

2010 CANCER REPORT 2009 REGISTRY DATA

A Focus On Gynecologic Oncology

# Contents





#### **Dear Friend:**

The last few years have been very productive for Westchester Medical Center as we have continued to follow our mission to serve as the regional healthcare referral center providing high-quality advanced health services to the residents of the Hudson Valley and the surrounding area, regardless of their ability to pay.

Our Cancer Program has experienced positive change and progress, as well. We recently

have committed significant resources to this Center of Excellence and plan to revitalize several key clinical service areas including radiation medicine, our portfolio of tumor site treatment, and the overall facility itself. We are also dedicating our efforts to meet and exceed all standards set forth by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer.

We want to continue to work with community healthcare organizations to improve the cancer care available to all the children and adults in the Hudson Valley. Together, we can continue to provide a comprehensive continuum of the best cancer services anywhere. I congratulate everyone on the hard work already underway and look forward to the progress that lies ahead.

Sincerely,

Muchael Deriarl

*Michael D. Israel* President and Chief Executive Officer Westchester Medical Center

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# 2010 Cancer Committee

#### **Physician Members**

Tauseef Ahmed, M.D.	Medical Oncology Chair Cancer Committee
John Fallon, M.D., Ph.D.	Chairman of Pathology
Ronald Kaleya, M.D.	Surgical Oncology
Zvi Lefkovitz, M.D.	Chairman of Radiology
Chitti Moorthy, M.D.	Chairman of Radiation Oncology
Raj Murali, M.D.	Chairman of Neurosurgery
Kristeen Ortega, MD	Director Rehabilitation Medicine
John Phillips, M.D.	Chief of Urologic Oncology
Patricia Sheiner, M.D	Hepatobiliary/ Liver Transplant
Yvette Smolin, M.D.	Psychiatry
Kathryn Spanknebel, M.D.	Chief of Surgical Oncology Cancer Liaison Physician
Sean Tedjarati, M.D.	Chief of Gynecologic Oncology
Oya Tugal, M.D.	Pediatric Oncology

#### **Program Coordinators**

Kathryn Spanknebel, MD
Chitti Moorthy, MD
Isabel Dichiara
Oya Tugal, MD
Carmel Sauerland, MSN, AOCN
Kathryn Spanknebel, MD
Oya Tugal Kathryn Spanknebel, MD

Accreditation Task Force Conferences and Education Outreach Pediatric Cancer Program Quality Quality of Registry Data Research

#### **Non-Physician Members**

Patti Ariel	Clinical Research and Corporate Compliance
Andres Avila	Cancer Registry
Rose Bartone	Child Life – Social Work
Catherine Cevoli	Quality – Midas Systems Manager
Marissa Chiapperino	Nutrition Services
Maureen Cooney	Pain Service – Palliative Care
Christina Cuffari, NP	Child Life
Isabel Dichiara	Community Relations
Marie DiMicco	Pharmacy, Clinical Lab
Rita Donovan, R.N.	Oncology Nursing
Linda Glickman	Quality/Clinical Resource Management
Tricia Hiller	Director, Child Life
Regina Kristan, M.S.W., C.S.W.	Oncology Social Services/Hospice
Rev. Susan Lunning	Pastoral Services
Magdalena Mandzielewska	Clinical Research and Corporate Compliance
Sam Meo	Pastoral Services
Debbie More	Health Information Management
Egil Nilsen	Cancer Registry/Cancer Program Administration
Carmel Sauerland, MSN, AOCN	Nursing Oncology Services
Nisha Shah	Pharmacy
Catherine Spratt, BSN, OCN	Patient Care Services Cancer Program Administration

## **CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE**



#### Chairman's Message

Westchester Medical Center (WMC) provides a broad spectrum of cancer care to the Hudson Valley region and beyond. In 2010, the medical center was granted a three-year Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (F.A.C.T.) certificate and provides cancer treatment and clinical trials in bone marrow transplant, leukemia, lymphoma, head and neck, hepatobiliary, melanoma, neurologic tumors, prostate cancer, lung

cancer and other cancer sites for adults and children. Oncology programs and services provided on an inpatient and outpatient basis include infusions, transfusion, apheresis, IMRT, brachytherapy, stereotactic radiosurgery and a full scope of surgical services.

