

# 2016 Leavey Cancer Center Annual Report

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*for the year 2015*



**Dignity Health**<sup>TM</sup>

Northridge Hospital  
Medical Center

# Greetings from the Medical Director & Chairman

The expanded award-winning Thomas & Dorothy Leavey Cancer Center boasts the most comprehensive, technologically advanced treatments in the Valley. We are the first to offer the most sophisticated cancer fighting equipment, including:

- da Vinci Single Incision Robotic-Assisted Surgery
- Trilogy Stereotactic Radiation Therapy

In addition, the Harold & Carole Pump Department of Radiation Oncology offers state-of-the-art high dose radiation treatments that avoid damaging healthy tissue and successfully treat all stages of cancer. Many cancer physicians at Dignity Health - Northridge Hospital are affiliated with UCLA, giving us a wide range of clinical expertise and cancer-fighting know-how.

We offer the most appropriate treatments for:

- Brain & Spine Cancer
- Breast Cancer
- Colorectal Cancer
- Gynecology Cancer
- Liver & Pancreatic Cancer
- Lung Cancer
- Lymphoma & Leukemia
- Prostate Cancer
- Skin Cancer

To foster a healing environment, the Center features a meditation garden and sanctuaries for rest and reflection. We also offer entertainment, technology, iPods and Wi-Fi access. Patients also have access to:

- Personal Navigators for guidance
- Massage Therapy
- Spiritual Care Support

This 2016 annual report is a product of the efforts of many professionals who have contributed their expertise and energy to the improvement of cancer care in our community and is based on 2015 statistical data. Please enjoy this comprehensive report and feel free to contact us for more information on cancer services for you or your patients.

Sincerely,



  
Boris Bagdasarian, DO  
Medical Director  
Thomas & Dorothy Leavey  
Cancer Center



  
Afshin Safa, MD  
Chairman, Cancer Committee  
Medical Director  
Radiation Oncology

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## Awards & Accreditations

The Leavey Cancer Center has earned two esteemed accreditations from the Association of Community Cancer Centers and the American College of Surgeons. Only 25 percent of hospitals nationwide have received the prestigious American College of Surgeons accreditation.



Dignity Health - Northridge Hospital has earned the National Gold Seal of Approval from The Joint Commission.



Ranked One of America's Top 100 Hospitals by Healthgrades 2 Years in a Row.

## Our Mission

Dignity Health - Northridge Hospital Medical Center is dedicated to developing healthier communities by assuring access and facilitating compassionate quality healthcare service with a commitment to clinical and service excellence provided by caring professionals who respect the dignity of each individual.

## Our Core Values:

Dignity, Collaboration, Justice, Stewardship and Excellence



# Promising Advances in Breast Cancer



Ronald Tang, DO

Breast cancer continues to be the most common cancer diagnosis for women, which is demonstrated by 240,000 new cases of breast cancer diagnosed in the U.S. so far in 2016. This amounts to 14% of all new cancer cases. Although breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer, the medical community has made excellent progress in preventing breast cancer deaths as breast cancer only accounts for 6.8% of all cancer deaths to date in 2016. It was estimated from 2006-2012 that 89.7% of breast cancer patients were alive at the five-year mark since diagnosis.

## Breast Cancer Screening, Prevention, and Genetic Syndromes

The most important factor in preventing breast cancer death is early detection through screening mammography. There has been recent controversy between the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) and the American Cancer Society (ACS) on screening in

terms of age to begin screening and how often mammography should be performed. From a medical oncologist standpoint, I support more conservative guidelines emphasizing more frequent screening at an earlier age, which coincides with ACS guidelines. The ACS urges women to start mammograms between the ages of 40-45 and recommends annual screening between ages of 45-54 and then it would be acceptable to wait two years between screenings after this age if all previous mammograms were normal. Screening mammography can stop at age 75.

In terms of patient anxiety in regards to radiation exposure from mammography, the exposure is minimal. The amount of radiation from one mammogram is equivalent to a roundtrip flight on an airplane from Houston to Paris. Furthermore, it takes 100 mammograms to equal the amount of radiation in one CT scan. With consistent screening through mammography, breast cancer death has continued to decrease for the past 20 years.

If an individual has a significant family history of one or more first-degree relatives with breast, ovarian or peritoneal cancer, then screening for *BRCA1/2* mutations should be considered. Although the *BRCA1/2* mutation is

uncommon as only 1 in 400 women have the mutation, patients with mutation have a 45-65% risk of developing breast cancer by age 70. Furthermore, a patient has a 40% risk of developing ovarian cancer by age 70. Therefore, patients who test positive for *BRCA1/2* should consider bilateral mastectomy and total abdominal hysterectomy with bilateral oophorectomy, which is the only treatment to reduce cancer risk. Genetic counseling and discussion with a local medical oncologist is highly advised before deciding on surgery.

