The NC Cancer Hospital



Home to Superb Cancer Care

The people of North Carolina who are battling cancer will not have to travel out of state to receive superior medical care, and that is an amazing achievement. I am proud that our state had the foresight to build a structure as superb as our faculty and staff.

Dr. William L. Roper, CEO, UNC Health Care System and Dean, UNC School of Medicine



Journey to World Class Cancer Care for North Carolinians

The University of North Carolina has always been at the forefront of cancer care. As we open the N.C. Cancer Hospital, we stand poised for a new era of hope and healing for the people of our state.

UNC Cancer Care Surging Forward

In 1974 Dr. Joseph S. Pagano was charged with establishing our first UNC Cancer Center. He did so with only three faculty, borrowed space and a modest budget.

The extent of the cancer epidemic propels us to do everything in our power to accelerate discovery and delivery.

Dr. Shelley Earp Director, UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center

Today, under the leadership of Dr. Shelley Earp, UNC Lineberger is the only public comprehensive cancer center serving the people of North Carolina. It holds the distinction of being one of only 40 National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers in the country. Such a distinguished designation means the best treatment is available right here, supported by the latest discoveries and technologies. UNC Lineberger is recognized as an international leader in oncology and combines the strengths of its research, multidisciplinary

oncology teams and compassionate care to provide cancer patients the best cancer care possible.

In the early years, cancer care was delivered in N.C. Memorial Hospital. In the 1980s, cancer care was moved to the Gravely building. The building, which was constructed in the 1950s as a tuberculosis sanatorium, had to be renovated numerous times to serve more patients and incorporate advances in medical equipment and technology.

In an unprecedented move, the State of North Carolina made an enormous investment and authorized \$180 million in funding to construct the new state-of-the-art hospital. Many years of



planning, preparation, advocacy, and sheer tenacity led to the realization of this great project, which is now open to the people of North Carolina and beyond.



Dr. Stuart Gold with pediatric cancer patient Reece Holbrook and his mother Jennifer.

A Disease of Epidemic Proportion

1 in 2 Men, 1 in 3 Women will be diagnosed with cancer during their lifetime. UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center is forging ahead to make this staggering statistic a thing of the past.

Each year, we treat more than 15,000 cancer patients from all 100 North Carolina counties, regardless of their ability to pay. The number of patients coming for cancer treatment has increased 35 percent in the last six years. It is expected that over the next 30 years, the aging of our population will nearly double the number of cancer cases we see each year.

Passing travelers on Manning Drive, where the new expanse of brick and glass marks the N.C. Cancer Hospital, may ponder, "Does this place have anything to do with me?" One of every two men. One of every three women. Yes, the new

hospital has everything to do with all North Carolinians.

Advancing Hope through Multidisciplinary Care

We have recruited and brought together some of the best physicians in the country to treat patients. Our nationally recognized, multidisciplinary team approach combines the expertise of radiologists, pathologists, geneticists, surgical, radiation, pediatric and medical oncologists and other specialists including patient counselors and navigators. By practicing this type of integrated care, we can help patients make informed decisions as well as ensure continuity of care throughout their treatment. More than 1,000 researchers, physicians and staff within UNC Health Care focus their work in cancer research, treatment, control and prevention. This dedicated cadre of professionals has earned UNC Lineberger many prestigious awards, including a Nobel Prize. But the greatest praise comes from patients whose lives have been saved, prolonged or improved.

Cancer treatments provided here - whether surgery or radiation, medicine or immunotherapy, or a combination of therapies - are not only disease-site specific but are tailored to the unique needs of each individual patient.

When someone you love has battled cancer, it reinforces one's goal of helping others. I know I speak for thousands of families who have been profoundly touched by the excellence in care here. We must participate in the singular goal of finding cures for cancer.

Betty Ray McCain, Wilson, NC Chair, UNC Lineberger Board of Visitors

Innovative Therapies Lead the Way

UNC Lineberger is at the forefront of patient care through its incorporation of leading edge technology. Our doctors were leaders in the adoption of new technologies, such as the CyberKnife® robotic radiosurgery system, which allows tumors of the brain, spine, lung, liver, prostate and kidney to be treated anywhere in the body with submillimeter accuracy. A major advantage is that it is non-invasive, so doctors can work on previously inoperable tumors. "This technology allows us to treat the patient with less discomfort or damage to normal tissue and less morbidity," explains Dr. Matt Ewend, Director, UNC Lineberger's Multidisciplinary Neuro-oncology Program.

