Directions to the UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center

Step 1
From I-40 Westbound:
1. Exit I-40 at University (Exit 159D).
2. Go east on Lomas toward the Sandia Mountains until you reach University Blvd (first light).
3. Turn north (left) on University Blvd and follow it to Camino de Salud (first light).

From I-40 Eastbound:
1. Exit I-40 at Carlisle Blvd (Exit 160), turn south (right) at the light onto Carlisle.
2. At Indian School, turn west (right).
3. Turn south (left) on University Blvd and follow it to Camino de Salud (first light).

From I-25 North or Southbound:
1. Exit I-25 at Lomas Blvd (Exit 225).
2. Go east on Lomas toward the Sandia Mountains until you reach University Blvd (first light).
3. Turn north (left) on University Blvd and follow it to Camino de Salud (first light).

Step 2
From I-40 Eastbound:
1. Exit I-40 at Carlisle Blvd (Exit 160), turn south (right) at the light onto Carlisle.
2. At Indian School, turn west (right).
3. Turn south (left) on University Blvd and follow it to Camino de Salud (first light).

UNMH Outpatient Surgery & Imaging Service (OSIS)

UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center

WEST PARKING LOT

SOUTH PARKING LOT

Patient Drop-off & Pick-up

UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center

Camino de Salud

UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center

Helpful Contact Information

UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center

UNM Hospitals

THE OFFICIAL CANCER CENTER OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO • A COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER DESIGNATED BY THE NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE
Welcome

We are honored that you have chosen to receive your cancer care here at The University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center. Our world-class team of physicians, nurses, pharmacists, patient navigators and supportive care specialists work closely with our outstanding research scientists to bring you the most advanced cancer diagnosis and treatment available. And you don’t have to leave home or the support of your family and friends.

As the Official Cancer Center of the state of New Mexico, we are deeply committed to serving all the people of our state who battle cancer. As part of our mission to provide the unique, specialized and essential cancer care all New Mexicans deserve, we sought and earned Comprehensive designation from the National Cancer Institute. We are one of only 47 NCI Comprehensive-designated cancer centers in the country and the only NCI designated cancer center in New Mexico. Our 125 board-certified oncology physicians, 130 research scientists and more than 500-person staff are dedicated to providing you with the most advanced treatment and finest support from the moment you begin your care.

Because of our NCI designation, we have access to nationwide clinical trials that offer our patients the most advanced cancer treatments. We and other NCI centers develop these new therapies. You should discuss your eligibility for clinical trials with your team of physicians, to get the most cutting-edge cancer treatment available to you. In addition, we offer the Total Cancer Care® protocol at our site to bring you a lifetime of the most advanced care. Through this large clinical trial, you will have the opportunity to have your cancer tissues genetically sequenced, to help cancer research and to perhaps be matched to the most promising anticancer therapy available in the future.

We realize that cancer affects every aspect of life and that cancer patients and their loved ones have very specific needs. That’s why we have developed a wide range of programs to address your cancer treatment and to support your total well-being. Our Patient and Family Support Services include counseling, nutrition guidance, patient education, social work and an array of support groups. We add new programs regularly.

As you begin your care at the UNM Cancer Center, please read this guide. We have designed it so that you can learn about our facilities, resources, services and staff. It will help you and your family to feel as comfortable as possible during your treatment here. And, throughout your care, our Patient Navigators are available to answer your questions and to help connect you with our programs and resources.

Thank you for choosing the UNM Cancer Center for your care.

Cheryl L. Willman, MD
Director and CEO
UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center

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Breast Cancer Team

Every Woman Benefits

Our Breast team offers the full spectrum of care, from screening and diagnosis through treatment and survivorship. Comprised of breast surgeons, reconstructive surgeons, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, and others, the team blends each provider’s expertise to create a treatment plan for each woman.

The team has one of only two breast fellowship-trained surgeons in the state. She and the other surgical oncologists offer the latest breast surgical options. They work closely with the reconstructive surgeons so that breast reconstruction can take place seamlessly and sometimes even within a single operation. Medical oncologists and radiation oncologists can offer the most advanced treatments, some of them through clinical trials. Our two licensed cancer genetic counselors, the only two in the state, offer consultation and testing. And, through the Long Term Breast Cancer Clinic, the team offers annual check-ups throughout survivorship to watch for cancer or other symptoms that might need further treatment. The team’s goal is to help you recover well from your breast cancer so you can get back to your life.

Meet the Team

Medical Oncologists

Diagnose and treat cancer using chemotherapy, hormonal therapy, immunotherapy and targeted therapy. At UNM Cancer Center, they also manage clinical trials in these areas.

Melanie Royce, MD, PhD — Team Leader
Zonnedy Dayao, MD
Ursa Brown-Glaberman, MD
Amy Tarnower, MD
Surgical Oncologists
Perform biopsies and other surgical procedures in people with cancer. At UNM Cancer Center, our surgical oncologists offer skin-sparing and nipple-sparing mastectomies and immediate breast reconstruction.

Oncology Radiologists
Find breast cancer in mammograms. Our radiologist is an expert in reading mammograms, with many years of training and practice.

Reconstructive Surgeons
Reshape or rebuild parts of the body. At UNM Cancer Center, our reconstructive surgeon offers microsurgical flap surgery, deep inferior epigastric perforator (DIEP) flap surgery, and fat grafting.

Radiation Oncologists
Treat cancer using radiation. Radiation kills cancer cells and radiation oncologists manage how much radiation to use and how it is given. Radiation oncologists at UNM Cancer Center offer stereotactic body radiation, stereotactic surgery, intensity modulated radiation therapy and high-dose rate brachytherapy radiation.

Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners
May perform certain medical procedures under the guidance of a physician. They may give medications or injections, take medical histories or perform medical exams.
The Gastrointestinal multidisciplinary team focuses on all the organs of the digestive system. They have expertise in treating cancers of the esophagus, stomach, pancreas, liver, gall bladder, small bowel, colon, rectum and anus. The team includes not only medical oncologists, surgical oncologists and radiation oncologists, but also radiologists, pathologists, basic scientists, epidemiologists and population scientists. In addition to treating people with these kinds of cancers, they also conduct basic and clinical research.

The advantage of being at a comprehensive cancer center is access to our multidisciplinary tumor teams, NCI and industry-sponsored clinical trials and board-certified oncologists employing the newest cutting-edge technologies and techniques for cancer care.

— Gregory Gan, MD, PhD, Clinical Trial Principal Investigator

Meet the Team

**Medical Oncologists**

Treat cancer using chemotherapy, immunotherapy and targeted therapy.

Vi Chiu, MD
Team Leader

Yehuda Patt, MD

Alexandria Phan, MD

Ian Rabinowitz, MD

1,670 estimated new cases in New Mexico for 2016

Source: American Cancer Society, 2016
Surgical Oncologists
UNM Cancer Center surgical oncologists remove advanced cancers from the delicate tissues of the digestive tract. They can perform Whipple procedures, hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemoperfusion (HIPEC) procedures, and other advanced surgical procedures.

Colorectal cancer almost always starts with a small growth called a polyp. Screening procedures like colonoscopies allow us to find and remove polyps, stopping colorectal cancer before it starts.
— Ashwani Rajput, MD, Chief of Surgical Oncology

Oncology Radiologists
Are trained to interpret many different kinds of images to find cancer and understand its impact.

Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners
May give medications or injections, take medical histories, perform medical exams or perform certain medical procedures under the guidance of a physician.
Gynecologic Oncology Team

Women Treating Women

Gynecologic oncologists are unlike any other cancer doctors. They treat only women’s intimate cancers: cancers of the ovaries, uterus, cervix, vagina, and placenta. And they manage the entire cancer journey: they diagnose the cancer, give chemotherapy, perform surgery, bring in other providers such as cancer genetic counselors and oncology social workers, and provide follow up care well into survivorship.

But the team at UNM goes even further. Our team conducts ground-breaking research to understand women’s cancers and to find new and better ways to treat it. They help to design clinical trials based on their own research. They also take part in national clinical research programs and lead some national teams, bringing other national clinical trials to New Mexico.