## Hormone Receptor Positive Breast Cancer

The current trend in the field of oncology is personalized treatment for cancer patients through the development and advances of genomic sequencing and molecular biology. However, it must be noted that breast cancer was the first cancer to be treated on a “personalized” basis as breast cancer has three distinct receptors that can be targeted for treatment: estrogen receptor, progesterone receptor and her2neu mutation. If breast cancer patients have any of the above receptors, they would receive treatment to block these receptors. In a sense, the tumor would stop receiving growth signals and die. In hormone receptor positive breast cancer, after a combination of standard surgery, radiation and chemotherapy,

patients are placed on estrogen blockers such as tamoxifen or arimidex in the adjuvant setting to prevent the recurrence of breast cancer. Previous studies have shown that a five-year course of hormonal blockade was appropriate in preventing the recurrence of breast cancer. However, two new studies released in the past two years have demonstrated that a 10-year course has improved outcomes over the previous standard five-year course. The ATLAS study published in *Lancet Oncology* in 2013 showed that patients who took tamoxifen for 10 years had improved survival and a decrease in recurrence rate. Furthermore, the MA17R study also showed improved survival and decrease in breast cancer recurrence rates with usage of arimidex for 10 years compared to five years. This new data is exciting as it demonstrates that patients can benefit from hormonal blockade for a longer period of time, thus, improving their breast cancer survivorship.

## Her2neu Amplified Breast Cancer

*Her2neu* amplified breast cancer has come a long way since Dr. Dennis Slamon's first clinical trials at UCLA in 1992. Those trials used the game changing medication, herceptin, which revolutionized cancer care in this category. Prior to Dr. Slamon's

landmark clinical trial, patients with *Her2neu* amplified breast cancer had a dismal overall survival and many patients died with metastatic disease. After the FDA approval of herceptin in 1998, patients had dramatic responses, and now many patients live just as long as their hormone receptor positive breast cancer counterparts. In 2012, pertuzumab, which is a second generation antibody against *Her2neu*, was developed and the combination of pertuzumab and herceptin has further changed the landscape of this disease where patients are seeing immediate benefit both in the neoadjuvant as well as metastatic setting. The combination therapy was first published as the CLEOPATRA study in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in 2012.

In conclusion, there are many new and exciting drugs in the field of oncology that are curing breast cancer patients and increasing survivorship in breast cancer. Vice President Joe Biden's Moonshot Initiative has also put cancer research on the forefront and hopefully more targeted therapies with minimal side effects along with methods of early cancer detection will make cancer a disease of the past.



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# Breast Cancer Survivor & Do-It-All Mom

Working moms juggle a heavy load—homework, practices, games, grocery shopping, laundry—oh, and let’s not forget the 9-to-5. Add breast cancer into the mix, and it can get overwhelming. Social worker and mother of three Marta Blum, MSW, knows the battle all too well—she’s fought it twice.

At 18 years old, Marta lost her mother to cancer and decided to get extensive genetic testing. She tested positive for BRCA 1 (BReast CAncer gene). “BRCA 1 and BRCA 2 are hereditary genes that carry an increased risk for ovarian cancer, breast cancer and possibly other cancers as well,” explains **Ronald Tang, DO, Hematologist/Medical Oncologist**. “Recommended treatments include a mastectomy and partial hysterectomy.”

However, Marta chose to marry, gain two stepdaughters and have a baby before pursuing the prescribed course of action. Just prior to her daughter Ella’s first birthday, she was diagnosed with breast cancer. She underwent a double mastectomy with reconstruction, a partial hysterectomy and chemotherapy treatment. All along, Marta continued working and caring for her children.

After her first bout with breast cancer, Marta remained in remission for four years. Following a recent recurrence, she underwent a lumpectomy, radiation with the Trilogy Stereotactic Radiation Therapy and chemotherapy at the Leavey Cancer Center. “On a scale of 1 to 10, my care was a 10,” she shares. “The doctors are amazing, and I love the staff.”

As an added therapeutic touch, Marta received free massages during treatment, compliments of the Angie’s Spa Cancer Foundation. “The massages were wonderful,” recalls Marta. “They definitely made it easier to come for treatment.”

Today, she is cancer-free. Through it all, Marta kept up with her daughters’ busy schedules and established a support group especially for moms with cancer ([www.MommysWithCancer.org](http://www.MommysWithCancer.org)). “We meet at my home monthly to give one another strength and hope—all while our children play in the backyard,” she describes.



*Marta Blum remained active with her daughter Ella throughout her second battle with breast cancer*

# Carole Pump Women's Center

The newly remodeled Carole Pump Women's Center has expanded to offer women the most advanced diagnostic and treatment services at every stage of life from reproductive to menopausal years.

Our woman-sensitive approach to treatment is provided in a supportive, healing environment. Women receive personalized care from a new team of female OB-GYNs.



*Women treat women at the Center: (l-r) OB-GYNs Lisbeth Chang, MD, Neda Ballon-Reyes, MD, and Green Hsueh, MD*

The Women's Center offers **digital mammography** allowing for shorter exam times and faster results. This technology surpasses conventional film-based systems because radiologists can zoom in to view a refined detailed image. This greatly decreases the need for retakes and reduces patients' exposure to X-rays.