Members of the Westchester Medical Center Cancer Team include physicians, nurses, allied health professionals, chaplains, social workers, dieticians, clinical researchers, and hospital administrators who work together to provide optimum care for our patients. In addition to the Multi-Specialty Oncology Conference, WMC offers disease-specific tumor boards, multiple division level grand rounds, conferences and physician education symposia. These conferences allow us to provide the highest level of care, to teach, to explore treatment options, to maximize technological advances, and to encourage new ways of finding solutions.

The Cancer Committee at WMC is committed to maintaining and improving the systems that support our mission, values and goals. The Cancer Committee and the WMC Cancer Registry worked diligently to review, assess and implement the latest standards of the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (ACoS).

Reaching out to our local community to provide cancer education and prevention programs is an important part of Westchester Medical Center's focus. Together with other community partners such as the American Cancer Society, we are able to bring muchneeded programs and services to the Hudson Valley Region.

#### Tauseef Ahmed, M.D., FACP

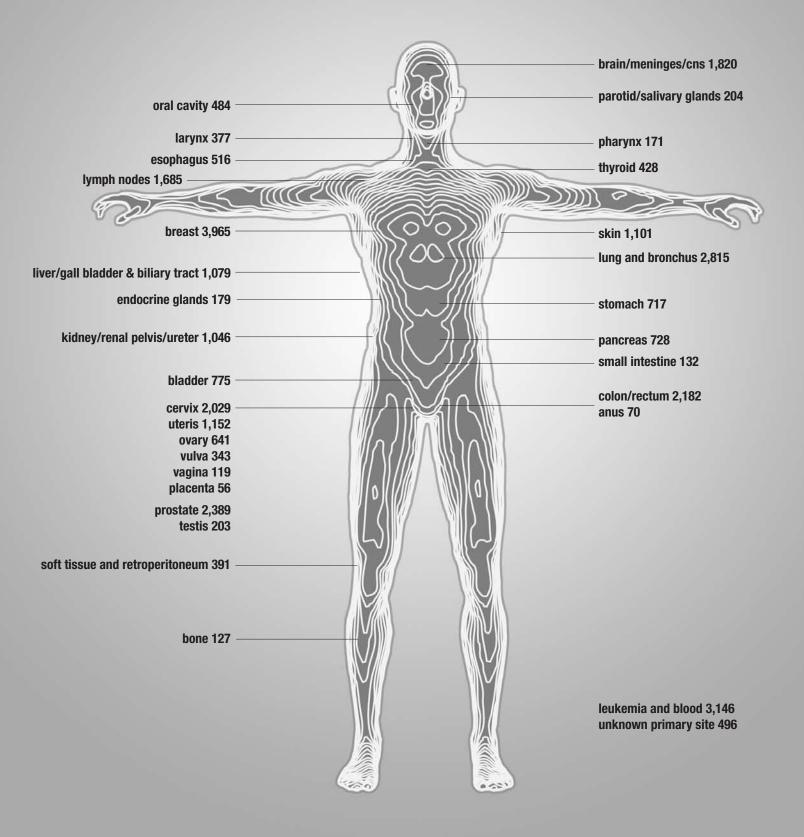
Chairman, Cancer Committee Chief, Division of Oncology & Hematology, Westchester Medical Center Professor, Oncology & Hematology, New York Medical College

# **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- Reduce morbidity and mortality of individuals at high risk for and diagnosed with cancer in the Hudson Valley Region and beyond.
- Obtain and disseminate descriptive data concerning the nature and extent of cancer in the communities served to promote cancer prevention and early detection.
- Promote accrual to cancer clinical trials and participate in continuous performance improvement through maintenance of a quality data base and regular reports to the medical staff, New York State Cancer Registry and the National Cancer Data Base.
- Encourage lifetime continuous medical follow-up for all Westchester Medical Center cancer patients through the annual surveillance system.

