Breast Care Center

Stony Brook’s Breast Care Program is the only comprehensive academic program of its kind on Long Island. The program champions the multidisciplinary approach and continues to grow at a rapid pace, now caring for an estimated 300 to 400 new patients with breast cancer each year. Newly diagnosed patients are presented and discussed at a weekly treatment planning conference attended by cancer specialists, offering critical multidisciplinary consultative input to this complex disease.

The Carol M. Baldwin Breast Care Center plays a pivotal role in providing key services. Breast imaging specialists perform more than 8,000 mammograms and 2,000 sonograms each year. The center, the first on Long Island to offer digital mammography, has two digital mammography machines and a specialized R-2 computerized mammogram double-checker. Breast imaging specialists are experienced in image-guided biopsy procedures, including stereotactic mammotome biopsies and ultrasound-guided core biopsies. The center is the only one in Suffolk County, and one of the few in the metropolitan region that offers MRI-guided biopsies.

Breast surgeons are available for evaluations and consultations. Radiation therapy consultation is also offered. And, while lumpectomy is the preferred option for women with breast cancer, expertise in breast reconstruction is available when needed. Breast cancer support groups and community outreach programs are coordinated through the center.

Medical oncologists provide long-term care to patients with breast cancer after surgery. They utilize novel chemotherapeutic regimens capable of dramatically improving survival. New combinations of established drugs are being studied to establish the “standard regimens” of tomorrow. In addition, oncologists provide a valuable resource by making available phase II experimental agents under study for patients with resistant tumors.

A highly specialized genetic counselor offers consultation and support for women considering genetic testing for inheritable breast cancer. A comprehensive, highly specialized lymphedema evaluation and treatment program is offered through the Department of Physical Therapy.

In addition to clinical research projects, critical basic science research is carried out at Stony Brook University Hospital and at Cold Spring Harbor and Brookhaven National Laboratories to gain a deeper understanding of the biology of breast cancer and to develop novel breast cancer treatments. This cutting-edge basic science research and its direct link to clinical cancer care gives Stony Brook University Hospital breast cancer specialists access to the most advanced breast cancer treatment available anywhere.

Gynecologic Oncology

The gynecologic cancers arise in the ovary, uterus (endometrium), cervix, vulva and vagina, as well as in the peritoneum and fallopian tubes. Together, these cancers account for 3.3 percent of the new cancers affecting women annually in the US. Although substantial strides have been achieved, the gynecologic cancers still account for 10 percent of cancer deaths annually in women.

The Division of Gynecologic Oncology is the only academic subspecialty gynecologic oncology practice in Suffolk County. The division members have three overlapping goals: to provide comprehensive multidisciplinary care for women with known or suspected gynecologic cancers, as well as those with complicated gynecologic surgical and selected pre-invasive conditions; to conduct research into the development and treatment of gynecologic cancers; and to educate healthcare professionals and the public about gynecologic cancers and pre-cancerous conditions.

The Division of Gynecologic Oncology provides complete care for women with gynecologic malignancies. In 2004, there were 6,485 office visits and 1,313 new patients. Because the division is directly involved with all aspects of patient care, a long-term relationship may be established. This relationship provides superb continuity of care and avoids many of the potential problems associated with fragmented care.

The physicians perform all surgical procedures necessary to treat gynecologic cancer or its complications, including radical pelvic and exenterative, gastrointestinal, urological and reconstructive plastic surgery. In 2004, the division performed 777 surgical procedures (506 major and 271 minor procedures). Patients who require surgery are given a packet of educational material to assist them with preparing for surgery. A library of books and videotapes are available for patients and their families to review.
# Professional Education in Cancer Care