## Online Mammogram Scheduling

In 2015, Northridge Hospital introduced online mammogram scheduling via InQuicker\* to promote early detection of breast cancer. Women simply log onto [dignityhealth.org/northridgehospital](http://dignityhealth.org/northridgehospital), click on the InQuicker link and schedule a mammogram at a time that is convenient for them.

## We also offer:

- Annual Wellness Exams
- Breast Health
- Digital Mammography
- Pregnancy and Gynecological Ultrasound
- Prenatal and High-Risk Pregnancy Care
- Board Certified OB Hospitalists Onsite 24-hours-a-day

Women's Choice Award® as one of America's Best Hospitals for Patient Safety



Dignity Health – Northridge Hospital has received the 2016 Women's Choice Award® as one of America's Best Hospitals for Patient Safety. This evidence-based designation is the only patient safety award that identifies the country's best healthcare institutions based on robust criteria that considers female patient satisfaction and clinical excellence.

- Childbirth Education Classes
- Gynecologic Care
- Cancer Screening
- Osteoporosis Screening
- Hormone Therapy

## Top Technology

To successfully treat female cancers, we offer an impressive variety of advanced radiation technology that precisely delivers high doses of radiation while sparing healthy tissue.

- Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)
- Image Guided Radiation Treatment (IGRT)

For gynecological cancer, we also offer **da Vinci Si (Single Incision) Robotic-Assisted Surgery**. It helps physicians perform precise and accurate laparoscopic surgery through incisions the size of a dime.

*\*InQuicker should not be used for lifethreatening emergencies or children under the age of three. Call 911 immediately for more serious conditions.*

# Breast Cancer's Guardian Angels

They say a cancer diagnosis can bring a new perspective on life. Just ask Youlia Sempertegui. “After a while, I was okay that cancer happened to me,” she says. “It brought me so much positivity and kindness. It gave me a second chance at life and to hear my children laugh.”

In April 2014, Youlia was diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer after her primary physician felt a lump during a routine physical. According to the American Cancer Society, stage 3 breast cancer has a five-year survival rate of 72 percent.

“When I first found out, I was shocked and crying,” she recalls. “My life flashed in front of me. But I knew I had to save my children from growing up without a mother.”

Youlia's treatment was aggressive: a double mastectomy, 16 chemotherapy treatments and Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy with **Afshin Safa, MD, Radiation Oncologist**.

“There were times I didn't think I could make it through,” Youlia remembers. “But the Leavey Cancer Center doctors and staff are my guardian angels—they helped me through it.”

Youlia had recently started a new job as a banker, and she didn't have much time off accrued. So her friends pitched in. They drove her to treatment sessions, took her kids to sports activities (including a three-day breast cancer run/walk), cooked the family's meals and helped care for Youlia's mother, who lives with her.

For additional emotional support, Youlia joined Northridge Hospital's Breast Cancer Support Group where she was considered the baby of the group among 10- and 15-year survivors. “They helped me

heal and became my sisters,” she says. “We're not related by blood, but by cancer.”



*Youlia's friends sent her and her family on a vacation to Maui following her treatment for breast cancer*

Six months after her diagnosis, good news came: Youlia was in remission. But there was another setback: She tested positive for a BRCA gene, which increased her risk for ovarian cancer as well. She chose to have her ovaries removed.

Her friends didn't miss a beat. They bought her a gym membership and paid for her family to vacation in Maui. “It's been amazing,” she says. “We need all of the love and support we can get, and that's what my friends did for me. They kept me alive, and I'm forever grateful.”

# Cancer Center Staff Teams Up to Match Massage Grant



## Massage for Cancer Patients

The Angie's Spa Cancer Foundation is named after Angie Levy, a young cancer patient who succumbed

to her disease after a decade-long battle. The organization provides free in-hospital massages for patients undergoing chemotherapy, radiation and surgery at the Leavey Cancer Center. The massages are proven to decrease stress and alleviate some side effects of treatment.

Northridge Hospital is privileged to be one of only six hospitals in the nation selected by the Angie's Spa Cancer Foundation to receive funding to provide free in-hospital massages.



In 2015, the Northridge Hospital Foundation

received a continuing grant of \$36,000 from Angie's Spa. In addition, Angie's Spa provided a Matching Grant of up to \$2,000. A Matching Grant is a gift made with the specification that the amount donated must be matched by the organization.



Motivated by this challenge, the Leavey Cancer Center Staff and patients held a bake sale to raise matching funds totaling \$1,900. We also received a grant from the Sidney Stern Memorial Trust for \$5,000, the Vons Foundation gave \$2,500 and we were given other private donations and tributes totaling \$1,700. This ensured that Northridge Hospital exceeded the challenge by raising \$11,100 for a combined total of \$49,100, enough to fund 1,964 patient massages.