We operate on patients so we see the tumor, we feel the tumor, we understand it in a different way to be able to do the science and fit the chemotherapy treatments to that person.

— Carolyn Muller, MD, FACOG
Chief of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology

Meet the Team

Gynecologic Oncologists
Focus only on cancers of the ovaries, uterus, cervix, vagina/vulva and placenta. They use robotic and other minimally-invasive surgery methods and can perform radical pelvic surgeries, too. They use chemotherapy, immune therapies and targeted therapies. They work closely with cancer genetic counselors and oncology social workers from diagnosis through survivorship. And they manage clinical trials.

Carolyn Muller, MD, FACOG
Team Leader
Sarah Adams, MD
Elizabeth Lokich, MD
Teresa Rutledge, MD
Evidence shows that the immune system recognizes ovarian cancers associated with BRCA gene mutations. We developed a treatment protocol specifically targeting these tumors with immune therapy and offer this regimen to patients at the UNM Cancer Center through a clinical trial. Our ongoing work focuses on expanding this protocol so that we can help most women with ovarian cancer.

— Sarah Adams, MD, describing original research that led to a major clinical trial that uses immune therapy.
Head & Neck Cancers Team

The Head and Neck Cancers Team focuses on cancers in the neck and up. The team combines century-old techniques with cutting-edge technology and offers clinical trials to give you the most choices for your care.

Tumors in the throat — including the tongue, tonsils, and larynx — can be difficult to get to using traditional approaches. Trans-Oral Robotic Surgery, or TORS for short, allows me and the other head and neck surgeons here at UNM to work through the mouth on throat tumors. This minimally-invasive method helps us get people back to their normal lives more quickly.

— Andrew Cowan, MD, PhD

Meet the Team

Medical Oncologists
Use chemotherapy, immunotherapy and targeted therapy to treat cancer. They work with the entire team to manage clinical trials.

Emrullah Yilmaz, MD
Team Leader

Ian Rabinowitz, MD
Surgical Oncologists
Physically remove cancer tumors from the delicate tissues connecting the ears, nose and throat. Our team established the first trans-oral robotic surgery (TORS) program in New Mexico. People eligible for TORS procedures are more likely to recover faster and retain their ability to swallow.

When they told me [that I had cancer] it didn’t really hit me. I had three operations, seven radiation [therapy sessions] and chemo.
At UNM, I had the best doctors you could ever ask for.
—— Charlie G., tonsil cancer patient

Radiation Oncologists
Kill cancer cells with radiation. They use stereotactic body radiation and intensity modulated radiation therapy, among other techniques, to manage how much radiation reaches tumor cells and to reduce radiation that reaches normal cells.

Oncology Radiologists
Interpret many different kinds of images of the head and neck. They not only find cancer but also help the team understand its extent and impact.

780
estimated new cases in New Mexico for 2016
Source: American Cancer Society, 2016
Leukemia, Lymphoma, Myeloma and Stem Cell Transplantation Team

The Hematologic Cancers Team at UNM Cancer Center treats blood disorders. These include leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma and benign (non-cancerous) blood diseases. In addition, the new Bone Marrow Transplant program — the first in New Mexico — offers stem cell transplantation.

Meet the Team

Medical Oncologists

Use chemotherapy and targeted therapies to treat blood diseases, including leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma and benign blood disorders. Our team has worked closely with cancer scientists to pioneer genomic methods for personalized medicine.

1,010 new cases of leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma cancers for New Mexico in 2016
Source: American Cancer Society, 2016

Autologous bone marrow transplantation is the process of taking bone marrow stem cells out of a patient, and then infusing them back in after the patient receives high dose therapy. This allows us to use treatments that would otherwise harm the bone marrow.

— Matthew Fero, MD
Bone Marrow Transplant Program at UNM

A New Service for New Mexicans

The new space for the Bone Marrow Transplant Program will open in the fall of 2016. Housed on the fourth floor of the clinic, the new dedicated space will expand the number of infusion bays, including open stations, private rooms and transplant bays.

The stem cell transplantation program has already launched. It currently offers autologous stem cell transplants. Autologous transplants harvest stem cells from blood, store them during chemotherapy and transplant the stem cells back into the person. They allow you to get treatment that would otherwise be harmful to your bone marrow.

Oncology Pathologists
Genomic sequencing that leads to personalized medicine is the next great frontier in cancer treatment.

The revolution in cancer medicine today really is personalized medicine... Our ability to develop new treatments greatly impacts the care of children everywhere.

— Cheryl Willman, MD, UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center Director & CEO, speaking with NBC News about leukemia breakthroughs for Native American and Hispanic children.

Radiation Oncologist
Treat blood disorders with whole body radiation or with radiation targeted to specific body parts that are causing pain or are enlarged. Radiation kills cells and can be used alone or as part of your overall treatment.

Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners
Under the guidance of a physician, they may give medications or injections, take medical histories, perform medical exams or perform certain medical procedures.
Lung Cancers Team

Lung cancer can be fast-growing and fast-spreading, which is why the order of your care matters. New immune therapies and new surgical methods may offer you better results. To give you the best chance for the highest quality of life, our team considers the most advanced drugs, surgeries and radiation treatments available and creates a plan that would work best for you.

Meet the Team

Medical Oncologists
Work with the entire team to manage clinical trials. They use chemotherapy, immunotherapy and targeted therapy to treat cancer.

The 1,000 people in New Mexico fighting lung cancer may soon be able to breathe easier. The first of more than 10 new lung cancer clinical trials opened in January 2016. It is one of the first clinical trials to test immune drugs as a first line treatment for lung cancer.

Emrullah Yilmaz, MD
Team Leader
Ian Rabinowitz, MD
Monte Shaheen, MD

1,020 estimated new cases of lung and bronchus cancer in New Mexico for 2016
Source: American Cancer Society, 2016
Pulmonologists
Treat cancers and other diseases of the lungs and airways. They use different medicines and methods of treatment and work with the entire team to treat lung cancer.

Radiation Oncologists
Use radiation to kill cancer cells. They use many different methods to get radiation to cancer cells while reducing radiation to normal cells. These methods include stereotactic body radiation, stereotactic radiosurgery and intensity modulated radiation therapy.

Surgical Oncologists
Thoracic surgical oncologists are specially trained to remove cancer tumors from the delicate tissues of the lungs. Our surgical team can perform minimally invasive surgeries and complex surgeries that include removing tumors from the chest wall and reconstructing airways.

Physician Assistants
Work under the guidance of a physician. They may take medical histories, perform medical exams, give medications or injections or perform certain medical procedures.

Source: American Cancer Society, 2015
Neuro-Oncology Team

The Neuro-Oncology program cares for people with brain and spinal tumors. Whether the tumors start in the brain or spinal cord, or whether they spread to these areas, our team provides the most advanced care from diagnosis through treatment and beyond.

Meet the Team

Medical Oncologists
Treat tumors of the entire nervous system using medical treatments such as chemotherapy, targeted therapy and immune therapy. They manage clinical trials, which include the newest targeted therapies and immunotherapies.

Surgical Oncologists
At UNM, our surgical team uses state-of-the-art methods to map the brain during surgery. These methods include mapping the brain while asleep and awake to find vital areas and to show surgeons how to reach tumors safely. We can treat some of the most complex and difficult brain tumors. Our team also offers several new and advanced procedures for spinal cord tumors: decompression and spinal column stabilization, percutaneous cement augmentation and instrumentation to relieve pain from cancer tumors in the spine.

Radiation Oncologists
Use different methods to kill brain and spinal tumors that can’t be removed with surgery. The methods they use include stereotactic radiosurgery and external beam radiation. These methods focus a radiation beam very sharply on the tumor but move the beam to avoid damaging healthy brain cells.

Physician Assistants
Work under the guidance of a physician and may take medical histories, perform medical exams and give medications or injections. They may also perform certain medical procedures.

Recent breakthrough discoveries in brain cancer cell biology have significantly helped in the understanding of the behavior of tumors and support the development of new treatments in the field of neuro-oncology.
Pediatric Cancer Team

The Latest Advances

The Pediatric Cancers Team at UNM is the only pediatric hematology/oncology program in the state that offers access to NIH-sponsored cancer clinical trials. These clinical trials offer the children of New Mexico cutting-edge treatments to improve their outcomes and quality of life. The team also offers care for children with complex blood disorders. And, the team works with oncologists in all of the other multidisciplinary teams at UNM Cancer Center to help each child with his or her treatment needs.