- Provide internal and external professional education for healthcare providers regarding all aspects of the cancer experience.
- Establish infrastructure competencies and oversight monitoring of subcommittee work to insure program compliance.
- Meet the standards set forth by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (ACoS-CoC) and earn their accreditation as a Teaching Hospital Cancer Program along with the Pediatric Cancer Program Component.

# FIGURE 1



# FIGURE 1A

## TOTAL CANCER CASES 1981-2009 Westchester Medical Center Cancer Registry

		SEX CLASS OF CASE					STAGING ON ANALYTIC CASES ONLY						
PRIMARY SITE	TOTAL	М	F	ANA	N-ANA	0	1.1	Ш	III	IV	None	UNK	
Lip	19	16	3	14	5	1	4	3	1	1	1	3	
Base of Tongue	121	86	35	107	14	2	8	12	16	52	2	15	
Other and Unspecified Parts of Tongue	121	73	48	98	23	5	26	16	13	23	1	14	
Gum	30	15	15	21	9	1	4	3	1	8	3	1	
Floor of Mouth	77	47	30	62	15	0	13	9	2	23	7	8	
Palate	61	38	23	53	8	5	5	10	2	14	6	11	
Other and Unspecified Parts of Mouth	55	34	21	52	3	0	7	3	4	25	8	5	
Parotid Glad	78	39	39	62	16	0	16	15	9	15	1	6	
Other and Unspecified Major Salivary Glands	15	10	5	10	5	0	3	1	1	3	0	2	
Tonsil	111	82	29	98	13	0	10	12	19	43	0	14	
Oropharynx	43	30	13	39	4	0	2	3	3	21	0	10	
Nasopharynx	58	38	20	39	19	0	3	3	7	16	4	6	
Pryiform Sinus	38	32	6	32	6	1	2	4	5	17	0	3	
Hypopharynx	32	26	6	28	4	0	0	3	3	16	0	6	
Other and III-Defined Sites in Lip, Oral Cavity and Pharynx	33	25	8	25	8	0	1	3	3	10	8	0	
Esophagus	516	364	152	419	97	11	38	70	79	71	9	141	
Stomach	717	506	211	578	139	11	84	57	124	168	30	104	
Small Intestine	132	78	54	119	13	3	8	13	14	17	38	26	
Colon	1,499	820	679	991	508	124	171	176	144	169	10	197	
Rectosigmoid Junction	198	120	78	138	60	12	20	29	18	21	0	38	
Rectum	485	280	205	389	96	42	62	60	70	54	16	85	
Anus and Anal Canal	70	30	40	53	17	7	5	17	12	3	1	8	
Liver and Intrahepatic Bile Ducts	809	602	207	755	54	0	139	170	171	160	24	91	
Gallbladder	97	32	65	77	20	4	8	15	9	29	1	11	
Other and Unspecied Parts of Biliary Tract	173	81	92	153	20	3	14	37	27	39	2	31	
Pancreas	728	379	349	615	113	4	52	123	105	240	13	78	
Other and III-Defined Digestive Organs	17	9	8	12	5	0	0	1	0	1	10	0	
Nasal Cavity and Middle Ear	26	20	6	19	7	0	1	2	0	0	14	2	
Accessory Sinuses	50	34	16	43	7	1	2	0	1	18	17	4	
Larynx	377	302	75	327	50	20	79	36	74	100	1	17	
Trachea	5	4	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	
Bronchus and Lung	2,815	1,646	1,168	2,202	613	5	331	127	520	713	35	471	
Thymus	29	11	18	25	4	0	1	1	0	0	23	0	
Heart, Mediastinum and Pleura	103	72	31	79	24	0	9	9	9	15	25	12	
Other Respiratory System/Intrathoraci	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Bones, Joints and Articular Cartilage of Limbs	56	33	23	38	18	0	9	5	2	3	3	16	
Other Bones, Joints and Articular Cartilage	71	44	27	50	21	0	4	3	1	4	21	17	
Hematopoietic/Reticuloendo Systems	3,146	1,874	1,272	2,050	1,096	0	1	1	1	3	2,041	3	
Skin	1,101	643	457	430	671	43	89	56	59	43	63	77	
Peripheral and Autonomic Nervous System	14	5	9	10	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	2	
Retroperitoneum and Peritoneum	99	24	75	82	17	0	5	1	3	9	57	7	
Connective, Subcut, Other Soft Tissues	292	182	110	225	67	0	27	21	41	36	58	42	
Breast	3,965	30	3,934	3,059	906	361	987	879	268	138	9	417	
Vulva	343	0	343	242	101	62	49	46	38	18	9	20	
Vagina	119	0	118	75	44	26	19	11	4	6	2	7	
Cervix Uteri	2,029	0	2,029	755	1,274	2	219	155	130	76	50	123	
Corpus Uteri	1,102	0	1,102	993	109	15	553	129	113	70	45	68	
Uterus, NOS	50	0	50	29	21	0	1	1	2	4	18	3	
Ovary	641	0	641	423	218	0	90	25	173	89	9	37	
Other and Unspecified Female Genital Organs	26	0	26	22	4	1	3	0	2	2	9	5	