# Progressive Treatment Options

## daVinci Si Robotic Surgical System

The more refined da Vinci Si (Single incision) Robotic Surgical System allows physicians to perform a hysterectomy or a gallbladder removal (cholecystectomy) through one small incision in the bellybutton. da Vinci Si also allows physicians to perform prostatectomy and other urological and gynecological procedures through a few incisions the size of a dime. da Vinci Si's enhanced high-definition 3D vision and unparalleled precision enables surgeons to maneuver and control instruments in ways not humanly possible, which increases accuracy. Patient advantages include a shorter hospitalization, reduced pain, less scarring and a faster recovery.



*Green Hsueh, MD, Gynecology, with the daVinci Si (Single incision) Robotic Surgical System*

## Trilogy Linear Accelerator Stereotactic System

For image-guided radiation therapy and stereotactic radiosurgery, the Trilogy can treat cancer anywhere in the body by delivering a dose of radiation with pinpoint accuracy, resulting in completing treatment in 3 to 5 sessions.



*Afshin Safa, MD, Radiation Oncologist, with the Trilogy*

## Precise Radiation Therapy, including:

- Image Guided Radiation Therapy
- Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)
- Brachytherapy
- Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy

## BrainLAB Image-guided Navigation System

The Brain LAB is used for delicate surgery of head and neck cancers. The technology is similar to a vehicle's GPS system. It helps physicians prior to and during surgery to navigate the spine and brain with greater accuracy.



## Chemotherapy

Innovative multimodality therapies offer patients the latest approaches, while minimizing side effects. We offer the most advanced methods of chemotherapy and hormonal therapy treatment in a



comfortable lounge or infusion suites equipped with iPods and Wi-Fi for laptop access. For added patient convenience, we are in the process of increasing the number of infusion chairs from 13 to a total of 20, adding one private treatment room for higher acuity patients, an additional restroom and nutrition room, and increased chair space. Plus, physician offices will be redesigned with better patient access.

## Advanced imaging services include:

- PET/CT
- Digital Mammography
- 64-Slice CT
- Triphasic CT scanning
- Angiography

## Pathology and Laboratory

The treatment of all cancer patients begins in the Pathology Department at Northridge Hospital. The pathologists are highly trained professionals with education from City of Hope, UCLA and USC. Through the gross and microscopic examination of specimens and tissue from patients at Northridge Hospital, the pathologists determine the exact type and stage of all cancers. A careful and detailed report is written about each patient's specimen. This is communicated to the surgeons and oncologists so that a personalized treatment plan can be tailor made. This often involves the use of specialized molecular testing as well.

## Promising Skin Cancer Treatment

The Harold & Carole Pump Department of Radiation Oncology offers the Leipzig Applicator—a new noninvasive treatment for skin cancer that can treat sites, which were previously difficult to treat with external beam treatments. High Dose Rate (HDR) Brachytherapy is used to treat superficial skin cancers in just eight treatments during a three-week period. Each of these non-invasive treatments last less than 10 minutes and is very well tolerated with minimal side effects.



# Supportive Services

## Chronic Disease Transitional Care -

Patients with chronic illnesses are supported from admission throughout the hospital stay and after discharge by a compassionate team—including the physician medical director, nurse practitioners, social workers and clinical pharmacists.

For cancer patients, J. Gary Davidson, MD, is among the team that

addresses physical, emotional, social, palliative and spiritual needs of patients/care partners. An individualized plan of care includes a home visit and follow up phone calls for at least 30 - 90 days, helping to ensure follow up with physicians as well as appropriate use of medications and patient/family education regarding disease processes.



*Jeremy Grosser, MD,  
Medical Director  
Chronic Disease Transitional Care*

**Chapel** - A nurturing and peaceful place for silence, reflection or prayer.

**Electronic Health Records** - Dignity Health - Northridge Hospital uses the Cerner electronic health record (EHR) system. Our EHR represents a framework for standardizing best medical practices across Dignity Health to empower medical practitioners to optimize patient care. In addition, the Medical Radiation and Surgical Oncology Departments are film-free and paper-free.

**Learning Library** - Located in the Cancer Center Lobby, free information is provided on a wide range of cancer topics.

**Healing Garden** - A relaxing place for patients and visitors to sit and enjoy nature.



**Look Good, Feel Better** - Classes to enhance cancer patients' appearance with make-up and wigs are coordinated by the American Cancer Society

**Massage Therapy** - Angie's Spa provides free in-hospital massages for cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, radiation and surgery.



**Nutritional Counseling** - Patients learn to optimize nutrition to repair the effects of cancer treatments.

**Pain Program** - Ensures that patients who have pain are identified and treated quickly and effectively.

**Pet Therapy** - Special therapy dogs visit patients to help reduce stress.



**Social Services** - Addresses the unique needs of cancer patients beyond their physical concerns to include psychosocial, psychological and social support.

**Spiritual Care** - Honors patients' faith, beliefs and values and provides spiritual support to ease the stress of coping with cancer.

**Support Groups and Cancer Education** - Opportunities to share and learn from others in similar situations.

- **Breast Cancer Support Group**
- **Cancer Education Classes**
- **Bereavement Program** - Supports patients and families through a compassionate, multi-faith Spiritual Care Program.

