

Teamwork and Patient-Centered Care

The Harbin Clinic Tony E. Warren, MD Cancer Center, at a Glance

The 60,000-square-foot Cancer Center opened in April 2011, bringing together physicians, staff, state-of-the-art technologies, and the resources necessary to treat and cure cancer. Teamwork takes place daily through informal interactions of the physicians and staff, as well as through formal multidisciplinary, prospective cancer care conferences held weekly. Our team is composed of over 200 providers and 1,400 employees in 20 locations throughout northwestern Georgia who provide care throughout northwest Georgia and Alabama. Our advanced, shared electronic medical record (EMR) allows our physicians to apply a broad team approach to medical care and collaboration with the two community hospitals and improves outcomes.



YOUR HARBIN CLINIC CANCER TREATMENT TEAM

Medical Oncology

Gerald L. McCormick, D.O.

Dilawar Khan, M.D.

Thomas A. Simpson, M.D., FACP

Melissa Dillmon, M.D.



The Harbin Clinic is one of four ACCC Community Resource Centers (CRCs) that are available to act as mentors and to assist ACCC-member programs by providing timely information, advice, and responses to questions about care for patients with chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML). ACCC members can contact any CRC through the CML ASK (Answers, Solutions, Knowledge) online community by logging on to ACCC's MyNetwork at: www.accc-cancer.org/myNetwork.

CML: Barriers to Quality Care

- Limited access to qualified, experienced, knowledgeable providers.
- Inadequate patient education and the need for ongoing close monitoring.
- Lack of coordinated care among providers and ancillary staff.
- Unmet financial and social challenges for patients and families.
- Access to therapeutic medications.

Our Approach to Care: Objectives for CML Management

1. Utilize the most up-to-date treatment approaches for our patients. Our physicians use current research findings and follow national clinical guidelines (e.g., NCCN guidelines) to drive effective care.
2. Implement a case-manager model for CML care. Each patient is assigned an RN case manager who provides disease and medication education. The case manager coordinates provider appointments, monitors drug therapy compliance, and performs side effect assessments.
3. Provide an integrative oncology baseline assessment for all newly diagnosed CML

patients. This assessment includes nutrition, physical activity, stress management, spirituality, and financial and social need. Appropriate referrals are made based on needs identified.

4. Provide financial guidance and assistance. Based on the initial assessment, patients have access to in-house financial counselors and pharmacy technicians who are well versed on national and pharmaceutical assistance programs. They help patients and families navigate the appropriate pathways to obtain needed help.
5. Offer a broad array of support and social services for CML patients. We partner

with the non-profit organization, Cancer Navigators, Inc., to provide services to cancer patients and families. Services include: nurse navigators, education navigators, and service navigators who connect patients and families with available resources. A free eight-week "Sustainable Wellness Program" is offered to our patients.

6. Provide easy access to oral chemotherapy agents via an onsite retail pharmacy. We have a retail pharmacy, which stocks oral chemotherapeutic agents for patients.

Learn more about this project and explore resources, including podcasts and webinars at: www.accc-cancer.org/education/education-SPC-landing.asp.