Continued

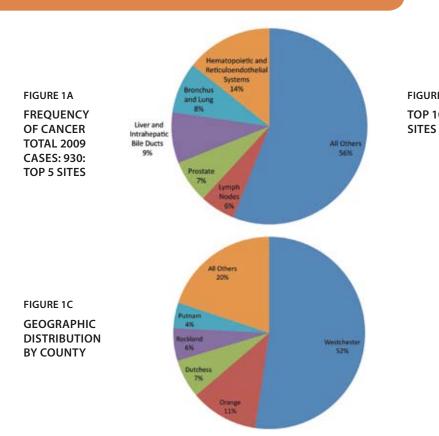
# FIGURE 1A

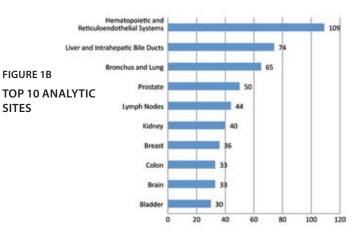
#### TOTAL CANCER CASES 1981-2009 Westchester Medical Center Cancer Registry

		SI	EX	CLASS OF CASE			STAGING ON ANALYTIC CASES ONLY						
PRIMARY SITE	TOTAL	М	F	ANA	N-ANA	0	1	Ш	Ш	IV	None	UNK	
Placenta	56	0	56	15	41	0	1	0	2	1	5	6	
Penis	25	25	0	21	4	3	8	3	2	1	0	4	
Prostate	2,389	2,389	0	1,966	423	7	189	1,295	139	145	1	190	
Testis	203	203	0	164	39	2	59	18	11	2	43	29	
Other Male Genital Organs	12	12	0	11	1	0	2	0	0	0	8	1	
Kidney	915	584	331	739	176	0	282	112	100	127	31	87	
Renal Pelvis	71	51	20	66	5	13	16	7	13	9	1	7	
Ureter	60	39	21	54	6	13	13	8	9	5	1	5	
Bladder	775	595	180	519	256	109	101	83	54	69	1	102	
Other Urinary Organs	28	16	12	23	5	2	5	1	6	3	4	2	
Eye and Adnexa	78	36	42	49	29	0	17	1	4	1	22	4	
Meninges	443	137	306	139	304	0	1	0	0	1	137	0	
Brain	1,172	641	531	883	289	0	57	39	62	162	548	15	
Spinal Cord, Cranial Nerves, and Other CNS	205	100	105	96	109	0	4	1	1	3	85	2	
Thyroid	428	116	312	349	79	1	210	40	28	19	19	32	
Adrenal Gland	80	38	42	66	14	0	0	0	0	1	65	0	
Other Endocrine Glands/Related	179	97	82	144	35	0	0	0	0	0	144	0	
Other and III-Defined Sites	21	9	12	10	11	0	0	0	0	1	8	1	
Lymph Nodes	1,695	993	702	887	808	0	136	186	126	278	41	120	
Unknown Primary Site	496	247	249	309	187	0	0	0	0	1	307	1	
TOTAL	32,124	15,145*	16,975*	22,732	9,392	922	4,285	4,170	2,860	3,439	4,184	2,872	