Meet the Team

Pediatric Oncologists
Manage the treatment plan for each child, including the use of chemotherapy, targeted therapy and clinical trials.

Childhood Cancer Survivorship Clinic

More than 80 percent of children with cancer live through their cancer and these rates continue to increase. But childhood cancer survivors face life-long health risks and have special needs. Some of these risks include heart and lung problems, secondary cancers, learning disabilities, infertility and mental health issues.

Amy Cruickshank, DO, directs the Pediatric Cancer Survivorship Clinic at UNM. Our clinic follows up with childhood cancer survivors for years after their treatment. We provide support and healthcare follow-up and suggest lifestyle changes to help each childhood cancer survivor with his or her unique needs. Our team also works with primary care providers and other specialists to help each survivor stay healthy.

Our Pediatric Cancer Survivorship Clinic welcomes all childhood cancer survivors between two and 10 years after completing their treatment. We welcome people up to 30 years old no matter where they went through treatment.

Radiation Oncology
Manages not only the amount of radiation that gets to the pediatric tumor but also the path it takes to get there. They use stereotactic body radiation and intensity modulated radiation therapy.
Prostate, Renal, Bladder and Testicular Cancers

At UNM Cancer Center, our Prostate, Renal, Bladder and Testicular Cancers Team offers the latest, most advanced treatments. These include second generation Dendritic vaccines for Kidney cancer and Heat Shock protein inhibition in Prostate and Bladder Cancers.

Prostate cancers, especially, can vary in how aggressive they can be. The order in which you get your care can make a great difference in your cancer outcome, so our team works closely to create the best plan for you. Our team also conducts groundbreaking research to learn better ways to treat these cancers.

[Adam] needed lung surgeons and brain surgeons and neurologists and cancer surgeons. And all those people were here and they all worked together.

It was fortunate that Adam was able to come to a place that had all these things.

— Richard Lauer, MD, FACP
Chief Medical Officer

Meet the Team

Medical Oncologists
Treat some of the most complex cancers using chemotherapy, immunotherapy and targeted therapy and manage clinical trials in these areas.
Surgical Oncologists
Perform biopsies and other surgical procedures. At UNM Cancer Center, our team also performs minimally-invasive robotic surgery for quickest and easiest recovery.

The idea is to stimulate an immune response to the cancer. By using the body’s immune response to viruses we incidentally create an immune response to the cancer.

— Thomas Schroeder, MD, on a phase 3 clinical trial that tests a combination of immune therapy plus radiation therapy for prostate cancer.

Radiation Oncologists
Offer stereotactic body radiation, stereotactic surgery, intensity modulated radiation therapy and permanent seed prostate brachytherapy. They manage radiation oncology clinical trials as well.

Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners
May perform certain medical procedures under the guidance of a physician. They may give medications or injections, take medical histories or perform medical exams.

1,850 estimated new cases in New Mexico for 2016
Source: American Cancer Society, 2016
Skin Cancer

Some of the most advanced — and most exciting — changes in cancer therapies today are being used to treat skin cancer. Our team brings the latest research and treatment from all over the world to help all New Mexicans diagnosed with skin cancer.

Meet the Team

Medical Oncologists

Bring the latest melanoma and other skin cancer clinical trials. Some of the trials use the newest immune therapy drugs which have had dramatic effects. Clinical trial treatments can blend well with traditional chemotherapy and with targeted therapy.

Monte Shaheen, MD — Team Leader

The cool thing about immune therapy is its durability. For the first time in history, we can talk about a potential cure for a subset of patients with metastatic melanoma.

— Monte Shaheen, MD
Medical Oncologist and Melanoma Researcher

Surgical Oncologists

Offer different methods of removing skin lesions to diagnose skin cancer and to treat it.

Ashwani Rajput, MD, FACS
Bridget Fahy, MD, FACS

450 estimated melanoma diagnoses in New Mexico in 2016
Source: American Cancer Society, 2016
Sarcomas Team and Bone Cancers

The Sarcomas team treats all types of soft tissue cancers. These include cancers of the cartilage, fat, muscle, connective tissue and other types of tissues. The team works with other multidisciplinary teams and with cancer genetics counselors and plastic and reconstructive surgeons.

Meet the Team

Surgical Oncologists
Remove cancer tumors from many different types of soft tissues, including: muscle, cartilage, fat and connective tissues and gastrointestinal stromal tumors.

Radiation Oncologists
Use beams of radiation to kill cancer cells in bone and in soft tissues. They use stereotactic body radiation and intensity modulated radiation therapy.

Physician Assistants
Under the guidance of a physician, they may take medical histories, perform medical exams, give medications or injections or perform certain medical procedures.

Medical Oncologists
Treat cancer using chemotherapy, immunotherapy and targeted therapy.

Through a multi-disciplinary approach, we are able to perform limb salvage surgery and still prolong a person’s life. In the past, people would have to make difficult choices between life and preserving a limb.

— David Chafey, MD

Cancers of the Bone
David Chafey, MD, is an orthopaedic surgical oncologist. He helps each multidisciplinary team decide how best to treat cancers that start in bone or that spread to bone. Based on the size and location of the tumor, he can help each team to help their patients keep their limbs. He also studies reconstructive surgery to prevent fractures and keep limbs functioning.
World Class Physicians

Shirley Abraham, MD
Pediatric Medical Oncologist

Sarah Adams, MD
Gynecologic Oncologist

William Adler, MD
Medical Oncologist

Frances Alba, MD
Urologic Cancers, Surgical Oncologist

Cecilia Arana Yi, MD
Medical Oncologist

Wadih Arap, MD, PhD
Medical Oncologist

Pranshu Bansal, MD
Medical Oncologist

Marc Barry, MD
Oncology Pathologist

Murray Bern, MD
Medical Oncologist

Sean Biggs, MD
Oncology Radiologist

Lisa Blacklock, MD
Oncology Radiologist

Koh Boayue, MD
Pediatric Medical Oncologist

Thérèse Bocklage, MD
Oncology Pathologist

Nathan Boyd, MD
Head & Neck Cancers, Surgical Oncologist

Ursa Brown-Glaberman, MD
Medical Oncologist

Andrew Carlson, MD
Neurosurgeon

Devon Chabot-Richards, MD
Oncology Pathologist

David Chafey, MD
Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation, Surgical Oncologist

