Why we’re the region’s leader in cancer care

“The excellent outcomes of our cancer program are due to the collaboration between leading-edge cancer research and outstanding cancer care.”

Terry Tsue, MD, physician-in-chief, cancer center

“The doctors at The University of Kansas Cancer Center saved my life,” Foster said. “At every step of the way, I was surrounded by the level of care I received. I knew everything was going to be OK.” While the loss of his lung has meant significant changes in his lifestyle, Foster continues to teach high school media production and pursue his passion for photography.

This story is just one example of the many excellent outcomes at the cancer center. Patients at National Cancer Institute-designated Cancer Centers have a 25 percent better survival rate. Today, we care for more than 8,000 new cancer patients each year at our multiple centers around Kansas City.

“Every member of the cancer center team is devoted to reducing the burden of cancer in the region,” said Peter Van Veldhuizen, MD, director, Hematology and Oncology. “Our care goes beyond battling the disease. We take care of the whole person and help our patients achieve the highest quality of life possible.”

For more information, visit kucancercenter.org.

What NCI means to our patients

As the only National Cancer Institute-designated facility in the region, The University of Kansas Cancer Center has joined an elite group of 67 institutions, including some of the best-known cancer research centers in the world. Among them are MD Anderson Cancer Center, Mayo Clinic Cancer Center and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

Here’s what NCI designation means for our patients and staff:

• Access to more clinical trials. NCI designation provides funding for clinical trials and speeds the process of moving new discoveries made in the trial phase. We currently offer approximately 200 clinic trials as treatment options for our patients.
• Personalized care. Personalized care involves providing each patient care that meets the individual’s real life needs. In addition, it means tailoring treatment down to the cellular level, studying the patient’s cancer cells to determine which therapy will most likely be effective.
• Greater resources for research. Grant money helps expand our capacity to conduct cancer research.
• Disease-specific nurse navigators. These nurses provide personalized assistance for new patients in navigating the system from their initial call to the center to the start of treatment.
• Support services. Patients at The University of Kansas Cancer Center have access to emotional and spiritual care through enhanced programs such as disease-specific support groups, patient wellness classes and Turning Point. The Center for Hope and Healing.

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The University of Kansas Cancer Center

If it’s cancer, why go anywhere else?

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