\* 4 Patients Excluded

#### Westchester Medical Center Cancer Registry





# FIGURE 2 ALL SITES 2009 Westchester Medical Center Cancer Registry

		SEX CLASS OF CASE						STAGING ON ANALYTIC CASES ONLY					
PRIMARY SITE	TOTAL	М	F	ANA	N-ANA	0	1	Ш	Ш	IV	None	UNK	
Base of Tongue	5	4	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	1	
Other and Unspecified Parts of Tongue	7	3	4	7	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	3	
Gum	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other and Unspecified Parts of Mouth	4	2	2	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	
Parotid Glad Other and Unspecified Major Salivary Glands	2	1 0	1	2	0	0	0	1 0	0	0	0	1	
Tonsil	4	3	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	
Oropharynx	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Nasopharynx	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
Pryiform Sinus	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Esophagus	9	7	2	8	1	0	2	1	1	2	1	1	
Stomach	27	19	8	24	3	0	5	2	3	10	1	3	
Small Intestine	6	3	3	6	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	0	
Colon	38	21	17	33	5	7	7	7	2	9	0	1	
Rectosigmoid Junction	2	0	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Rectum	10	7	3	8	2	1	1	1	0	3	0	2	
Anus and Anal Canal	3	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	
Liver and Intrahepatic Bile Ducts	78	64	14	74	4	0	32	10	9	7	5	11	
Gallbladder	4	2	2	4	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	
Other And Unspecied Parts Of Biliary Tract	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Pancreas	30	13	17	29	1	0	7	5	0	14	0	3	
Other And III-Defined Digestive Organs	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Nasal Cavity And Middle Ear	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Larynx	13	10	3	13	0	1	4	0	2	4	0	2	
Bronchus And Lung	78	38	39	65	13	0	14	2	8	32	0	9	
Thymus	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	
Bones, Joints And Articular Cartilage Of Limbs	4	2	2	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	
Bones, Joints And Articular Cartilage Of Other And Unspecified Sites	3	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	
Hematopoietic And Reticuloendothelial Systems	133	77	56	109	24	0	0	0	0	0	109	0	
Skin	7	6	1	4	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	
Retroperitoneum And Peritoneum	3	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Connective, Subcutaneous And Other Soft Tissues	6	5	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	
Breast	53	0	53	36	17	4	10	8	2	4	0	8	
Vulva	1	0	1 9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cervix Uteri		0				0	4	0		2	0	4	
Corpus Uteri Uterus, Nos	12 1	0	12 1	10 0	2	0	4	0	2	0	0	4	
Ovary	10	0	10	6	4	0	3	0	0	1	0	2	
Placenta	2	0	2	1	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Penis	2	2	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	
Prostate	66	66	0	50	16	0	0	44	1	3	0	2	
Testis	5	5	0	5	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	
Other And Unspecified Male Genital Organs	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Kidney	47	29	18	40	7	0	17	3	7	7	3	3	
Renal Pelvis	6	5	1	6	0	2	0	1	2	1	0	0	
Ureter	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Bladder	37	28	9	30	7	7	7	7	3	3	0	3	
Eye And Adnexa	3	2	1	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	
Meninges	27	9	18	26	1	0	0	0	0	0	26	0	
Brain	38	22	16	33	5	0	0	0	0	0	31	2	
Spinal Cord, Cranial Nerves, And Other Parts Of Central Nervous System	6	2	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	
Thyroid	21	5	16	19	2	0	12	0	2	2	3	0	
Adrenal Gland	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	
Other Endocrine Glands and Related Structures	14	6	8	10	4	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	
Lymph Nodes	54	28	26	44	10	0	4	9	6	18	0	7	
Unknown Primary Site	25	11	14	19	6	0	0	0	0	0	19	0	
TOTAL	930	524	405	783	147	23	144	110	57	135	230	84	