Vi Chiu, MD, PhD
Medical Oncologist

M. Omar Chohan, MD
Neurosurgeon

Douglas Clark, MD
Oncology Pathologist

Andrew Cowan, MD, PhD
Head & Neck Cancers, Surgical Oncologist

Karen Craig, MD
Oncology Radiologist

Richard Crowell, MD
Pulmonary Cancers, Internal Medicine

Amy Cruickshank, DO
Pediatric Medical Oncologist

Brad Cushnyr, MD
Oncology Radiologist

David Czuchlewski, MD
Oncology Pathologist

Tarek Dammad, MD
Pulmonary Cancers, Internal Medicine

Michael Davis, MD
Urologic Cancers, Surgical Oncologist

Zoneddy Dayao, MD
Medical Oncologist

Adam Delu, MD
Oncology Radiologist

Matthew Deng, MD
Oncology Radiologist

Charles Dietl, MD
Thoracic Cancers, Surgical Oncologist

Steven Eberhardt, MD
Oncology Radiologist

Jamie Elifritz, MD
Oncology Radiologist

Saeed Elojeimy, PhD, MD
Oncology Radiologist
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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Anna Fabre, MD</td>
<td>Oncology Radiologist</td>
<td>Cancer Care Teams</td>
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<td>Bridget Fahy, MD, FACS</td>
<td>Advanced Cancers, Surgical Oncologist</td>
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<td>Joanna Fair, MD, PhD</td>
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<td>Matthew Fero, MD</td>
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<td>Stephanie Fine, MD</td>
<td>Breast Cancers, Surgical Oncologist</td>
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<td>Esmé Finlay, MD</td>
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<td>Kathryn Foucar, MD</td>
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<td>Gregory Gan, MD, PhD</td>
<td>Radiation Oncologist</td>
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<td>Tracy George, MD</td>
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<td>Rama Gullapalli, MD, PhD, FCAP</td>
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<td>Christopher Gutjahr, MD</td>
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<td>Joshua Hanson, MD</td>
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<td>Richard Heideman, MD</td>
<td>Pediatric Medical Oncologist</td>
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<td>Oleh Hnatiuk, MD</td>
<td>Pulmonary Cancers, Internal Medicine</td>
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<td>John Kuttesch, PhD, MD</td>
<td>Pediatric Medical Oncologist</td>
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<td>Richard Lauer, MD, FACP</td>
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<td>Ryan LeBaron, MD</td>
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<td>David Lee, MD, PhD</td>
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<td>Jeremy Lewis, MD</td>
<td>Neurosurgeon</td>
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<td>Ben Liem, MD</td>
<td>Radiation Oncologist</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Lokich, MD</td>
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<td>Lesley Lomo, MD</td>
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<td>Mark Mabray, MD</td>
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<td>Jodi Mayfield, MD</td>
<td>Pediatric Medical Oncologist</td>
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<td>Ramadevi Medavarapu, MD</td>
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<td>Caroline Muller, MD, FACOG</td>
<td>Gynecologic Oncologist</td>
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<td>Matthew Myers, MD</td>
<td>Oncology Radiologist</td>
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<td>Jackie Nemunaitis, MD</td>
<td>Medical Oncologist</td>
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<td>Itzhak Nir, MD</td>
<td>Abdominal Cancers, Surgical Oncologist</td>
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<td>Garth Olson, MD</td>
<td>Head &amp; Neck Cancers, Surgical Oncologist</td>
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<td>Diaa Osman, DO, MPH</td>
<td>Medical Oncologist</td>
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<td>Jennifer Pohl, PhD, MD</td>
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<td>Arti Prasad, MD</td>
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<td>Julie Riley, MD</td>
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<td>Ali Saeed, MD</td>
<td>Pulmonary Cancers, Internal Medicine</td>
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<td>Jess Schwartz, MD, FACS, FCCP</td>
<td>Thoracic Cancers, Surgical Oncologist</td>
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<td>Anil Shetty, MD</td>
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<td>Michael Spafford, MD</td>
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<td>Amy Tarnower, MD</td>
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<td>Christopher Taylor, MD</td>
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<td>William R. Thompson, MD</td>
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<td>Paul Vantine, MD</td>
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<td>Jennifer Weaver, MD</td>
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Attending Physicians have successfully completed all facets of their medical training. Recognized internationally for their achievements, our physicians have earned impressive awards and honors. Many have been recruited from prestigious institutions around the country, including MD Anderson Cancer Center, Johns Hopkins University and Harvard University.

Fellows have completed their residencies and are pursuing additional, highly specialized training in a very specific area of oncology. A fellowship is the most advanced training a physician can receive. All of our attending physicians have completed fellowships in their area of expertise.

Resident Physicians have completed their intern year and focus on their field of interest under the close supervision of a fellow or attending physician. The majority of our residents are specializing in Internal Medicine with an emphasis on hematology or oncology.

Interns have earned a Medical Degree (MD) and are in their first year of residency. Attending physicians, fellows and residents closely supervise interns.

Medical Students have graduated from college and are in medical school. Most medical students that you will come into contact with have completed their first two years of schooling. Attending physicians, fellows and residents closely supervise medical students.

Physician Assistants (PAs) have completed intensive medical training and are licensed to practice medicine with the supervision of a physician. PAs can conduct physical exams, diagnose and treat illnesses, order and interpret tests, assist in surgery and write prescriptions.

Nurse Practitioners (NPs) have training beyond that of a Registered Nurse. Many NPs have completed specific advanced graduate-level work and provide high-level, quality healthcare in cooperation with physicians.

Registered Nurses (RNs) treat patients, provide education about various conditions and give advice and emotional support to patients and family members. RNs take medical histories, record symptoms, help perform diagnostic tests, and administer treatment and medications.

Radiation Physicists, Dosimetrists and Therapists work as a team alongside Radiation Oncologists to design and deliver customized treatment plans using radiation therapy. Physicists calibrate the equipment used in treatment, Dosimetrists calculate the optimal dosage for each patient and Radiation Therapists administer treatments and monitor patient progress.

Your Care Team

Because the UNM Cancer Center is a teaching facility, your care team may include physicians at many levels of training. An attending physician closely oversees the team. Your team may also include nurses and mid-level providers.

My physician is out of the office. Who will I see at my appointment?

UNM Cancer Center physicians are committed to providing the finest healthcare available. If your physician is not available when you are scheduled for an appointment, you will be seen by another highly trained member of our team. This could be another physician, a nurse practitioner or a physician assistant. Our multidisciplinary team is in constant contact, and you can be assured that your physician will oversee every aspect of your care.
Your treatment plan may include all or some of the choices below. Your team will work together to design a plan that will give you the best chance to overcome your cancer. They will take your preferences and wishes into account and will adjust your plan if needed as you go through treatment.

Chemotherapy
Chemotherapy uses drugs to cure cancer, slow its growth, keep it from spreading or relieve some of the symptoms it causes. The drugs your team prescribes will depend on your cancer and your care plan.

Radiation Therapy
Radiation therapy uses beams of high energy radiation to kill cancer cells. The radiation beams travel through the body along different paths, but all the paths go through the tumor, giving the tumor cells a higher radiation dose. Our team uses many different methods to get the most radiation to the tumor, while getting the least radiation that they can to normal tissues.

Cancer Surgery
Your care team may suggest cancer surgery to remove part of the tumor to test it. They may suggest surgery to remove the tumor completely. You may choose to have reconstructive surgery after your cancer surgery.

Cancer Genetic Assessment
Some cancers run in families. To learn if your cancer runs in your family, your care team may suggest a cancer genetic assessment. If cancer runs in your family, your team may adjust your treatment to deal with your cancer.

Diagnosis

Radiology
Our Radiology team is specialty-trained in cancer imaging. They work closely with the cancer care teams to develop treatment plans. They take part in clinic consultations when needed. Our team offers comprehensive diagnostic imaging, including:

- multi-detector x-ray computed tomography (CT)
- positron emission tomography (PET)
- PET with diagnostic contrast enhanced CT
- 3.0 Tesla Magnetic Resonance Imaging (3.0 T MRI)

Pathology
Pathologists measure tissue samples in many ways to arrive at a cancer diagnosis. Our team performs genetic and genomic analyses, too. Their work helps your cancer team link you with the right drugs and treatments.

Treatment

You may choose to have reconstructive surgery after your cancer surgery.

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Research

Our NCI Comprehensive designation means we are at the forefront of turning the most promising scientific advances into treatment for people with cancer.

Basic and Translational Research

Our 129 researchers and physician scientists work with New Mexico’s national laboratories and universities around the region, nation and world to break new ground in understanding and combating cancer. These discoveries benefit New Mexicans.

Cancer research at the UNM Cancer Center is organized into four programs. Each program works with our Clinical Research Office to translate discoveries in basic science into cancer treatments.

- The Cancer Control Research Program focuses on controlling cancer by identifying risk factors and developing interventions to prevent cancer, promote screening and improve cancer outcomes.
- The Cancer Genetics, Epigenetics and Genomics Research Program studies gene expression and how environmental exposures can increase cancer risk by making the genome less stable.
- The Translational Cancer Biology & Signaling Research Program studies gene expression and how environmental exposures can increase cancer risk by making the genome less stable.
- The Cancer Therapeutics: Technology, Discovery & Targeted Delivery Research Program develops cancer drugs that kill cancer cells while causing few side effects and develops methods to find cancer cells wherever they lurk.

Clinical Research

Clinical research helps to create new standards in cancer care, which help to bring life-saving discoveries to everyone. Clinical trials carefully and completely test new treatments in people. Early phase clinical trials test new treatments in people for the first time. Later phases test how well the treatment compares to existing standards of care.

