCI is an active participant in the SELECT prostate prevention trial, which is evaluating the impact of selenium and vitamin E on prostate cancer incidence. Gary E. Goodman, M.D., an SCI medical oncologist who specializes in cancer prevention research, is the principal investigator for the SELECT study center at Swedish.

Ongoing Research Initiatives

The SCI is a major clinical trial site, enrolling more than 250 patients in more than 150 clinical research studies offered through SWOG, the National Cancer Institute's Clinical Trials Support Unit (CTSU), and various pharmaceutical and biotech companies. Swedish's own research

efforts include studies on stem-cell transplantation for Hodgkin's disease, lymphoma, and multiple myeloma.

Recently, the SCI initiated its own lung cancer screening study and is now affiliated with the International ELCAP program of the Weill-Cornell Medical College. To date more than 600 high-risk individuals have been screened.

New Facilities and Enhanced Technology

A newly remodeled and expanded 90,000-square-foot outpatient cancer facility opened in early 2002, doubling the size of the SCI to provide more room for clinics, new services, and technology upgrades. The new

facility houses an enhanced radiation therapy center with four linear accelerators, a state-of-the-art high-dose brachytherapy center, a new outpatient chemotherapy center, a patient education center, and an integrated care center.

Technology upgrades include a new computerized radiation treatment planning system capable of providing IMRT and resulting in better treatment planning and delivery. New software and equipment upgrades have streamlined the radiation therapy process, ensuring precise set-up, consistent delivery, and accurate documentation of even the most complex treatment protocols.

Swedish Medical Center opened a new 33,000-square-foot medical imaging unit, which includes a filmless, all-digital computed radiography (CR) system and a picture archival and communications (PAC) system linked electronically to the SCI. This system will eventually be integrated with a digital mammography system with computer-assisted diagnostic capability.

"Our mission is to provide the highest quality cancer care in a seamless, easy-to-navigate system," said Einstein. "Most importantly, we remain committed to enhancing the quality of life for our patients—before, during, and after cancer treatment." 🗨️