Another new medical device used by our physicians gives greater hope to those with lesions in hard to reach areas of the lung. We are the first hospital in North Carolina and one of only 38 in the United States to perform electromagnetic navigation bronchoscopy (ENB). For patients, this innovative technology means a minimally invasive approach to biopsies, earlier diagnosis and the potential to provide treatment sooner. "Our ability to cure lung cancer is intimately related to our ability to make the diagnosis early," notes Dr. Richard Feins, Co-Leader of UNC Lineberger's Multidisciplinary Thoracic Oncology Program.

UNC has been at the forefront of adopting one of the most recent advances in imaging: **digital mammography**. The recent decision to move to all-digital mammography was based on the results of a nationwide clinical trial, led by our own Dr. Etta Pisano, Director, Biomedical



UNC patient receiving a digital mammogram.

Research Imaging Center and Vice Dean of Academic Affairs, UNC School of Medicine. The trial tested the accuracy of digital mammography versus film screen mammography and found that digital mammography detected up to 28 percent more cancers than screen film mammography in women ages 50 and younger and in women with dense breasts. "This is good news for women, because it means we will be able to detect more breast cancers at earlier stages in their development. Earlier detection allows us to begin treatment earlier and greatly improves a woman's chances of a complete recovery," notes Dr. Pisano.

All of these technologies and the latest digital imaging and radiation oncology equipment are an integral part of cancer treatment at the N.C. Cancer Hospital's multidisciplinary programs.

Bridging the Connections Between Discovery and Therapy

World-class research is the only hope for improving cancer care. Never before has research held such promise. Important, life-saving advances give us hope that research will in our lifetime eliminate the death and suffering caused by cancer.

A seamless interface of scientific inquiry and clinical application between UNC Lineberger and the N.C. Cancer Hospital gives patients access to the newest cancer diagnostics, technology and treatments. Our scientists work with our physicians to move important research findings from the lab into clinical settings to benefit patients as quickly and safely as possible. UNC Lineberger puts great emphasis on **translational research**, allowing discoveries made in the lab to be brought into the clinic while clinical obser-vations are incorporated into the lab for biological study.



UNC technicians review an MRI scan.



Clinical trials are an integral part of the research and clinical mission at UNC Lineberger. Our investigators initiate research studies and collaborate with national cancer cooperative groups, academic centers and pharmaceutical companies to evaluate new or improved therapies. UNC Lineberger has formed important collaborations with community oncologists to bring more than 175 leading-edge clinical trials to patients across North Carolina.

Building a Structure as Superb as our People

Designed with the Patient in Mind

Everything about this impressive new hospital is designed with patient comfort and exceptional care in mind. The pioneering design - including natural light and interior finishes inspired by nature - creates a healing environment where patients can see their entire treatment team, pick up necessary items at the pharmacy and work with our patient support programs, all in one visit.



Infusion suite

The moment patients walk through the doors of the N.C. Cancer Hospital, they have an immediate sense that this place was designed for them and their families. Natural light floods through large windows; the lobby is welcoming with signs that make each floor easy to navigate. Pleasing art, interior finishes, plants and greenery on every floor create a soothing environment conducive to healing. Patients and their loved ones can step into the courtyards for a breath of fresh air or a quiet place for reflection.



Courtyard in the N.C. Cancer Hospital.

Every detail has been carefully considered with the dual objectives of making the spaces patient-friendly, while also providing superior care. In fact, patients, nurses, staff and physicians provided input during all the stages of development. Mary Beck, Senior Vice President, System Affiliations, UNC Health Care, led the process. She reflects, "From the outset, we were committed to the idea that users needed to have a strong voice in the planning of the project."



Pediatric clinic waiting room

With more than 315,000 square feet, more than three times larger than the previous facility, the N.C. Cancer Hospital includes expanded and enhanced multidisciplinary clinic space, specially designed facilities for high-technology tumor assessment imaging and treatment; a 50-bed inpatient unit; patient and family-friendly, flexible infusion suites for pediatric and adult patients; a

new and expanded Patient and Family Resource Center that incorporates a sacred space; and state-of-the-art teleconferencing facilities to connect UNC physicians with oncologists and referring doctors from across the state.



Two views of the beautiful and welcoming lobby in the N.C. Cancer Hospital.



Courtyard terrace.