The UNM Cancer Center offers clinical trials to everyone in New Mexico through the New Mexico Cancer Care Alliance. And, every patient at UNM Cancer Center may elect to join the Total Cancer Care protocol to donate their tissues and possibly be matched to clinical trials.

Cancer Support

Cancer affects every part of your life. We understand that. That’s why we offer a range of services to help you and your family get through treatment.

- Patient Services handles registration, scheduling, medical records and other administrative parts of your care.
- Patient Financial Services supports billing questions, financial assistance and prior authorizations for your care.
- Patient & Family Support Services offers patient navigation, oncology social work, chaplain services, interpreter services and psychology services.
- The Pharmacy Team manages chemotherapy infusions and the onsite pharmacy, where you can get all your prescriptions filled.
- Nutrition Services include a consultation and ongoing support to help you eat well so that you can get through treatment.

There are many more services within these areas. If you need any kind of help, please ask our team.

Only facility in NM offering chemotherapy, radiation therapy, cancer surgery, genetic cancer assessment, clinical trials, and supportive care under one roof.

500 staff members work with our doctors to develop personalized treatment plans for every patient.
About Chemotherapy

The UNM Cancer Center provides chemotherapy treatment in the infusion suite, located on the fourth floor of our clinic.

Our oncology nurses in the UNM Hospitals Infusion Center at the UNM Cancer Center are experts in cancer care. They specialize in giving chemotherapy. The oncology nursing team provides support to patients and their families and teaches them about chemotherapy, its safety and its side effects.

We have nurses that are seasoned in oncology, general medicine and ICU specialties. We all collaborate to deliver the most effective, safe patient care.

– Lynette Bogart, RN, BSN
Chemotherapy Infusion Nurse

Infusion Pharmacy

The members of our Infusion Pharmacy team have special training in preparing chemotherapy drugs for your treatment. In addition, they use cutting edge technology to receive, mix and deliver your prescription to your chemotherapy team. Our Infusion Pharmacy is among the first cancer centers in the country to use the Dose-Edge® camera-based work flow system and is part of the UNM Cancer Center’s QOPI® Certification. Our Infusion Pharmacy team members also take part in Investigational Drug Studies to give you access to the latest drugs that might benefit you.

My goal is to be caring and compassionate while explaining treatment plans and educating patients on how to manage side effects at home.

– Lynn Saavedra, RN, BSN
Chemotherapy Infusion Nurse

38,900+
infusions were given to patients in 2015 by our expert nurses and pharmacists

For scheduling or more information, call 505-272-4946
About Radiation Therapy

Our facility has four radiation vaults with the most advanced equipment available and is accredited by the American College of Radiology.

Our TomoTherapy Radiation Treatment System, the state’s first, moves the treatment beam around the patient as the treatment couch moves, just like a CT (Computerized Tomography) scan. This technique minimizes damage to healthy tissue by pinpointing tumors with precise radiation beams and that means patients can sometimes receive fewer treatments.

Our Elekta linear accelerators also use CT to create an image of the area before treatment. This allows us to precisely target the tumor while sparing healthy tissue. Radiation oncologists and neurosurgeons can treat inoperable brain tumors with Stereotactic Radio Surgery using the Elekta system.

We also offer:

- Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT)
- Intensity Modulated radiation Therapy (IMRT) treatment techniques
- Brachytherapy radiation implants to treat many cancers without irradiating healthy tissues. The High Dose Rate Brachytherapy we now offer for Accelerated Partial Breast Irradiation requires fewer days than conventional external beam irradiation. We also offer permanent seed prostate brachytherapy.
- The only program in the state for Pediatric Radiation Oncology

For more information, call 505-925-0107

Below, front row: Richard Shaw, PhD; David Hopper, RTT, Radiation Oncology Director; Donna Siergiej, PhD, Medical Physics Director; Mari Castro, MBA, RTT, Radiation Oncology Supervisor; Rosalinda Schanbarger, RN, Angela Rubio, CMD, Dosimetry Supervisor; David Lee, MD, PhD. Middle row: Nicole Kitsos, RT; Keri Godfrey, RTT; Cynthia Lopez, Patient Services; Laura Jaramillo, Administrative Assistant; Jill Browne, CMD. Back row: Cesar Recio, MA; Karisa Medrano, CMD; Misty Puckett, RTT; Mike Ortiz, RA; Mary Shurman, Patient Services; Sara Sanchez, RN; Elena Robison, RTT; Kayla Grimm, RTT. Missing: Angelo Bergamo, PhD; Clark Brown, RTT; Sandra Candelaria, RTT; Gregory Gan, MD, PhD; Robert Goodman, MS; Ben Liem, MD; Leanne McDuffie, RN; Jessica Mondragon, RTT; Reshma Patel, RTT; Thomas Schroeder, MD; William Thompson, MD; Julia Torres, RA.

15,800+ radiation treatments given to patients in 2015
About Surgery

Our outstanding team of highly skilled surgeons includes some of the best surgical specialists in the world.

We are pioneering techniques in minimally invasive surgeries using the state’s first Da Vinci Surgical Robot, which results in faster recovery times and less pain. Our team is the only team in New Mexico to offer heated intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) for people with complex abdominal cancers and infusion therapy directly into the liver for some people with advanced liver cancer.

Among the surgical specialties they practice are:

- breast and women’s cancers
- cancers of the digestive tract
- bone
- soft tissues
- lung
- esophagus
- prostate
- kidney
- bladder
- chest
- head and neck

Our team includes one of only two breast fellowship trained surgeons in New Mexico and one of a handful of HIPEC-trained surgeons in the United States.

For more information call 505-272-4946

About Cancer Genetic Assessments

If cancer runs in your family, your medical team may suggest different choices for your treatment plan. The team may suggest a cancer genetic assessment to find out if your cancer is hereditary.

For the genetic assessment, our cancer genetic counselor will ask you about your family’s medical history. Your genetic counselor may also get results from some of your tests. The genetic counselor will be able to tell you what your data can and cannot reveal about your risks.

The UNM Cancer Center’s Hereditary Cancer Assessment Program provides cancer genetic counseling and testing. It is available for people who want to learn if they have a higher risk for getting cancer based on their family history. In most cases, people with an increased risk of hereditary cancer are those who:

- have family members with more than one case of cancer;
- have more than one family member with related or the same types of cancers; and/or,
- were diagnosed with certain cancers before age 45.

Ask your doctor if you would benefit from cancer genetic counseling and testing.

For more information call 505-925-0156
About the Clinic

Our clinic building was designed around the idea of healing the whole person. It features serene gardens, sunlight, natural materials and colors, and alcoves for local artists’ work that create a warm welcoming space to go through your cancer journey.

The UNM Cancer Center clinic building houses all of our outpatient facilities. In 2009, we opened this $100 million 206,000 square foot facility. It includes extra large exam rooms, some outpatient surgical suites, and the chemotherapy infusion suite. This fall, we are completing build-out of the second and fourth floors to open new space.

As a resource for our entire state, the UNM Cancer Center is committed to bringing world class cancer care to all New Mexicans. We have built, and continue to build, a statewide cancer care network through collaborative clinical programs. We form partnerships with many diverse communities, including Native American, Spanish-speaking and rural communities, to develop culturally sensitive cancer materials. And we are partners in the New Mexico Cancer Care Alliance, which brings cancer clinical trials access to all New Mexicans.

The new space will allow us to add:
- the UNM Women’s Cancers Center
- the state’s first Bone Marrow Transplant Program
- more chemotherapy infusion suites
- the Early Phase Clinical Trials program
- the Surgical Cancers Subspecialties clinic, and
- the Adolescent and Young Adult Cancers program.

We are unique in that we have the ability for patients to see their Oncologist, Surgical Oncologist, Radiation Oncologist, and get all the testing needed, to give them the best care possible right here — and sometimes even in the same day!

– Denise Buchanan, RN Oncology Nurse, ICU

Our new cafeteria will offer healthy food at reasonable prices and opens in winter, 2016.

I have a compliment or a complaint. What should I do?

The UNM Cancer Center takes patient and family feedback very seriously and we welcome your input. Please contact the front desk to pick up a compliment or complaint form, which is also available on our website. If you wish to speak with someone, call 505-925-0108 and ask to speak with the Quality Programs Manager, Janet Abernathy.