The Lower Hudson Valley Regional Leader in Gynecologic Oncology Services

Since establishing our Gynecologic Oncology division in 2009, Westchester Medical Center has become the referral center of choice for physicians throughout the Lower Hudson Valley. We believe patients deserve the leading-edge technology and centralized care offered by our team of experienced and compassionate cancer treatment specialists.

Under the supervision of Sean Tedjarati, MD, MPH, Director of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology and Robotic Gynecologic Surgery, we provide a comprehensive approach to the care of patients with all forms of gynecologic cancers and pre-malignant disorders including:

- Ovarian, fallopian tube and primary peritoneal cancers
- Endometrial/uterine cancers
- Gynecologic soft tissue tumors including sarcomas
- Cervical, vaginal, and vulvar cancers
- Gestational trophoblastic diseases (molar pregnancy)

We also specialize in the management of patients with concerns including:

- High risk or genetic predisposition for developing ovarian, endometrial and other gynecological cancers
- The desire to preserve their fertility options while undergoing cancer treatment
- Any gynecologic disorder with desire for a second opinion for treatment recommendation

From initial consultation to treatment that may involve surgery, targeted chemotherapy or radiation treatments, our goal is to provide our patients with innovative, accessible and comfortable care that is close to home.

At Westchester Medical Center we believe patients facing the frightening reality of cancer deserve clear, concise and coordinated communication between all those involved in their case management. During our weekly Tumor Board, our team of surgeons, radiation oncologists, medical oncologists, radiologists and pathologist meet to review each patient under our care. The result is an integrated and seamless approach to treatment that addresses the cancer in its entirety, from biopsy through surgery to the completion of chemotherapy and radiation. This comprehensive and patient-focused process has earned our Gynecologic Oncology division outstanding patient reviews and referring physician confidence.

#### **Division Faculty**

Sean Tedjarati, MD, MPH, is the Director of Gynecologic Oncology and Robotic Gynecologic Surgery and is an Associate Professor at New York Medical College. He previously served as an Associate Professor and Associate Residency Program Director at Texas Tech University. Dr Tedjarati is board certified in Gynecologic Oncology and Obstetrics and Gynecology. He completed residency programs in Family Medicine and Obstetrics and Gynecology at Ohio State University. He subsequently completed a fellowship in Gynecologic Oncology at the world-renowned MD Anderson Cancer Center and Research Institute in Houston, Texas. He holds a Master of Public Health from Johns Hopkins University.

Tarah Pua, MD, MS, has recently joined Westchester Medical Center's Division of Gynecologic Oncology and Robotic Surgery. Dr Pua completed her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at New York University School of Medicine as well as a Masters in Clinical Investigation. She subsequently finished her fellowship in Gynecologic Oncology at New York University Langone Medical Center.

Our physicians are interested in robotic and radical/advanced surgical techniques, chemotherapy and targeted therapies for management of all forms of gynecologic malignancies. The division continues to grow and will be welcoming a new gynecologic oncologist to the practice in July 2011.

#### Surgical Services and Robotic Surgery

Under the training and leadership of Dr Tedjarati, our highly skilled surgeons are able to aggressively treat gynecologic cancers and disorders in minimallyinvasive ways. Many of our operations are performed using the state-ofthe-art daVinci robotic surgical system which employs 3-D visualization resulting in unparalleled precision. Furthermore, using the latest advances in laparoscopic technology, our growing team of specially-trained surgeons is able to significantly reduce pain, scarring, and lengthy recovery times associated with traditional open procedures.

