

About UC Davis Cancer Center

Designated by the National Cancer Institute, UC Davis Cancer Center is widely recognized for excellence in cancer discovery and patient care. Our experts in hematology and oncology, surgical oncology, radiation oncology, pathology, diagnostic radiology and other specialties work together to develop individualized treatment plans for each patient and, at the same time, lead the way in conducting innovative research on cancer risks, treatments and prevention.



Participating sites

Fremont-Rideout Cancer Center
618 5th Street
Marysville, CA 95901
www.frhg.org

Mercy Cancer Center
3850 G Street
Merced, CA 95340
www.mercymercedcares.org

Regional Cancer Center at ValleyCare
5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 100
Pleasanton, CA 94588
www.valleycare.com
www.vmoc.com

Tahoe Forest Cancer Center
10956 Donner Pass Road, Suite 330
Truckee, CA 96161
www.tahoecancercenter.com

UC Davis Cancer Center
4501 X Street
Sacramento, CA 95817
www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/cancer



The Virtual Tumor Board Project

Using technology to advance cancer care in the community

United in patient-centered care

The UC Davis Cancer Care Network is a collaboration of hospital-based cancer centers in Northern and Central California that are dedicated to providing first-rate care. Through the network, the expertise of a large, academic medical center is linked with the unique insights of community medical centers. Oncology teams at participating sites are committed to working together to provide the latest diagnostic techniques and treatment approaches to their patients.



Using technology as a foundation

The Virtual Tumor Board Project was initiated to facilitate interactions among Cancer Care Network specialists. All sites are linked via state-of-the-art telemedicine technology so that the multidisciplinary teams involved in patient care can meet via real-time videoconferencing, share their medical knowledge and agree on the best treatment plans. Patients then receive care in their own communities and from their own physicians. Virtual tumor boards can also provide guidance on novel treatments available through clinical trials.

How it works

The technology infrastructure for virtual tumor boards was selected by the UC Davis Center for Health and Technology, a nationally recognized leader in using telemedicine for health-care consultation and training and to reduce health disparities. Each site is equipped with advanced

videoconferencing equipment so a presenting physician's image and voice can be projected along with detailed images – such as pathology slides or radiological scans – about a particular patient's cancer. High-definition images and sound are transmitted through encrypted Web-based technology, ensuring both maximum security and optimum quality.

Expanding best practices

Tumor boards are recognized by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer – the accreditation body recognized throughout the United States – as an essential component of excellence in cancer care. They bring together a range of medical disciplines for frank, lively discussions on how to best care for patients with cancer. Since most cancers can be treated in a variety of ways, reaching consensus about care management, often in conjunction with clinical trials, offers improved opportunities for remission or cure.

Project funding

The Virtual Tumor Board project was launched with major funding from Blue Shield of California Foundation and support from Cancer Care Network sites.

Find out more

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Led by a physician dedicated to patient quality-of-life

The Virtual Tumor Board Project is led by medical oncologist Frederick Meyers, chair of the UC Davis Department of Internal Medicine and an internationally known researcher in hematology and oncology. Meyers is credited with pioneering the hospice movement within the academic setting and advancing a model of cancer care for the terminally ill focused on improving quality of life. He is joined on the project by a team of physicians, researchers, operations managers, technology experts and clinical trials navigators who are committed to quality cancer care in community settings.



Fremont-Rideout Cancer Center



Mercy Cancer Center



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