I build relationships with my patients, and their families. I listen, educate, and navigate them through their difficult journey. I take pride and ownership in their care.

– Trish Seeber, RN Oncology Nurse, ICU

For scheduling or information about the clinic, call 505-272-4946
About Cutting-Edge Clinical Trials

You may be able to try some of the newest cancer treatments with the greatest promise. The NCI and other leading cancer research institutions sponsor these treatments through clinical trials.

Clinical trials test and carefully study new treatments under strict oversight to protect people who join them. Clinical trials can test new methods to diagnose, treat and prevent cancer. People who join clinical trials may be able to get treatments that are more effective than current treatments. And, they may feel good about helping scientists and doctors learn about new ways to treat cancer.

The UNM Cancer Center has about 175 clinical trials open at any time. About 15 percent of the people we treat decide to join a clinical trial. Each clinical trial has a set of conditions that you must meet before enrolling. You will have to talk to your doctor to find out which clinical trials you can join, if any. If you choose to join, our medical and clinical research teams will closely watch you.

There are some risks to joining a clinical trial. After all, if we fully understood everything about new cancer treatments, we would not need to study them. One risk is that some new drugs or procedures tested in a clinical trial may not be better than the current drugs or procedures. They may have side effects that researchers and doctors do not expect. Or, the side effects may be worse than the current drugs or procedures. Another risk is that you may not always be able to choose which treatment you get. You may get the new treatment or you may not. Finally, you may be required to visit your doctor’s office more often if you join a clinical trial.

Joining a clinical trial is a very personal decision that you should make with your doctor and your loved ones. All clinical trials are voluntary. You always have the right to choose whether or not you will join. You also have the right to leave a clinical trial at any time and for any reason. You will always get the highest level of care possible, whether or not you join a clinical trial.

I enjoy helping people and providing an extra contact while they are being treated for cancer through supportive clinical trials.

— Susan Lopez
Research Coordinator

I help patients that have been identified by our multidisciplinary team sign up for the right clinical trial that can offer them treatment and hopefully help others in the future with treatment options.

— Kim Steinberg
Clinical Research Nurse

To find out more about clinical trials, please call us at 505-272-5490
Early Phase Clinical Trials

New cancer drugs and treatments go through a series of steps before they are approved for use. The early steps, called phases, test whether the new drug or treatment is safe, what its side effects are, and what the best dose for treatment is. Later phases make sure the new drug or treatment works better than the current standard therapy. Going through all the phases of testing can take a decade or more.

The Early Phase Clinical Trials program at UNM Cancer Center will put many, many safety systems in place to test the newest, latest, most advanced drugs and therapies. Our program will focus especially on new immune therapies. People wishing to take part in early phase clinical trials may be able to get the latest treatments years ahead of its general use. If you would like to consider early phase clinical trials as part of your treatment plan, talk to your doctor.

How can I enroll in a clinical trial?

To learn more about clinical trials, including potential benefits and risks, or to find out if a clinical trial is right for you, contact our Clinical Research Office at 505-272-5490, or by email at: clinicaltrialinfo@salud.unm.edu. You can also call our statewide clinical trials network, the New Mexico Cancer Care Alliance, at 505-272-7813, or visit them on the web at www.nmcca.org.

No cancer clinical trials use placebos. Everyone on a cancer clinical trial gets the clinical trial treatment or gets the standard of care.

About Navigating Cancer Care

Throughout your cancer care, our patient navigators are here to guide you between the clinic, treatments, labs and tests, and any additional support you may need.

Patient Navigation. 505-272-4946

Patient Navigators help you get used to our clinic. They serve as a regular point of contact for you, your family and your caregivers. They help to guide you to the right information, services and resources during your care. Patient Navigators provide you and your family with support and personal attention throughout your experience. They try to make your time at the UNM Cancer Center as stress-free as possible.

Patient Navigation - American Cancer Society (ACS) 800-227-2345

This program is through a partnership between the UNM Cancer Center and the American Cancer Society. The ACS Patient Navigation provides patients, families and caregivers with free cancer information. They offer information about specific cancers, transportation and lodging resources. This program also helps find the correct contact to answer insurance, legal and financial questions.
Pharmacy Services

We have a specially trained group of pharmacists to help you during your treatment. A board-certified oncology pharmacist leads our team of ten pharmacists and five oncology-trained pharmacy technicians. They work closely with your cancer treatment team to make sure you receive the safest, best care available anywhere.

Outpatient Pharmacy

Our onsite pharmacy is located on the first floor and makes refilling and picking up your prescriptions easy. We stock prescription and over-the-counter drugs. We also carry many drugs to treat cancer that most pharmacies do not stock. Some of these cancer drugs have extra rules we must follow. For these drugs, our staff will work closely with you before we fill your prescription and, if needed, after we give the drugs to you.

The onsite pharmacy is located on the first floor and is open Monday through Friday, from 8 am to 5 pm. You can fill any of your prescriptions with the same co-payments as at any other pharmacy and transfer prescriptions from other pharmacies. You can also refill orders by phone and pick them up at your convenience. We also offer mail order prescriptions upon request.

We accept most major insurances, including Medicaid and Medicare, at our onsite pharmacy. The UNM Cancer Center can arrange co-pay help to those who qualify.

If you have a question about your medication, our team members are available during business hours to help you or to answer your call.

Open 8 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday
505-272-1700

My team makes me proud of how completely we care for our patients’ medication needs. From making people feel at home, through handling insurance and authorizations, through accurate and timely prescription dispensing, we are all focused on making those things happen as simply and smoothly as possible.

– Nancy Morgan
Pharmacist in Charge
Patient & Family Support Services

At the UNM Cancer Center, we know that cancer affects many aspects of life. We are committed to meeting the unique needs of our patients. We offer a wide range of patient and family support services to help with any needs that arise. Support services are a vital part of our cancer care. They are offered at little or no cost. Please take a moment to review these services. Don’t hesitate to call the departments if you would like to make an appointment or if you have any questions.

Patient & Family Support Services Team (left to right): Mayra Madrid, Medical Spanish Interpreter; Alice Conant Rearden, MSW, LCSW, Senior Oncology Social Worker; Eusebio Medina, Medical Spanish Interpreter; Jill Schulke, MSW, LCSW, Manager Clinical Therapy Programs; Anjanette Cureton, PsyD, Psychologist; Ernestine Trujillo, MS,RD,LD, Senior Clinical Nutritionist; Josephine Vincioni, Hereditary Cancer Assessment Clinic Coordinator; and Anastasia Estocin, MSW, LCSW, Oncology Social Worker. Not pictured: Skip Murphy, PhD, Chaplain.

Psychology Services .................................................................................................................. 505-925-0104

We offer psychology services to patients, families and caregivers. These services help to cope with the emotions that come with a cancer diagnosis and treatment. Counseling sessions include individual, couples and family counseling, as well as support groups.

Nutrition ...................................................................................................................................... 505-925-0182

Good nutrition is crucial. It helps you feel better before, during and after your cancer treatment. An oncology nutritionist can offer tips and recipes to help you through your treatment. Some treatments might affect your ability to eat. Our nutritionist can teach you how to manage those side effects and can help you maintain or gain weight.

Oncology Social Work .............................................................................................................. 505-272-4946

Oncology social workers provide counseling and support. They help to reduce the stress that comes with cancer diagnosis and treatment. They assist patients, families and caregivers in all phases of the cancer experience. They handle any problems that occur, such as housing, transportation or financial issues. They also link patients to community resources.

Volunteer Program .................................................................................................................. 505-925-0188

UNM Cancer Center volunteers are an important part of the support we provide to patients. Please call the number above if you wish to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

Many of our patients are traveling hundreds of miles for their appointments and from all four corners of the state. Transportation, lodging and food assistance are vital. As well as psychosocial support to allow our patients/families to be as successful as possible with their treatment.

– Jill Schulke, MSW, LCSW
Clinical Therapy Programs Manager
Patient Services

Throughout your cancer care, you may have questions about scheduling, medical records and other services. The offices below will be able to answer your questions.