**Partnerships with outstanding organizations:**

- **American Cancer Society** - Collaborates with the Leavey Cancer Center to provide free additional supportive services, education and assistance to our patients.
- **Wellness Community** - Offers a free professional program of emotional support, education and hope.



**Celebrating Survivorship** - Follow-up care and the transition from active treatment to post-treatment care is critical to the long-term health of survivors. Therefore, with funding from the Hearst Foundation and the Harold and Carole Pump Foundation, the Leavey Cancer Center purchased specialized survivor software. This program is now fully operational.

**Key Survivor Care Software Features** -

- Clinical knowledge base that models industry guidelines for cancer survivorship.
- Productivity tools that give clinical staff more time to focus on providing care to survivors.
- Web-based portal that links each survivor to their care team.

# Navigator Program

Navigator Programs are nationally recognized for increasing a cancer patient's chances for survival and quality of life. Northridge Hospital's patient-focused therapy begins with diagnosis and continues through treatment, remission and beyond. This is demonstrated by a total net community benefit for the Cancer Center of \$229,326 for Calendar Year 2015 that provided educational activities, free mammogram screenings, support groups and patient assistance. In 2006, the Leavey Cancer Center implemented the Navigator Program through a grant from the Avon Foundation for Women and began the Navigator Outreach Program with generous funding from the Harold & Carole Pump Foundation. It encompasses:

**Harold & Carole Pump Foundation -** Sponsored "Reaching Out" Screening Fairs - These events provide free mammograms for those who are uninsured.

**Patient Advocate/Librarian -** A part-time, bilingual Patient Advocate assists the Outreach Navigator with both outreach and inpatient needs, including assistance with transportation and home health issues. Moreover, the Patient Advocate assumes the role of Librarian, helping patients and families at the Cancer Center Library.

**Navigator Program Community Outreach -** The goal of this program is to educate the community about cancer in general, ways to decrease risk factors and specific cancer screening guidelines. The Outreach staff also alleviates barriers to care by enrolling those who are uninsured into the free mammogram screening program and providing assistance with obtaining health insurance. This program is also funded by the Leavey Cancer Center and the Harold & Carole Pump Foundation.



*Clinical Navigators personally guide patients through treatment*

**Community Group Outreach -** This program has increased cancer awareness for 7,482 individuals in 95 different community groups. Guardian Angel Church members, Vaughn School-based Clinic clients and the M.E.N.D. Community Center comprise a few of the community groups educated.

**School Wellness -** The Navigator Program has partnered with Northridge Hospital's School Wellness Initiative to educate parents of the program's students on screening guidelines and how to decrease cancer risk factors.





*The Avon Foundation for Women awarded a \$100,000 grant in 2015 for Our Navigator Program. This is the 8th grant received from the organization*

**Support Groups** – The Navigator Program provides a professional liaison for the cancer support groups at the hospital, which include Breast Cancer and Trigeminal Neuralgia. Approximately 20 patients attend per session.



**Clinical Navigator** - This is the patient’s point-of-contact concierge for any issues or questions. As a resource for each patient’s unique needs during treatment, patients can rely on their Navigator whose role is to ensure a smooth transition among all hospital services by assisting with:

- Coordination of patient appointments with other specialists.
- Acquainting patients with all of our services including our Oncology Unit, Thomas & Dorothy Leavey Cancer Center and the Carole Pump Women’s Center.
- Pre-and post-operative surgery education.
- Connecting patients and families with psychosocial support and groups, classes and programs.
- Enrolling patients in the Hospital’s comprehensive Patient Orientation Program, “Navigating Through Your Cancer Journey.”

**Oncology Welcome Packages** - At their initial consult, patients receive a package designed to ease anxiety and provide comfort for common treatment side effects.



# Honoring Their Memory by Raising Money to Fight Cancer



*David, Carole & Dana Pump*

*Harold & Carole Pump*  
FOUNDATION

The Harold & Carole Pump Foundation (H&CPF) honors a beloved father who lost his battle with cancer in 2000 and a loving mother who passed away in 2012. Using their unique relationship-building talents and skills, their sons Dana and David Pump, working with Northridge Hospital Foundation, have raised more than \$7.5 million for the Carole Pump Women's Center, the Harold and Carole Pump Department of Radiation Oncology, and the Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Cancer Center at Northridge Hospital and other non-profit community charities.

The mission of the Harold & Carole Pump Foundation is to raise funds and create awareness for the treatment and cure of cancer. By engaging the community, sports leaders, and those touched by the disease, financial support is given to develop cancer treatments, programs and services and to obtain the most advanced medical technologies.



*The Harold & Carole Pump Celebrity Golf Tournament and Dinner*

*Dave Winfield accepting the Lifetime Achievement Award (L-R) Doug Gottlieb, Graig Nettles, Dave Winfield, Ozzie Smith, Ricky Henderson, Phil Niekro, Dana Pump, Eddie Murray, David Pump and Chris Spencer*

## Education Saves Lives

The Outreach Program's staff attended 95 community events and educated 7,482 people on cancer awareness in 2015. This education was provided in English and Spanish. Northridge Hospital and the H&CPF partnered with several community organizations to provide the vital outreach services listed below.

