

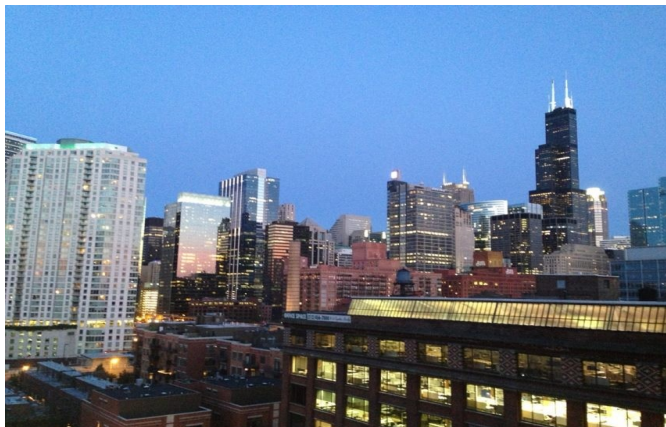


Better. Communities.



The University of Illinois Cancer Center is a community-based entity, dedicated to reducing the burden of cancer on the people of Illinois and beyond, through an integrated program of excellence in patient care, research, education, and community engagement, on the causes, prevention, detection and treatment of cancer. Our presence knows no boundaries, as we align ourselves with any number of organizations and institutions to service our neighbors and expanding communities however they may need us.

Good health makes things better.



 UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
Hospital & Health Sciences System
Cancer Center

Better. Leadership.



The University of Illinois Cancer Center is comprised of over 250 researchers, clinicians, faculty and staff. We work collaboratively across four campuses in Chicago, Urbana-Champaign, Rockford and Peoria, and across 11 disciplines of study. We are thinkers, innovators, risk-takers and generators of ideas. We are crossing boundaries of science and we are leading the way to a new generation of how cancer is screened, treated and prevented.

“The University of Illinois Cancer Center is creating one of the country’s first community focused Cancer Centers. Utilizing partnerships with community members and political leaders, we are creating a new model to address the cancer burdens found in our Chicago communities.” -

Robert Winn, MD,
Cancer Center Director



Better. Engagement.



The University of Illinois Cancer Center Community Engagement Team is committed to understanding our population and the cancer risks that they face. That means working with our aldermen, dissecting the wards of Chicago, and determining the types of screening and prevention programs that are best suited for each neighborhood. It also means finding the resources within our community, by participating in events, developing relationships and befriending local businesses and organizations that are willing to support their constituents in the hopes of building a healthier future. As we attempt to understand carcinogenesis via behavioral patterns and environmental influences, our access to the community is a constant feed of data. It is this data feed, what we call a **Bench to Backyard Model**, that is providing us with daily resolutions as to how we can best support the health and welfare of our neighbors.



Better. Science.



The University of Illinois Cancer Center is organized into four thematic research programs:

Population Health, Behavior and Outcomes. We are distinguished by our expertise in the health of underserved and ethnic minority populations. Our focus is on cancer prevention, cancer control and cancer survivorship.

Carcinogenesis and Chemoprevention. We explore the mechanisms of carcinogenesis, from initiation through promotion and proliferation, and chemoprevention. Our emphasis is on hormone-dependent cancers, such as breast, prostate, liver and oral cancers.

Cancer Targets and Therapeutics. Our concentration is on the development of novel therapeutics that target molecules critical to the survival of cancer cells, as well as to employ these targeted agents to devise innovative, state-of-the-art delivery and imaging technologies to treat tumors and to evaluate their response to therapy.

Cancer Biology. Here we delve into the mechanisms the underlie tumor development and progression, with a strong emphasis on the signaling proteins and pathways, and the gene regulators that are de-regulated in tumors.

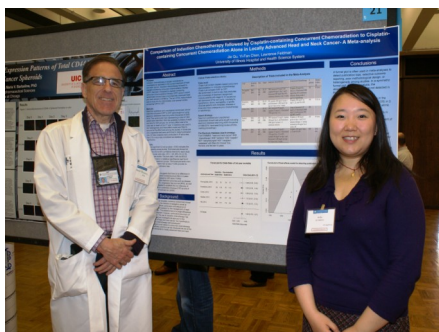


Better. Research.



The University of Illinois Cancer Center maintains a robust Clinical Trials Office, with over 100 trials running at any one time. Our team believes in putting the patient first, by ensuring that we present all available treatment options, including the possibility of participating in a clinical trial. Clinical trials are designed to answer specific questions and find better ways to prevent, diagnose and treat various diseases and conditions, including cancer. In the context of cancer, it is one of the final stages of a long and careful research process. The search for new treatments begins in the laboratory, where scientists first develop and test new ideas. These promising approaches are then tested, often in animals, to determine how they will affect cancer in a living being, and whether or not they will have harmful effects. Though treatments that are thriving in a lab are not always so in humans, the next step is to determine which treatments are safe and effective in humans and then have the potential to be successful.

Participation in a clinical trials ensures frequent monitoring and compassionate patient care, by a team that understands the research process and the patients' role in it. It also ensures that a patient is contributing to the betterment of cancer research, which does not go unrecognized. Because of clinical trials, people with cancer are living longer, healthier lives. Better research means better survival.



Better. Patient Care.

As an academic medical center, the University of Illinois Cancer Center provides state-of-the-art care, with access to the most updated treatments and technologies. We also provide compassionate care, giving our patients all of the comforts of home as they may need to stay in our facilities throughout their treatment. This includes services provided by our patient navigators, who may guide them through the proper channels of nutrition, self-care, financial assistance and transportation throughout their treatment. It also includes access to support networks, within our oncology services and through our external relationship with Imerman Angels 1-on-1 Cancer Support. Finally, we are a regional leader in cancer disparities, meaning that we recognize our local population's cancer risk factors and are doing exactly what is necessary to address those risks. We are looking deep into our communities, asking questions that matter, and then providing the resources needed to ensure that mammograms, colonoscopies, blood tests and anything else necessary is just a few steps away.



At the University of Illinois Cancer Center, we are advocates for our patients, and we believe that this starts before the patient walks in the door. From postcard and text reminders of cancer screenings, to free mammograms at Mile Square Health Center, to treatments for those who may have a cancer diagnosis, we are changing the way care is given to patients.