

A New Multidisciplinary Approach to Thoracic Cancers

We are proud to announce our new **Multidisciplinary Thoracic Oncology Program (MTOP)**, which coordinates the services of a team of physician experts and health care professionals to provide the most optimal care to patients with thoracic cancers.

Thoracic cancers remain a leading illness in New Jersey according to the Department of Health and Senior Services. As the complexity of thoracic cancer management grows, there is increasing evidence that a multidisciplinary focus is the best route to optimal care. A multidisciplinary approach involves a full team of medical experts including medical and radiation oncologists, surgeons, pathologists, pulmonologists, radiologists and other specialists.



Dr. Paul Bolanowski

Dr. Paul Bolanowski, board certified Chief of Thoracic Surgery and Director of the Trinitas Thoracic Oncology Program, championed the MTOP and led the implementation. "The entire thoracic oncology team at Trinitas is constantly searching for new ways to enhance quality care and services for our patients and the MTOP was a natural addition to the successful thoracic oncology tumor board that we started in 2008." Dr. Bolanowski now sees patients at the Cancer Center as part of the MTOP along with fellow thoracic surgeons Dr. Constantinos Lovoulos and Dr. Justin Sambol.

"The MTOP is open for participation to all thoracic surgeons and oncologists on staff at Trinitas and all are invited. The more physicians that are involved, the better the program is for patients," said Dr. Bolanowski.

"We offer patients the opportunity to see several experienced cancer specialists at one time, which results in better coordinated, faster, and more effective treatment decisions for patients with thoracic cancers," said Dr. Barry Levinson, Medical Director for Trinitas Comprehensive Cancer Center.

MTOP physicians meet once a week as a multidisciplinary group to discuss the diagnostic and treatment options for each patient. "Our primary goal is to provide the highest level of care for patients by creating an environment that facilitates real-time collaboration among physicians," said Dr. Clarissa Henson, Chair of Radiation Oncology, "The team approach ensures that all options are considered and that patient care is optimized."

In addition to the MTOP, thoracic oncology tumor boards are held monthly and several physician CME events covering emerging lung cancer research and therapies are presented throughout the year.

By combining the multidisciplinary approach with state-of-the-art care delivery, the Trinitas Comprehensive Cancer Center offers a brighter future for patients with thoracic cancers in Union County and beyond.

To refer a patient or to discuss a case with an oncologist, please call 908-994-8000.



Dr. Barry Levinson

Upcoming Professional Activities

Clinical Debates in Melanoma

September 15, 2010 at 6:00pm
Dr. Rene Gonzalez, University of Colorado, Denver
TCCC 3rd Floor, RSVP by Calling (908) 994-8706

Neuro-Oncology Symposium

September 21, 2010 at 6:00pm
Details to follow

Upcoming Tumor Boards

General Tumor Board

July 2, August 6, September 3
12 Noon, 8 South Conference Room
July 9, August 13, September 10
12 Noon, TCCC Conference Room A

Thoracic Tumor Board

June 25, July 23, August 27, September 24
12 Noon, TCCC Conference Room A

Breast Tumor Board

July 16, August 20, September 17
7:30am, PCR

Urology Tumor Board

July 30, 7:30am, TCCC Conference Room A

Support Groups and Lectures for Patients

Please RSVP for any of the groups by calling
Grisela Hidalgo, LCSW at (908) 994-8535.

"Living with Cancer" Support Group

(held the 2nd Tuesday of each month)
July 13, August 10, and September 14 from
2:00-4:00pm

"Viviendo con Cancer" Grupo de Apoyo

(dado el primer Martes de cada mes)
Julio 6, Agosto 3, Septiembre 7 • 2:00-4:00pm

Exploring Your Cancer Journey Through Art

With Monica Duque, Art Therapist
July 12th from 10:00-11:30am

Refreshing & Delicious Fruity Summer Smoothies With Cheryl Wachtel, RD

August 4th from 10:00am-12:00pm

September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. "Living with Prostate Cancer" Support Group

September 20, 2010 from 6:00-7:30pm
Facilitated by Dr. Brett Opell, Urologist
and Grisela Hidalgo, LCSW

