WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Cancer in children is rare, yet it remains the leading cause of death by disease among children ages 1 to 14. Of the 12 major cancers diagnosed in children, these three types account for more than half of all new cases:

- Blood cell cancers, such as leukemia and lymphoma
- Brain cancers
- Solid tumors, such as neuroblastoma and sarcoma

Pediatric blood disorders are a group of non-cancerous but serious conditions that affect the ability of blood cells to function properly — carrying nutrients and oxygen, fighting off infection or disease, or clotting. These disorders include:

- Genetic blood diseases, such as sickle cell disease, thalassemia and other hemoglobinopathies
- Blood disorders, such as hemophilia or idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP)
- Blood clotting disorders
- Anemia

SYMPTOMS TO TELL YOUR CHILD’S DOCTOR

Early signs of pediatric cancers and blood disorders are difficult to recognize, and more often indicate common illnesses and injuries. Parents should ensure children get regular medical checkups and seek attention for a symptom that doesn’t go away, such as:

- An unusual lump or swelling
- Abnormal bleeding or bruising
- Limping
- Sudden eye or vision changes
- Unexplained paleness or lack of energy
- Ongoing pain in one area
- Unexplained fever or illness
- Sudden unexplained weight loss
- Frequent headaches, often with vomiting

For all pediatric cancers has improved from 63% in the mid-1970s to today’s more than 86%.

If your child faces a cancer diagnosis, you need a second opinion. Let us help you arrange a consultation and pathology review.

Significant treatment advances have resulted in a cure or long-term remission for a substantial number of patients.
WHY ROSWELL PARK OISHEI CHILDREN’S?

✔ Collaborative pediatric program combines the strengths of two premier specialty centers: upstate New York’s only National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center and the only stand-alone children’s hospital in the WNY region.

✔ Streamlined access to the best of both centers’ unique capabilities, such as pediatric surgical suites and critical care services, blood and marrow transplantation, chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapies, Gamma Knife radiosurgery and erythrocytapheresis and other chronic transfusion therapies.

✔ Comprehensive molecular testing to match personalized therapy to patients.

✔ Clinical trials, which provide access to the latest therapies.

MEET OUR DOCTORS

Pediatric Oncology

1. Kara Kelly, MD
   Pediatric Oncology – Leukemia/Lymphoma
   Waldemar J. Kaminski Endowed Chair of Pediatrics
   Division Chief, Pediatric Hematology/Oncology

2. Steven Ambrusko, MD, MS
   Pediatric Hematology – Sickle Cell and Thalassemia,
   Vascular Anomalies, General Hematology

3. Barbara Bambach, MD
   Pediatric Hematology/Oncology – Leukemia/Lymphoma,
   Blood & Marrow Transplantation

4. Matthew Barth, MD
   Pediatric Hematology/Oncology – Leukemia/Lymphoma

5. Lauren Bruckner, MD, PhD
   Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Blood & Marrow Transplantation

6. Nataliya Buxbaum, MD
   Pediatric Hematology/Blood & Marrow Transplantation

7. Ajay Gupta, MD, MS
   Pediatric Oncology – Solid Tumors

8. Meghan Higman, MD, PhD
   Pediatric Hematology/Oncology – Leukemia/Lymphoma,
   Blood & Marrow Transplantation

9. Denise Rokitka, MD, MPH
   Pediatric Hematology/Oncology – Solid Tumors,
   Pediatric, Adolescent & Young Adult Survivorship Program

10. Beverly Schaefer, MD
    Pediatric Hematology – Thromboses,
    Hemophilia, General Hematology

11. Clare Twist, MD, MS
    Pediatric Oncology – Solid Tumors,
    Experimental Therapeutics

12. Brandee Aquilino, PsyD, MA
    Pediatric Psychology

13. Catherine Flanagan-Priore, PhD
    Pediatric Psychology

In general, surgery and inpatient care, including blood and marrow transplants, take place at Oishei Children’s Hospital.

Outpatient chemotherapy and infusions, radiation treatment and radiosurgery take place at Roswell Park. 1-800-ROSWELL (767-9355) | RoswellPark.org

SURROUNDED BY SUPPORT

We treat the whole patient, not just the disease. Patients and their families benefit from holistic support services that look beyond survival to lifelong wellness. Among them:

✔ Pediatric, Adolescent and Young Adult Survivorship program to manage treatment effects and provide social support, guidance and legal and financial assistance.

✔ Integrative medicine program to ease the impact of cancer treatment with acupuncture, acupressure, massage therapy, reflexology, aromatherapy and mind-body therapy.

✔ Pediatric psychologists, social workers, patient navigators and child life specialists dedicated to the outpatient and inpatient pediatric cancer and blood disorders centers.

✔ Courage of Carly Fund (Roswell Park) and Stone’s Buddies (OCH) provide support, events and outings for families with a child facing cancer or another chronic, life-threatening illness.

51664 (08/22)