### Harold & Carole Pump Foundation-Sponsored "Reaching Out" Screening Fairs

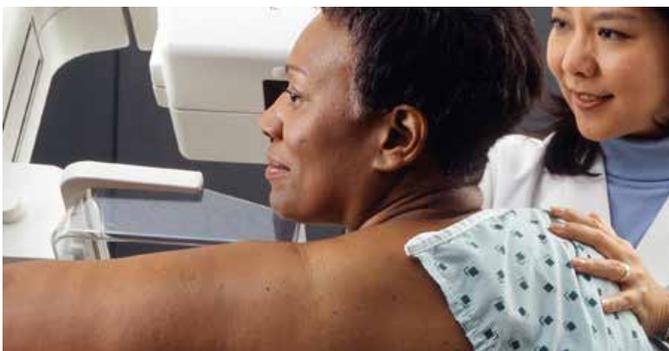
Educating community members about cancer prevention and early detection is vital to their health and can save lives.

Thanks to the generosity of the Harold & Carole Pump Foundation, the Carole Pump Women's Center hosted 12 free health fairs for the uninsured in our community. "Reaching Out Health Fairs" attract hundreds of people who receive free breast evaluations and screenings. Since prevention is key, attendees also learn how to decrease their chances of a cancer diagnosis.

In 2015, the Harold & Carole Pump Foundation provided 507 people with 585 free health screenings. Of the 507 free mammograms, three resulted in positive breast cancer diagnoses.

In addition, the following free services were also provided to women who needed further testing:

- 23 diagnostic mammograms
- 39 ultrasounds
- 8 ultrasound needle placements
- 7 biopsies
- 1 aspiration



### Family Plan – Support, Comfort and Home Health

The Family Plan Fund assists patients and their families with payment for services or equipment needs. Patients who are hospitalized or at home with a cancer diagnosis face many difficult hours filled with painful treatments, unpleasant side effects, invasive tests, and much uncertainty. This



is interspersed with periods of boredom, depression and fatigue – making it a very difficult time for the patient and their families.

### Patient Home Aid

Provides funding for home care to families who wish to discharge their loved one and continue their care in the comfort of their own home. Sponsored by H&CPF's Family Fund, this program provided nearly 1,096 hours of service in 2015.

### Transportation

For those lacking transportation to-and-from medical appointments and the Leavey Cancer Center, 2,359 rides were provided.

### Advanced Technology

The Endoscopic Video System purchased by the H&CPF is used for minimally invasive endoscopic procedures, which are far more beneficial to the patient than traditional open surgical approaches.

# 2015 Primary Site Table

SITE GROUP	ANALYTIC	NON-ANALYTIC	ALL CASES	% ALL CASES
TONGUE	4	0	4	1.0%
SALIVARY GLANDS, MAJOR	1	0	1	0.2%
FLOOR OF MOUTH	1	0	1	0.2%
TONSIL	1	0	1	0.2%
ESOPHAGUS	5	0	5	1.2%
STOMACH	11	0	11	2.7%
SMALL INTESTINE	1	0	1	0.2%
COLON	24	0	24	5.8%
RECTUM & RECTOSIGMOID	10	0	10	2.4%
ANUS, ANAL CANAL, ANORECTUM	1	0	1	0.2%
LIVER	8	0	8	1.9%
BILE DUCTS	4	0	4	1.0%
PANCREAS	13	0	13	3.1%
RETROPERITONEUM	1	0	1	0.2%
OTHER DIGESTIVE	1	0	1	0.2%
LARYNX	1	0	1	0.2%
LUNG/BRONCHUS-SMALL CELL	6	0	6	1.4%
LUNG/BRONCHUS-NON SM CELL	44	0	44	10.6%
PLEURA	1	0	1	0.2%
LEUKEMIA	16	0	16	3.9%
MYELOMA	5	0	5	1.2%
OTHER HEMATOPOIETIC	13	0	13	3.1%
SOFT TISSUE	2	0	2	0.5%
MELANOMA OF SKIN	2	0	2	0.5%
KAPOSIS SARCOMA	1	0	1	0.2%
BREAST	101	0	102	24.6%
CERVIX IN SITU CA	0	1	1	0.2%
CERVIX UTERI	3	0	3	0.7%
CORPUS UTERI	15	0	15	3.6%
UTERUS NOS	1	0	1	0.2%
OVARY	14	2	16	3.9%
VULVA	1	0	1	0.2%
PROSTATE	19	0	19	4.6%
TESTIS	3	0	3	0.7%
BLADDER	10	0	10	2.4%
KIDNEY AND RENAL PELVIS	5	0	5	1.2%
BRAIN	6	0	6	1.4%
OTHER NERVOUS SYSTEM	7	0	7	1.7%
THYROID	9	0	9	2.2%
OTHER ENDOCRINE	4	0	4	1.0%
HODGKIN'S DISEASE	1	0	1	0.2%
NON-HODGKIN'S LYMPHOMA	23	0	23	5.6%
UNKNOWN OR ILL-DEFINED	11	0	11	2.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>100%</b>

# Oncology Conferences & Tumor Boards

Oncology Conferences are an opportunity for physicians to review and discuss treatment options available for specific malignant processes. The conferences are multidisciplinary and include physicians from Medical Oncology, Radiation Oncology, Surgery, Radiology and Pathology. Each case is reviewed for the medical history, physical findings, diagnostic imaging and therapeutic approaches. For each case presented, the conference focuses on pretreatment evaluation, clinical and pathological staging, new medications, clinical trials and National Comprehensive Cancer Care Network treatment guidelines.



