

spotlight

Good Samaritan Cancer Care Center Good Samaritan Hospital, San Jose, California *Dedicated teamwork in the delivery of quality care*

Designated as a Comprehensive Community Cancer Center by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC), Good Samaritan Hospital Cancer Care Center is one of only 13 facilities nationwide to receive the CoC's Outstanding Achievement Award for three consecutive surveys. "We recognize the fact that a cancer care program is the work of many, many individuals. Having that kind of distinction spurs us on to keep developing our program," said Arthur Douville, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Good Samaritan Hospital. The 422-bed, acute care hospital, a part of the HCA health system, serves San Jose—the third largest city—and Santa Clara County.

In 2010 the cancer program saw 1,079 cases, of which 899 were analytic. Leading disease sites treated are breast, prostate, lung, and colorectal cancers. Good Samaritan Cancer Care Center also sees a high number of pancreatic cancers.

Leading-Edge Care Options

Good Samaritan Cancer Care Center seeks to provide compassionate care with quality treatment and superior outcomes. A full range of leading-edge diagnostic and oncology treatment services are offered including medical oncology, radiation oncology, surgical oncology, and support services for patients and their families. "Our patients really respect and appreciate the opportunity to get leading-edge care near their own homes and in their own communities," said Dr. Douville.

Good Samaritan cancer services are



provided in two convenient locations—at Good Samaritan Hospital in San Jose and at Mission Oaks—just one mile from the hospital. The BreastCare Center, radiation oncology services, and a medical oncology group are located within the Mission Oaks facility. The BreastCare Center, which is accredited by the American College of Radiology, has three digital mammography rooms, two ultrasound rooms, a prone stereotactic table, and bone densitometry. Staffed by fellowship-trained radiologists specializing in mammography, the BreastCare Center performs 20,000 exams annually (both routine and diagnostic) with digital mammography and stereotactic biopsy equipment.

Radiation therapy treatment modalities available in the Mission Oaks location include IMRT, IGRT with RapidArc, external beam radiation therapy, prostate seed implant, partial breast brachytherapy (MammoSite, Savi, and SenoRx Multi-Lumen Therapy), GYN HDR brachytherapy, and CyberKnife. DaVinci robotically-assisted surgery for prostate and gynecologic cancers is available on the hospital's main campus in San Jose. The radiation therapy program

is staffed by two radiation oncologists, two oncology certified nurses, a supervisor, five radiation therapists, and certified physicists and a dosimetrist. The physicians are highly qualified in treatment planning for all the modalities offered in the radiation department, including having completed over 100 CyberKnife plans.

Diagnostic services, including PET/CT and MRI, and the inpatient oncology unit are located at Good Samaritan Hospital. Here, too, is the dedicated 18-bed oncology inpatient unit, which has all private rooms and a resource library for patients and family members. Chemotherapy infusion services are provided in a 12-chair outpatient infusion center conveniently located in the Outpatient Center on the floor just beneath the inpatient oncology unit. All of the oncology nursing staff is chemotherapy certified through ONS, and six oncology nurses hold OCN certification. "There is a multidisciplinary approach to care on the acute care unit," said Linda Ankeny, RN, MSN, OCN, nursing director of Oncology and Palliative Care. "We have team meetings weekly and make sure all



Select Support Services

- Social work services
- Support Groups:
 - General Cancer
 - Breast Cancer
 - Leukemia, Lymphoma, and Multiple Myeloma
- Nutrition Services
- Physical and Occupational Therapy
- Pain Management
- Palliative Care
- Pastoral Care

the necessary disciplines are involved in the care of the patient.”

Another reflection of the patient-focused, multidisciplinary care offered by Good Samaritan Cancer Care Center is the weekly Tumor Board meetings. These bring together medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, pathologists, radiologists, plastic surgeons, and other interdisciplinary team members to discuss challenging cases. A Head and Neck Tumor Board meets twice monthly, and a Cranial Spinal Tumor Board meets once a month.

Twelve board-certified medical oncologists are associated with the cancer program at Good Samaritan. Many of the physicians are multilingual, which is important in serving San Jose’s diverse population. Surgical services at Good Samaritan include two general surgeons with a strong interest in GI oncology, and five surgeons with a focus on breast oncology. GI oncology support also includes a hospital-based endoscopy center with endoscopic ultrasound capability.

Good Samaritan Cancer Care Center participates in clinical research, including both university-related and pharmaceutical company-sponsored research. Clinical research currently underway includes: HIPEC (Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy) trial; Breast X-pander implant system trial (a novel, patient-controlled, gas-driven system for tissue expansion as part of post-mastectomy preparation for breast reconstruction); and genomic analysis of breast tumor surgical pathology. Outpatient clinical trials are available through the medical oncology physician offices.

Support for Patients & Families

A variety of supportive care services are available to patients and families, including social work services; support groups; nutrition counseling; a lymphedema program; and more. The Good Samaritan Hospital Healing Arts program offers complimentary integrative medicine services such as guided imagery, Reiki, and massage to patients on the inpatient oncology unit.

Good Samaritan also recognizes the importance of providing support for caregivers. “The caregiver for the patient is very important in the success of the patient coping with the disease. We try to make sure they get the support they need,” said Ankeny. This support includes personal touches such as the ACCESS program, which provides food to caregivers unable to leave the oncology unit, as well as transportation and housing assistance.

Now in its fourth year, Good Samaritan Hospital’s palliative care program encompasses a multidisciplinary care team of social services, chaplaincy, the attending physician, hospice physicians for consultation, an advanced practice nurse, and other hospital team members who are involved in the patient’s care. Recently, the hospital added the services of a full-time palliative care physician. Learn more about how Good Samaritan Hospital developed this exceptional program in *Oncology Issues* (November/December 2011).

Outreach & Education

The cancer program at Good Samaritan Hospital reaches out to area residents

through a variety of educational activities including:

- Women’s Health 360°, a health education forum for women of all ages
- Team Good Sam involvement in the local ACS Relay for Life
- BreastCare Center staff participation in community and corporate health fairs
- Employee “Colon Cancer Free Zone” program raising awareness among staff on the importance of screening for colon cancer.

Stepping Up

Good Samaritan Cancer Care Center is taking proactive steps toward meeting the new CoC standards. During the Cancer Committee’s quarterly meetings, each of the standards and its requirements are discussed. On the horizon for the cancer program at Good Samaritan Hospital is the addition of nurse navigation services, increased involvement with HCA’s Sarah Cannon Institute to further develop research efforts, and enhancing information technologies to facilitate the cancer registry efforts.

“A key is our cancer registry,” said Dr. Douville. “The manager of our registry pays very close attention to the CoC standards and keeps our feet to the fire. It’s a matter of team work and the dedication of many individuals to their individual work in cancer care as part of a team.” 