**New Patient Scheduling** .............................. 505-272-2839

**Established Patient Scheduling** ................. 505-272-4946

When you call to schedule your appointment, our staff will tell you what you need to bring. They will also answer any questions you may have. To cancel or reschedule appointments, call 505-272-4946 at least 24 hours before your scheduled appointment.

**Medical Records** ........................................... 505-925-0106

In accordance with HIPAA regulations, patients may request copies of their medical records for personal use by contacting our Medical Records Office.

**My physician has referred me for an imaging study. What should I do?**

Imaging studies (also called radiology procedures or exams) include X-ray, CT, MRI, ultrasound, mammography, nuclear medicine, PET/CT and interventional radiology. If your physician tells you that he or she is ordering such a procedure, you will receive a call from the Radiology Department at UNM Hospitals to schedule the procedure. If you do not receive that call within two working days after your appointment with your doctor, please call 505-925-0158.

**My physician ordered a test not offered at the UNM Cancer Center. What should I do?**

The scheduling team at the UNM Cancer Center will notify the facility where the tests are to be completed and provide them all the referral information as well as notify the UNM Cancer Center Prior Authorization team so they can contact the patient’s insurance company and obtain any required authorizations. The patient will be provided with contact information for the testing facility so they may schedule the test at their convenience.

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*I think being patient, kind, positive and explaining things patients may not understand lets them know that we do care and strive to be the best that we can for our patients.*

– Lucy Gallegos
Patient Services Coordinator

*I keep my promise...if I say ‘I will get back to you today,’ even if I don’t have an answer for them, I let them know that I am still working on getting them taken care of.*

– Charlotte Hindeman
Ambulatory Patient Service Coordinator
Billing & Finances

Keeping track of your medical bills during a time of illness is an added challenge. Our Patient Financial Services team is here to help you. If you have questions, please feel free to call.

Patient Financial Services . . . . . . . . 505-925-6617

The Patient Financial Services team helps patients to obtain insurance authorizations to receive treatment, and bills for the services provided. However, it is your responsibility to understand the terms of your healthcare plans.

You will receive separate bills from:
- UNM Medical Group – for physician fees
- UNM Hospitals – for facility fees, lab work, diagnostic testing and procedures

These sources work together at the UNM Cancer Center to provide services to our patients.

Financial Assistance . . . . . . . . . . . . . 505-925-6617

The Financial Assistance Office is available for patients who do not have health insurance and need help paying their medical bills. Our staff can determine if patients meet specific criteria required to apply for financial assistance programs. They can also help patients create a payment plan to cover their medical treatments.

Clinic Support

When you visit us for your care, you may need help with things that come up that you didn’t — or couldn’t — think of before. Our clinic support staff can help you with these while you’re here.

General Services Assistants . . . . . . . 505-925-0101

General Services Assistants (GSAs) provide wheelchairs, transport assistance, parking passes, and directions and maps to other clinics. GSAs will valet park your vehicle upon request, and can assist you with transportation needs by calling cabs or other city services. Request services at the front entrance desk, or call the number above.

To hear a patient say ‘thank you’ and have a smile on their face lets me know I have done my job.

– Martin Archibeque
General Services Assistant

Clinical Administrative Support . . . . 505-272-4946

The staff at the Clinical Administrative Support desk assists callers and community healthcare professionals with general information related to the Cancer Center and our providers. They help direct patient health-related issues to the appropriate healthcare provider. They also assist with prescription refills, tracking new patient records from outside facilities, verifying UNM Cancer Center and UNM Hospital medical appointments and labs, and troubleshooting patient scheduling issues.

Interpreter Language Services . . . . 505-272-5399

UNM Hospital Interpreters are available to facilitate communication among patients, their families and their healthcare team in the following languages: Spanish, Navajo, Vietnamese and Sign. Interpreters are available during clinic visits to translate consents and assist in family and medical team conferences, patient education and any other requests. Interpreters can be provided via telephone services when an on-site interpreter is not available or for languages staff interpreters do not speak. If you need an interpreter, please request one when you schedule each appointment. For general information call 505-272-5399.
Support Groups & Programs

When facing cancer, it is important to remember that you are not alone. Meeting other cancer patients and survivors can be very helpful, so we offer many groups and programs to help you connect with others facing similar challenges. Please take a moment to review these programs and call the numbers listed below if you have questions or would like to schedule an appointment.

Arts-in-Medicine at UNM ..................... 505-272-4722
From September to May of each year, the UNM Cancer Center waiting rooms and chemotherapy suites are transformed by the Arts-in-Medicine Program at the University of New Mexico. The program offers patients and their loved ones healing experiences with music, art, writing and massage to create moments of beauty and rejuvenation.

Cancer Survivor and Family Education and Support Group ............ 505-255-0405
In partnership with Cancer Support Now, we offer an education and support group for cancer survivors and their family members. The purpose of the group is to provide emotional support and other assistance to participants coping with cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Look Good…Feel Better for Women .............. 505-272-6018
In partnership with the American Cancer Society, the UNM Cancer Center offers the Look Good…Feel Better program, a free service that teaches female cancer patients beauty techniques to help restore their appearance and self-image during chemotherapy and radiation treatments. Volunteer beauty professionals instruct and support women on makeup techniques, skincare, nail care and options related to hair loss such as wigs, turbans and scarves. Each participant receives a free cosmetics kit, a wig, scarf and/or turban. To find out about Look Good…Feel Better programs statewide, call the American Cancer Society in Albuquerque at 505-260-2105 or visit www.cancer.org or www.lookgoodfeelbetter.org

Meditation and Relaxation Group ............ 505-925-0104
The UNM Cancer Center’s Meditation and Relaxation Group practices mindful breathing and progressive muscle relaxation to help participants relax and experience well-being.

Survivors Writing Together ................. 505-925-0104
Survivors Writing Together provides a unique combination of journaling and support group for people in all stages of diagnosis and recovery.

Caregivers Journaling Support Group ........ 505-255-0405
A journaling support group for family and friends of cancer patients. Discover the healing power of writing to express thoughts and feelings. No prior writing experience needed; spelling and grammar do not matter. This group is offered in partnership with Cancer Support Now.

See all meetings at our center online at: cancer.unm.edu/support-groups

4 reasons to think about joining a support group:
• Help you feel better, more hopeful, and not so alone
• Give you a chance to talk about your feelings and work through them
• Help you deal with practical problems, such as problems at work or school
• Help you cope with side effects of treatment

Source: National Cancer Institute
Community Resources

New Mexicans are fortunate to have a wide network of community organizations that provide invaluable resources to cancer patients. The UNM Cancer Center works very closely with many of these organizations, and we encourage you to take advantage of their services. However, please note that these are outside organizations and are not affiliated with the UNM Cancer Center.

**American Cancer Society**
10501 Montgomery Blvd. NE, Suite 300, Albuquerque, NM 87111
505-262-6018 • Toll-Free: 800-227-2345 • Fax: 505-266-9513 • www.cancer.org

This nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization is dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy and service.

**Cancer Services of New Mexico**
P.O. Box 51735, Albuquerque, NM 87181-1735
505-259-9583 • Fax: 505-503-1413 • www.cancerservicesnm.org

Cancer Services of New Mexico provides services to reduce cancer suffering among New Mexico’s families. Services include two free, three-day educational retreats each spring and fall, education materials and seminars, family cancer resource bags, legal/insurance information, patient advocacy and volunteer opportunities.

**Cancer Support Now**
P.O. Box 37338, Albuquerque, NM 87176-7338
505-255-0405 • Toll-Free: 855-955-3500 • Fax: 505-821-0965 • www.cancersupportnow.org

This member-based organization was created by cancer survivors to build and sustain an active community of people whose lives have been affected by a cancer diagnosis. The group provides opportunities for those facing cancer to give and receive support. Cancer Support Now emphasizes peer-facilitated support groups, one-to-one support, activities that strengthen the Cancer Support Now community and education and information to empower people affected by cancer to make prudent decisions.

