

OPENING DOORS

Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center



As one of only 41 institutions in the nation to be designated a comprehensive cancer center by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), UC Irvine's Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center is renowned for excellence in integrating diverse cancer research and treatment approaches.

Patients benefit from a wide range of advanced treatment methods, including minimally invasive surgery, robot-assisted surgery for prostate cancer, use of intraoperative MRI for increased precision during brain tumor surgery, tissue-sparing surgery for breast cancer, radiation therapy that minimizes damage to healthy tissue, chemotherapy, hormonal therapy and immunotherapy.

Clinical Trials

At any given time, UC Irvine participates in an average of 60 NCI-approved clinical trials, half of which have been developed by cancer center faculty and staff.

Among current studies:

- Using laser scanning to detect breast cancer and exploring hormone-based therapies in high-risk women.
- Studying quality of life and the impact of stress on cervical cancer patients.
- Cancer prevention. UC Irvine is one of only six NCI-designated institutions leading exploration of chemoprevention – using chemical agents that may impair excessive replication of damaged cells.

Specialty Treatment Areas

Brain Tumor Program – UC Irvine is one of the region's highest-volume sites for brain tumor surgery, with more than 150 procedures annually. A comprehensive approach combines surgical, medical and other specialists who determine optimal individualized treatments.

Breast Health Center – Comprehensive breast health services include stereotactic biopsy and ultrasound-guided biopsy, and cancer specialists emphasize breast conservation whenever possible. Clinical trials provide access to promising modalities, including an innovative hand-held, noninvasive laser scanner developed by UC Irvine doctors.

Gynecologic Cancers – UC Irvine specialists are nationally renowned for their work with reproductive cancers. Their work is among the reasons that the medical center repeatedly has been recognized as one of the nation's 50 best hospitals for gynecology services by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Young Adult Cancer Program – Nationally renowned specialists focus on the unique needs – medical as well as psycho-social – of patients aged 21 to 39 with these virulent cancers and advocate for more clinical trials.

Hepatobiliary (liver and pancreas) – Liver and pancreatic cancer treatments include sophisticated surgeries, radiofrequency, chemoembolization, radiation therapy and cryosurgery.

Urologic Cancers – UC Irvine urologists diagnose and treat numerous forms of urologic cancer and are known internationally for their expertise in performing robot-assisted prostatectomies to treat prostate cancer.



At University Hospital, 30 beds on the seventh floor are devoted to patients fighting the many forms of this disease. In 2007:

- The cancer center had more than 18,000 outpatient visits. The medical center's infusion center had an additional 15,000 outpatient visits, and nearly 19,000 visits were made to the radiation oncology facility.
- Prostate cancer, melanoma (skin cancer) and breast cancer were among the most common diseases treated at the cancer center.