*Monthly Tumor Board*

Cases presented at the Oncology Conferences are at least 10 percent of the annual analytic cases accessioned into the Cancer Registry database and include cases from the five major sites seen at Northridge Hospital Medical Center. At least 75 percent of the cases presented are required to be prospective. Prospective cases are defined as those that are presented at a time when management of the patient's disease process could be influenced by discussion. This includes newly diagnosed cases not yet treated; cases in which treatment has been initiated and additional treatment options may be needed; and cases of disease recurrence following completion of initial treatment.

In 2015, 35 Tumor Boards were held with all of the 126 case presentations being prospective cases.

The Cancer Registry monitors Oncology Conference activity and reports their findings to the Cancer Committee on an annual basis to ensure compliance with the American College of Surgeons cancer program standards.

Physicians are encouraged to contact the Cancer Registry at 818.885.8500, ext. 2835 or ext. 2833 to schedule case presentations for the following conferences:

**Breast Conference:**

2nd and 4th Thursday of each month

**General Tumor Board:**

3rd Thursday each month

**Head and Neck Tumor Board:**

1st Thursday every other month

Northridge Hospital Medical Center is accredited by the Institute for Medical Quality/California Medical Association (IMQ/CMA) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Northridge Hospital Medical Center designates this live activity for a maximum of 1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

## Medical Oncology at the Thomas & Dorothy Leavey Cancer Center

In partnership with Dignity Health – Northridge Hospital, the Los Angeles Cancer Network provides compassionate individualized diagnosis, evaluation and treatment of all malignant disorders, including solid tumors and hematologic malignancies, and treats patients with the most current anti-cancer drugs and treatment protocols available. The Los Angeles Cancer Network physicians are board-certified in Hematology and Oncology, and their distinguished affiliations include the Southern California Oncology Research Alliance (SCORA).

### **Boris Bagdasarian, DO**

Internal Medicine,  
Hematology, Medical Oncology,  
Bone Marrow Transplantation



### **Nubar Boghossian, MD**

Internal Medicine,  
Hematology, Medical Oncology



### **Lasika C. Seneviratne, MD**

Internal Medicine,  
Hematology, Medical Oncology



### **David Shin, MD**

Internal Medicine,  
Hematology, Medical Oncology



### **Ronald Tang, DO**

Internal Medicine,  
Hematology, Medical Oncology



## Radiation Oncology

The Harold & Carole Pump Department of Radiation Oncology is a comprehensive treatment center in the Valley that provides an impressive selection of advanced treatment options like Trilogy Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT), Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT), Image Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT) and High Dose Rate Brachytherapy for all stages of cancer.

The department is staffed by UCLA Department of Radiation Oncology physicians. This faculty is nationally recognized in radiation delivery to improve patient care and treatment outcomes. These physicians are also dedicated to delivering conscientious and compassionate care for our patients while offering attentive support to our patient's families.

**The Pump Department of Radiation Oncology**  
**818.885.5331**

### **Afshin Safa, MD**

Medical Director,  
Harold & Carole Pump Department of  
Radiation Oncology



## Surgeons

Northridge Hospital boasts outstanding surgical oncologists as well as specialized surgeons in thoracics, neurology and gynecology. Our surgical team provides patients with a range of options best suited to their individual needs. They are also extraordinarily precise in removing cancer while preserving as much normal tissue and function as possible. Studies show that, for many cancers, patients have fewer complications if their surgery is at a hospital performing a high volume of these operations and by a surgeon who has expertise in the procedure, like those found at Northridge Hospital.

## Sub-Specialized Radiologists

Renaissance Imaging Medical Associates (RIMA) employs an extraordinary team of highly subspecialized radiologists. RIMA offers distributed subspecialty radiology services along the lines typically seen only in top academic radiology departments.



*Anil Wadhvani, MD,  
Interventional Radiologist*

## Oncology Nursing

Specially-trained oncology nurses provide the balance between innovative, expert treatment and personalized care. They stay abreast of the latest treatments and technologies through research, certification and life-long learning and maintain certifications in the implementation of specialized treatments such as chemotherapy, radiation therapy, IV therapy and blood transfusion. Many are certified specifically in oncologic nursing.

## Cancer Program Practice Profile Reports: Accountability Measures Ensure Quality of Care

Accountability measures promote improvements in care delivery and are the highest standard for measurement. An accountability measure is the standard of care derived from evidence-based data, including multiple randomized control trials.