## DATE | TITLE OF LECTURE/CONFERENCE | PRESENTING DEPARTMENT
--- | --- | ---
Nov. 6, 2004 | Hand Assisted Laparoscopic Colon and Rectal Surgery Workshop | Surgery
Jan. 12, 2005 | Epidemiology of Gynecologic Cancers | Obstetrics/Gynecology
Jan. 12, 2005 | Benign Lesions of the Breast | Pathology
Jan. 12, 2005 | BR Applications in Oncology | Radiology
Jan. 20, 2005 | Renal Masses in Childhood | Radiology
Jan. 25, 2005 | Genetics of Gynecologic Cancers | Obstetrics/Gynecology
Jan. 26, 2005 | Minimal Residual Disease Studies in Acute Leukemia | Pathology
Feb. 2, 2005 | Visiting Professor Lecture Series in Radiation Oncology | Radiation Oncology
Feb. 9, 2005 | Radiation Effects in Normal Tissues: The New Formalism | Radiation Oncology/Medical Physics
Feb. 9, 2005 | Mucinous Tumors of the Ovary | Pathology
Feb. 23, 2005 | Premalignant Conditions in Gynecologic Oncology | Obstetrics/Gynecology
March 2, 2005 | Endometrial Cancers | Obstetrics/Gynecology
March 16, 2005 | Epithelial Ovarian and Fallopian Tube Cancer | Obstetrics/Gynecology
March 19, 2005 | Urology Symposium | Urology
March 23, 2005 | Cancer During Pregnancy | Obstetrics/Gynecology
March 30, 2005 | Anaysis of_soft Tissue Tumors | Pathology
April 6, 2005 | Hand Assisted Laparoscopic Colon and Rectal Surgery Workshop | Surgery
April 6, 2005 | Radiation Oncology/Medical Physics | Radiation Oncology
April 13, 2005 | Treatment of Laryngeal Cancer | Otolaryngology
May 4, 2005 | Visiting Professor Lecture Series in Radiation Oncology | Radiation Oncology
May 11, 2005 | Benign Disorders of the Larynx | Otolaryngology
May 18, 2005 | Radiation and Cancer | Pathology
May 22, 2005 | Hand Assisted Laparoscopic Colon and Rectal Surgery Workshop | Surgery
June 1, 2005 | Lessons from Childhood Cancer | Radiation Oncology/Medical Physics
June 1, 2005 | Visiting Professor Lecture Series in Radiation Oncology | Radiation Oncology
June 2, 2005 | Skin Cancer (31st Annual Family Medicine Update) | Family Medicine
June 2, 2005 | Skin Biopsy (31st Annual Family Medicine Update) | Family Medicine
June 26, 2005 | Laparoscopic Workshop | Urology
June 28, 2005 | The Thin Prep Pap Test Challenge | Pathology

### Breast Cancer

Breast cancer is the most common cancer seen in female patients with cancer at Stony Brook University Hospital annually, exceeding other female cancer sites by a significant percentage. Breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in women. An estimated 211,240 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women in the US in 2005 according to the American Cancer Society’s 2005 report.

There were 427 cases of breast cancer first encountered at Stony Brook University Hospital (SBUH) in 2004. Of those, 352 were first diagnosed and/or received their first course of treatment at Stony Brook. Seventy-four were first seen with recurrence or re-treatment. We compared 2004 new breast cancer patients with breast cancer patients first seen at the hospital in 2003, and with National Cancer Data Base (NCDB) benchmark data on patient characteristics at the time of diagnosis, including age, stage, and ethnicity. We also looked at the type of surgery received in the first course of treatment. Overall the patient population at Stony Brook is similar to that from the NCDB.

Greater than half were first diagnosed at an early stage, 24% in-situ and 37% Stage 1, compared to the NCDB benchmark of 17% and 40%. This reflects the emphasis on screening mammography for early diagnosis in patient and community education.

Modalities utilized most frequently in the management of breast cancer are surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy and hormone therapy. Multidisciplinary management and breast conservation surgery are a priority at the Stony Brook University Hospital Breast Care Center.

Seventy-four percent of our patients diagnosed with breast cancer have undergone breast preservation as an alternative to mastectomy, and were treated with multidisciplinary conservative management in 2004. Our current lifetime patient follow-up rate for outcome evaluation is 92% successful. Five-year survival at SBUH remains excellent at 93% vs. the 78% NCDB benchmark.

#### Site-Specific Reports

| AGE AT DIAGNOSIS | Female Breast Cancer
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Survey prepared by Brian O’Shea, MD, Surgical Oncology, director, Breast Care Center; and Vencire Kelly, CTR, Cancer Registry Department.
Cancer Care at Stony Brook University Hospital