As part of the Living with Cancer Support Group we will have an introductory presentation on "Healthy Juice Blends" by Cheryl Wachtel, Registered Dietitian followed by a Group Discussion on Prostate Health. Please contact Grisela Hidalgo, LCSW at 908-994-8535 to RSVP

Made for Me Boutique

Offers make-up assistance, wigs, mastectomy apparel and other accessories. July 8, August 5, and September 2, at 10:00am. For reservations call Amparo Aguirre at 908-994-8244

Trinitas CCC Contact Information

Main Number – Answered 24/7
908-994-8000

Administration
908-994-8735

Clinical Trials & Research
908-994-8539

Lab
908-994-8534

Medical Oncology &
Hematology – Exam
908-994-8753
Fax 908-994-8748

Medical Oncology &
Hematology – Infusion
908-994-8780
Fax : 908-994 8793

Nurses Station –
Medical Oncology
908-994-8786

Pharmacy
908-994-8789

Radiation Oncology
908-994-8727
Fax: 908-994-8725

Supportive Care Services:

Complementary
Medicine Services
908-994-8730

Genetic Counseling
908-994-8772

Nutrition Services
908-994-8736

Social Work
908-994-8535

Physicians

Dr. Barry Levinson
Medical Director
908-994-8772

Dr. Paul Bolanowski
Director, Thoracic Oncology Program
908-352-8110

Dr. Gerardo Capo
Medical Oncology & Hematology
908-994-8773

Dr. Clarissa Febles Henson
Chair of Radiation Oncology
908-994-8393

Dr. William Kessler
Medical Oncology & Hematology
908-994-8773

Dr. Brett Opell
Director, Prostate Cancer Program
908-289-3666

Dr. Vincent Salerno
Medical Oncology & Hematology
908-994-8774

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www.TrinitasCCC.org

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At Trinitas, Diagnostic and Treatment Options for Thoracic Oncology Patients Include the Following:

Diagnostic

- Chest X-rays
- Computed Tomography (CT) scans
- Positron Emission Tomography (PET)
- PET/CT
- CT Biopsy
- Mediastinoscopy
- Bronchoscopy
- Video-endoscopic Thoracoscopy

Surgery

- For Lung, Tracheal, and Chest Wall Tumors

Radiation Therapy

- Neo-adjuvant and Adjuvant Radiation Therapy
- Image-Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT)
- Intensity-Modulated Radiotherapy (IMRT)
- Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy (SBRT)
- Combined modality Radiation and Chemotherapy

Chemotherapy

- Neo-adjuvant and adjuvant chemotherapy
- New targeted therapies

Clinical Research Trials

- May be offered for first line or follow up



Dr. Clarissa Henson

New Clinical Trial for Patients with Advanced Lung Cancer

Trinitas Cancer Center is participating in a multi-center, open label study of cetuximab, a monoclonal antibody and epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) inhibitor, in combination with platinum-based chemotherapy as first line treatment of patients with recurrent or advanced non-small cell lung cancer. The primary objective of this trial is to evaluate overall survival with three different regimens of chemotherapy and cetuximab. Safety, 1-year survival, and biomarker status will also be examined across treatment groups. Dr. Vincent Salerno, the Trinitas Cancer Center Principal Investigator for this study, states that, "It's important that our patients have the opportunity to participate in controlled clinical trials that explore advances in cancer cell biology. We chose this study over several others as the best for our patients and I am very excited to be the Principal Investigator. This clinical study also ties in perfectly with our new multi-disciplinary thoracic oncology program." For more information, please contact Dr. Vincent Salerno at 908-994-8774 or Maria Serrano, Research Manager, at 908-994-8539.

Did You Know?

Dr. Paul Bolanowski, board certified Chief of Thoracic Surgery at Trinitas Regional Medical Center and director of the Thoracic Oncology Program at Trinitas CCC, now leads the new MTOP Program. Dr. Bolanowski is a graduate of University of Medicine and Dentistry/New Jersey Medical School, and is board certified in both General and Cardiothoracic Surgery. When Dr. Bolanowski is not performing surgery, he can be found behind a camera lens. In fact, two of his outstanding photos are featured in this newsletter. The photo on the front page is of the Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming and the photo to the left is of a stunning water lily from his backyard.