Our world class care does not stop at surgery. We designed our new gynecologic oncology floor with the needs of our patients in mind. From its soft, warm tones to the comfort afforded by dedicated private and semi-private rooms, we have created a restful environment that offers many of the comforts of home, including flat screen televisions and natural lightning. We have made every effort to make this a home-away-from-home where our patients can regain their physical and emotional strength and begin their journey to recovery. Our chemotherapy infusion center is conveniently located off the Sprain Brook Parkway on Bradhurst Avenue in Hawthorne, NY and offers a comfortable, relaxed setting for the follow-up treatment of gynecologic cancers. Furthermore, by July of 2011 we are expanding into a new facility that is over 6300 square feet where women can see our oncologist, be evaluated and receive her chemotherapy, all in one area. Best of all, our patients do not have to travel far from home to receive the world class medicine provided at Westchester Medical Center.

#### **Chemotherapy and Radiation Treatment**

Because cancer is not a "one size fits all" disease, our gynecologic oncologists, radiologists, radiation and medical oncologists are in constant collaboration to ensure each patient receives individualized treatment and therapy that reflects the unique circumstances of her specific cancer.

At Westchester Medical Center, we offer a variety of treatment options, including:

- In- and out-patient chemotherapy for all gynecologic cancers
- Intraperitoneal chemotherapy for advanced ovarian cancer
- Targeted hormonal therapies
- External beam radiotherapy and Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)
- Brachytherapy using high dose techniques
- Other targeted and implantable radiation techniques

More recently, our division is an affiliate member of the Gynecologic Oncology Group, which is a national non-for profit organization dedicated to promoting excellence in the quality and integrity of clinical and basic scientific research in the field of Gynecologic malignancies. We are now able to offer national clinical trials for women with ovarian, endometrial and cervical cancer at Westchester Medical Center.

# GLOSSARY

**Reference Date:** Definite starting date of Cancer Registry data collection. All cancer cases diagnosed or treated at WMC after this date must be included in the database.

**Accessioned:** Entered into the Cancer Registry database by year first seen at WMC for each new primary cancer.

**Analytic Case:** Case which was first diagnosed and/or received all or part of first course of treatment at WMC.

**Non-Analytic Case:** Case seen at WMC for recurrent or metastatic disease, after all of the first course of treatment was completed elsewhere. Cases first diagnosed at autopsy.

**First Course of Treatment:** Initial cancer directed treatment(s) usually initiated or planned within four months after diagnosis.

**Extent of Disease (Stage):** Determined at the time of initial diagnosis. Stage assigned according to AJCC-TNM Staging System, or SEER Summary Staging.

**In-Situ:** Tumor meets all microscopic criteria for malignancy except invasion.

**Regional:** Tumor has spread by direct extension to immediately adjacent organs or tissue and/or metastasized to regional lymph nodes.

**Metastases:** Change in location of disease of its manifestation or spread from one organ or part to another, not directly connected.

Localized: Tumor is confined to the organ of origin.

**Distant:** Tumor has spread beyond immediately adjacent organs or tissues by direct extension and/or has either developed secondary or metastatic tumors or metastasized to distant lymph nodes or organs.

**Unknown:** Classification used when stage cannot be determined from information available or medical authority.

American Joint Committee on Cancer TNM Staging: Staging classification scheme based on the premise that

cancer of similar histology or site of origin share similar patterns of growth and extension:

(T) Tumor, (N) Nodal involvement, and (M) Distant metastases.

**SEER:** Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results, branch of NCI.

**NCDB:** National Cancer Data Base, project of American College of Surgeons and American Cancer Society.

NOS: Not Otherwise Specified.

**Non-Reportable:** Patients with a history of cancer only or seen for consult only, are excluded from the registry database in accordance with the American College of Surgeons' guidelines.

**Palliative:** Therapy that relieves symptoms such as pain without altering the disease course.

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