**Casa Esperanza**
1005 Yale Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106
505-246-2700 • Fax: 505-277-9876 • www.casaesperanzanm.org

Casa Esperanza is an affordable “home away from home” for out-of-town cancer patients and their family members. Simple, home-like amenities include central kitchens and a spacious community/dining room to encourage therapeutic interaction and sharing among families. Residents benefit from a free Clinical Counseling Program and a Patient Navigation/Survivor Services Program, designed to help access needed health, financial and social services.

**Children’s Cancer Fund of New Mexico**
112 14th St. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102
505-243-3618 • Fax: 505-243-1490 • www.ccfnm.org

Helping children and their families with the day-to-day emotional, financial and educational needs of living with and fighting cancer.

**Children’s Grief Center of New Mexico**
3001 Trellis Dr. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107
505-323-0478 • www.childrensgrief.org

Provides a supportive environment for children, teens and their families to share experiences and feelings while grieving death.

**Comadre a Comadre**
1909 Lomas Blvd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104
505-242-1222 • Fax: 505-242-1118 • http://comadre.unm.edu

Comadre a Comadre is a peer-led and community-based program designed to improve breast health and breast cancer outcomes among Hispanic/Latina women. The program provides free education, resources and support to women and their loved ones.
Holland’s Rose, Inc.
132 Griegos Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107
505-345-2020 • Fax: 505-341-2922 • www.hollandsrose.com

This nonprofit organization was founded on the values and principles of a Christ-centered community. It offers a fully equipped home for families staying in Albuquerque for medical reasons, particularly cancer. Its all-volunteer staff has firsthand knowledge of what it means to hear, “You’ve got cancer.” Volunteers help families with housing, transportation arrangements and other needs.

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society – NM/El Paso Chapter
4600-A Montgomery Blvd. NE, Suite 201, Albuquerque, NM 87109
505-872-0141 • Toll-Free Number: 888-286-7846 • Fax: 505-872-2480 • www.lls.org/#/aboutlls/chapters/nm/

The society’s mission is to cure leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma, and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families. Services include financial and emotional support, patient and professional education, advocacy and a school re-entry program.

Make-A-Wish Foundation of New Mexico
144 Louisiana Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87108
505-888-9474 • Fax: 505-232-0678 • www.wishnm.org

Make-A-Wish Foundation of New Mexico works to grant the fondest wishes of New Mexican children between the ages of 2½ and 18 years who have a medically diagnosed life-threatening illness or condition.

National Cancer Institute’s Cancer Information Service
Toll-Free Number: 800-422-6237 • www.cancer.gov/contact/contact-center

This service provides the latest and most accurate cancer information to patients and their families. Specialists are available to answer questions by phone and email. Knowledgeable, caring and experienced at explaining medical information, they have access to comprehensive, accurate information on a range of cancer topics, including the most recent advances in cancer treatment. The service is confidential, and information specialists spend as much time as needed for thorough and personalized responses.

New Mexico Association for Home and Hospice Care
3200 Carlisle Blvd. NE, Suite 117, Albuquerque, NM 87110
505-889-4556 • Fax: 505-889-4928 • www.nmahc.org

The New Mexico Association for Home and Hospice Care serves its membership through advocacy, networking, education and communication. It promotes success and best practices for home care, hospice and related home health support services.

New Mexico Cancer Care Alliance
1201 Camino de Salud NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106
Phone: 505-272-7813 • Fax: 505-272-7799 • www.nmcca.org

Housed at the UNM Cancer Center, the New Mexico Cancer Care Alliance is a statewide network of healthcare institutions and physicians dedicated to providing New Mexico cancer patients and their families and loved ones with local access to the latest experimental treatments available and information developed through cancer research studies. The Alliance enables all New Mexicans to access new, experimental treatments without the expense of leaving the state.

New Mexico Department of Health – Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program
5301 Central Ave. NE, Suite 800, Albuquerque, NM 87108
505-841-5860 • Toll-Free & Bilingual Number: 877-852-2585 • Fax: 505-222-8602 • www.cancernm.org/bcc

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Program offers free pap tests and mammograms to eligible women who are underserved and ages 30 or older. In this and other ways, the program seeks to improve access to high-quality breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnostic services for underserved women in New Mexico. The program also works to increase public awareness through education about prevention, disease processes and the importance of regular screening exams for early detection.

New Mexico Department of Health – Colorectal Cancer Program
5301 Central Ave. NE, Suite 800, Albuquerque, NM 87108
Toll-Free & Bilingual Number: 877-852-2585 • 505-222-8601 • Fax: 505-222-8602 • www.cancernm.org/crc

The Colorectal Cancer Program is dedicated to improving access to high-quality colorectal cancer screening and diagnostic services for men and women who are underserved. It also works to increase awareness through education about prevention, disease processes and the importance of annual screenings for early detection.
New Mexico Department of Health – Comprehensive Cancer Program
5301 Central Ave. NE, Suite 800, Albuquerque, NM 87108
505-841-5847 • Fax: 505-222-8602 • www.cancernm.org/ccp

The Comprehensive Cancer Program offers cancer education, information and resources to the public and healthcare providers.

Prostate Cancer Support Association of New Mexico
909 Virginia St., NE, #109, Albuquerque, NM 87108
505-254-7784 • Toll-Free: 800-278-7678 • Fax: 505-254-7786 • www.pcsanm.org

This organization offers education and support to help all people affected by prostate cancer make informed decisions about how to fight the disease. Services include counseling, early detection and screening, educational materials, seminars and support groups.

United Blood Services
1515 University Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87102
505-843-6227 • Toll-Free: 800-333-8037 • Fax: 505-247-8835 • www.unitedbloodservices.org

United Blood Services is a nonprofit community blood center, providing blood, blood components and special services to patients in more than 500 hospitals in 18 states. There are six United Blood Services centers in New Mexico.

YWCA Middle Rio Grande, Women’s Health Equity Program/ENCOREplus
210 Truman St. NE, Suite A, Albuquerque NM 87108
505-254-9922 x128 • Fax: 505-254-9953 • www.ywca-nm.org

The Women’s Health Equity Program provides women with financial assistance for annual screening mammograms, as well as diagnostic mammograms and ultrasounds. ENCOREplus provides transportation assistance for women to get to appointments and personal reminders to get annual mammograms.

Helping Others

There are many ways to make a gift to the UNM Cancer Center. You can send a check, use your credit card to donate online, or name the UNM Cancer Center in your will. We also accept non-cash gifts and these can be anything from blankets, books, and artwork to research equipment. We will accept non-cash gifts if we need them, if we can use them, and if they meet UNM’s policy.

All gifts are tax deductible and 100 percent of your gift goes to support the program you choose. You can help other patients through our Patient Care Program fund. You can help our cancer scientists make new discoveries by donating to our Research Program fund. You can give to the General Support Fund to provide support where we need it most. Learn about all the programs and funds available online at the UNM Foundation website: unmfund.org/fund-category/unm-cancer-center/

To learn more, please visit us online: cancer.unm.edu/giving
or call our Development Office: 505-272-4443
Contact Us

Clinic Numbers

General Information ........................................ 505-272-4946
New Mexico Statewide Toll-free Number ................. 1-800-432-6806
Fax Number ..................................................... 505-925-0100
After-hours Answering Service Direct Line ............ 505-857-3758
UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center Pharmacy ....... 505-272-1700
Prescription Refill Requests ................................ 505-925-0290

Administration Numbers

Administration Office ......................................... 505-272-4443
Director of Development .................................... 505-925-0471
Administration Fax Number ................................. 505-272-4039

Physical Address

UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center
1201 Camino de Salud NE
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Hours of Operation

Open Monday through Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. Closed on weekends and on these holidays:

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day and the day after
- Christmas Day
- New Year’s Day

Online

Visit us: cancer.unm.edu
Like us: www.facebook.com/unmhsc
Watch our stories: youtube.com/unmhsc
Follow us: twitter.com/unmhsc
See our news: cancer.unm.edu/newsroom

After-hours Assistance

If you are experiencing a medical emergency, dial 911 or go to the nearest emergency room immediately.

If it is not a medical emergency, call our clinic at 505-272-4946 or our statewide toll-free number at 800-432-6806. From there, you will be connected to our answering service. If for any reason you cannot connect to the service, you can call our answering service directly at 505-857-3758.