Dignity Health Northridge Hospital Cancer Committee ensures the highest standards of cancer care by continually monitoring compliance with these measures. Our cancer program met benchmark performance all applicable areas, including:

### **Breast:**

Radiation therapy is recommended or administered following any mastectomy within 1 year (365 days) of diagnosis of breast cancer for women with  $\geq 4$  positive regional lymph nodes. [MAC] **The program maintained 100% in this area in the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013.**

### **Colon:**

At least 12 regional lymph nodes are removed and pathologically examined for resected colon cancer. [12RLN]. **The program achieved 88.9% for 2013 (benchmark is at 85%).**

### **Rectal:**

Preoperative chemo and radiation are administered for clinical AJCC T3N0, T4N0, or Stage III; or Postoperative chemo and radiation are administered within 180 days of diagnosis for clinical AJCC T1-2N0 with pathologic AJCC T3N0, T4N0, or Stage III; or treatment is recommended; for patients under the age of 80 receiving resection for rectal cancer [RECRCT]. **The program maintained 100% in this area in 2011, 2012 and 2013.**

*Boris Bagdasarian, DO  
Cancer Liaison Physician*

# Cancer Committee Membership 2015

The membership of the Cancer Committee is multidisciplinary, representing physicians from the diagnostic and treatment specialties and non-physicians from Administrative and Supportive Services. Coordinators who are responsible for specific areas of program activity are designated by the membership.

*Attendance Requirement to be set by Cancer Committee Quorum Requirement: 7 voting members.*



## Physician Members:

### ***Afshin Safa, MD***

Radiation Oncology, Cancer Committee Chair

### ***Kambiz Kosari, MD***

Surgical Oncology, Liver and Pancreas Program  
Medical Director

### ***Boris Bagdasarian, DO***

Internal Medicine, Hematology, Medical Oncology,  
Bone Marrow Transplantation  
Leavey Cancer Center Medical Director

### ***Jeremy Grosser, MD***

Internal Medicine, Pain Control/Transitional Care  
Medical Director

### ***Harold Marks, MD***

Surgery, Cancer Liaison Physician

### ***Kimberly Mislick, MD, PhD***

Pathology and Laboratory Services, Medical Director

### ***Anil Wadhvani, MD***

Diagnostic Radiology

## Administrative Members:

Nana Deeb

Chief Operating Officer

Jill Dickson, RN, OCN

Cancer Program Director/Performance Improvement

Debra Horwits, MSPT

Director, Rehabilitation and Neuroscience

Chrissy Kim

American Cancer Society

Diane Killian, RT (R) (T)

Clinical Research Coordinator

Cheryl Lovett, RHIT, Director

Health Information Management

Sonja Flores, CTR

Certified Tumor Registrar

Angie Martinez, LCSW

Social Services/Case Management

Cynthia Owens, LCSW

Psychosocial Services Coordinator

Robert Sakamoto, PharmD

Pharmacy

Candice Upham, RN, BSN, NE-BC

Manager, Inpatient Oncology

# Commission on Cancer Recognition

Northridge Hospital is honored to be recognized by the Commission on Cancer with the 2015 Outstanding Achievement Award. We are one of a select group of only 27 U.S. health care facilities with accredited cancer programs to receive this national honor for surveys performed July 1 - December 31, 2015.



The award acknowledges cancer programs that achieve excellence in providing quality care to cancer patients. This achievement is the result of unwavering collaboration among the physicians, caregivers and the Thomas & Dorothy Leavey Cancer Center staff who bring the best in quality patient care for those facing cancer.

This award reflects our constant commitment to providing the highest level of compassionate care and service to our patients and their families. It also means patients do not have to leave the Valley to receive the high quality cancer care they deserve and expect from a comprehensive Cancer Center.



*(l-r) Nana Deeb, COO; Afshin Safa, MD, Medical Director, Department of Radiation Oncology; Jill Dickson, Leavey Cancer Center Director; and Saliba H. Salo, President/CEO, accept the Commission on Cancer 2015 Outstanding Achievement Award.*

## Cancer Center Patient & Family Advisory Council

The Cancer Center Patient & Family Council is a team of staff members, patients and families whose purpose is to:

- Improve the patient experience based on feedback from the Council.
- Assist the Cancer Center Staff with a better understanding of unique cultural traditions, values and lifestyles.
- Allow patients and families to provide input on Cancer Center services and how to better involve the patient/family in the care process.

**Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Cancer Center**

3 Free Ways to Find-A-Cancer Doctor

1. Call 818.908.8677
2. [dignityhealth.org/northridgehospital](http://dignityhealth.org/northridgehospital)
3. [Healthgrades.com](http://Healthgrades.com)

*Free valet parking is available, enter by Leavey Cancer Center off of Roscoe Blvd.*

*Languages spoken: English, Spanish, Korean, Tagalog, Farsi, Arabic, Malayalam, Afrikaans, Urdu*



**Dignity Health - Northridge Hospital Medical Center**

18300 Roscoe Blvd. • Northridge, CA 91328

**Main Hospital** 818.885.8500

**Leavey Cancer Center** 818-885.5341