WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

The bladder is a hollow organ where your body stores its liquid waste, or urine. Made of muscular walls, your bladder stretches to hold your urine and contracts to empty itself through urination.

Bladder cancer occurs when cells that make up the bladder begin to grow and multiply out of control.

ARE YOU AT RISK?

Some factors may increase your risk for bladder cancer.

- **Smoking** causes about half the cases of bladder cancer.
- **Men** are about four times more likely than women to develop bladder cancer.
- **Chemicals at work.** Some industries — dye, rubber, chemical, metal, painting, printing, hairdressing, textile and leather — involve cancer-causing chemicals.
- **Arsenic.** Found in some soil and minerals, arsenic has been used in pesticides and wood preservation. The U.S. banned arsenic in wood preservatives in 2002 and safety measures limit arsenic levels in public drinking water.
- **Prior cancer treatment** that involved certain drugs or radiation to the abdomen or pelvis.
- **Family history** of bladder cancer.
- **Hereditary conditions** such as hereditary nonpolyposis colon cancer (HNPCC) or Lynch Syndrome.
WHY ROSWELL PARK FOR BLADDER CANCER?

- **Nationally recognized** as one of a select group of comprehensive cancer centers designated by the National Cancer Institute, and the only one in upstate New York.
- **Robot-assisted surgery** for bladder operations that reduces hospital stay and promotes faster recovery.
- **Surgeons with high-volume experience** in robot-assisted surgery for bladder cancer, performing 100% of cystectomies (bladder removal) robotically, the highest in the state.
- **Prehabilitation program** created especially for bladder cancer patients to improve respiratory function and physical mobility before surgery in order to maximize recovery, function and quality of life post surgery.
- **Access to the latest treatments** including the newest drugs, immunotherapies and other options that may not be available from other providers.

MEET OUR DOCTORS

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<tr>
<th>Urology</th>
<th>Medicine</th>
<th>Radiation Oncology</th>
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<tr>
<td>2. Ahmed Aly Hussein Aly, MD</td>
<td>7. Saby George, MD, FACP</td>
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<td>3. Eric Kauffman, MD</td>
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<td>4. Qiang John Li, MD, PhD</td>
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<td>5. Thomas Schwaab, MD, PhD</td>
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If you have a cancer diagnosis, you need a second opinion. We can arrange for Roswell Park’s bladder experts to review your tests and set up a consultation with a member of our bladder cancer team.

WHY IT MATTERS

**IN ABOUT 10% OF CASES**

our pathologists review, the diagnosis is changed, impacting your treatment options, decisions and the way forward.

SYMPTOMS TO TELL YOUR DOCTOR

- Blood in your urine
- Urgent need to void to prevent leakage
- Frequent urination
- Painful urination
- Feeling the need to empty your bladder without results
- Needing to strain or bear down while urinating

When bladder cancer is diagnosed at a very early stage — **called in situ** — the 5-year survival rate is **95.8%**.

About half of bladder cancers are diagnosed at this stage.

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