The faculty and staff of the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center at UC Irvine Medical Center are dedicated to providing unparalleled care in the diagnosis and treatment of a full range of cancer and bone marrow-related diseases. To this end, we use a team approach so that each patient’s care is indeed comprehensive and involves a collaborative effort among medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, surgical oncologists and ancillary team members such as oncology nurses, social workers, dietitians and physical therapists.

The doctors at the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center are board certified in their specialties and have expertise that ranks them among the finest in their fields, with more than 20 named among Best Doctors in America.

We are proud of our National Cancer Institute designation as a comprehensive cancer center. This designation is given only to institutions that demonstrate a commitment to addressing the full spectrum of cancer care—prevention, early detection, state-of-the-art treatment, and compassionate palliative care. NCI designation also means we pursue groundbreaking research into the basic science of cancer, as well as into clinical applications to improve prevention and treatment. Our physician-scientists at UC Irvine are dedicated to developing and providing the finest and most up-to-date clinical care, bringing findings from the laboratory bench to the bedside.

We continually strive to make the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center the premier cancer care facility in Orange County and to offer the best in both basic and clinical research as well as compassionate and timely patient care.

LEONARD S. SENDER, M.D.
Medical Director, Clinical Operations and Program Development
Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center
The Comprehensive Brain Tumor Program is a multidisciplinary service that provides state-of-the-art care to adult and pediatric patients with brain or spinal cord tumors. The program also offers social support and education to patients and families throughout their medical challenges and educational services to colleagues throughout the community.

Physicians and staff members strive to deliver the best care and to develop new therapies for patients with primary, secondary, benign or metastatic tumors involving the central or peripheral nervous system, and related neural complications. An Institutional Review Board-approved outcomes database helps ensure the highest quality of patient care.

The Comprehensive Brain Tumor Program utilizes the latest technology to diagnose and treat brain tumors. UC Irvine was first in Orange County to acquire a 3-Tesla MRI scanner. It also was the first in Orange and San Diego counties to use intraoperative MRI for minimally invasive skull base tumor endoscopy, and has the only program in Orange County to offer MR image-guided tumor resection through direct intraoperative imaging.

On the research front, the program has the largest number of open brain tumor clinical trials in the Orange County area.
Colon and rectal surgeons work closely with gastroenterologists, oncologists, pathologists, radiologists, nurses and an extensive support team. Together, they create the only colorectal surgery program of its kind in Orange County and one of a handful in the country offering patients such a high level of coordinated care.

UC Irvine colon and rectal surgeons are nationally recognized experts, skilled at performing the gold standard surgical procedure for rectal cancer—total mesorectal excision (TME). They also are among a relative few colorectal surgeons in the U.S. who have sufficient experience to perform TME using minimally invasive laparoscopic and robotic techniques. UC Irvine surgeons are among only a few nationwide who perform partial or complete excision of the colon and affected lymph nodes using an approach that leaves no visible scar.

All UC Irvine colorectal surgeons are board certified by the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, and each is highly skilled at sphincter-salvaging and colostomy-sparing procedures, as well as in minimally invasive robotic and laparoscopic techniques.

**SERVICES**
- Autonomic nerve preservation techniques
- Colon resection (open and laparoscopic)
- Colonic J-pouch technique
- Endoscopic ultrasound
- Colonoscopic surveillance for high-risk patients
- Genetic screening for hereditary colorectal cancer
- Laparoscopic and robotic surgery
- Intraperitoneal chemotherapy for peritoneal surface malignancies (HPEC)
- Multidetector CT and CT/PET fusion technology
- Sphincter salvage procedures
- Total mesorectal excision for rectal cancer
- Transanal endoscopic microsurgery (TEM)
- Medical oncology

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**GASTROINTESTINAL ONCOLOGY**

The H.H. Chao Comprehensive Digestive Disease Center (CDDC) offers Orange County’s only multispecialty approach to gastrointestinal diseases, including cancers. It unites gastroenterologists, gastrointestinal and colorectal surgeons, oncologists, pathologists and radiologists to diagnose and treat disease. Many have been named Best Doctors in America, placing them among the top 5 percent nationwide. CDDC physicians also have been honored for excellence by the Orange County Medical Association.

**ESOPHAGUS, STOMACH, LIVER AND PANCREAS**

The CDDC’s esophageal program is a center of excellence for the management of esophageal motility disorders, gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), Barrett’s esophagus and esophageal cancer. Our team of specialists developed and utilizes cutting-edge technologies such as esophageal impedance, endomicroscopy, radiofrequency ablation of Barrett’s and laparoscopic esophagostomy.

Through our Asian Cancer Program, we have sophisticated technologies for detecting early and precancerous lesions of the stomach. The CDDC also offers the only dedicated liver program in Orange County, providing liver resection as well as radiofrequency ablation, chemoembolization, radiation therapy and cryosurgery. Through the years the CDDC has emerged as a high-volume referral center for the diagnosis (using ERCP and EUS) and treatment of pancreatic diseases, especially pancreatic cancer. Physicians perform complex Whipple resection, minimally invasive pancreatic treatments and autologous islet cell transplantation following pancreatectomy.
The Head and Neck Oncology Program takes a unified approach to the multifaceted and complex aspects of diagnosis, treatment, reconstruction, management and follow-up of patients with cancers of the head and neck. The goal is to individualize treatment plans in order to provide coordinated, compassionate and state-of-the-art care.

The majority of head and neck cancer patients in the area are treated by physicians at the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, making it the principal referral center for physicians in Orange County.

UC Irvine head and neck specialists also are at the forefront in the advancement of medical and surgical organ preservation techniques, the integration of new chemotherapeutic agents to improve patient survival and quality of life, and the development of minimally invasive procedures. The Head and Neck Cancer Program is the only one in Orange County to offer transoral laser microsurgery.

Specialists include experts in otolaryngology, plastic and reconstructive surgery, medical and radiation oncology, pathology, anesthesiology and speech pathology. The team also includes social workers, case management workers, and experts in educating patients about nutrition and swallowing.

SERVICES
- Surgical, medical and radiation treatment of all cancers of the head and neck.
- Transoral surgery for laryngeal cancer.
- Transoral minimally invasive surgery for pharyngeal cancer.
- Surgical and medical laryngeal preservation techniques.
- Targeted radiotherapy using the Trilogy System with RapidArc technology.
- Medical oncology.

THYROID CANCER
UC Irvine surgeons were the first on the West Coast and among the first in the world to perform robot-assisted thyroidectomies using the da Vinci Surgical System. Recently approved by the Food and Drug Administration, the robotic surgical approach eliminates the noticeable and previously unavoidable neck scar and allows surgeons to remove the gland via an incision in the armpit.

For patients whose disease may not be treatable using a surgical robot, such as those with metastases to the lymph nodes or adjacent organs, surgeons at the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center also perform traditional surgery, as well as minimally invasive thyroidectomy techniques, which reduce the size of the neck incision.

SERVICES
- Robotic thyroidectomy.
- Minimally invasive endoscopic thyroidectomy.
- Endoscopic parathyroidectomy.

UC Irvine genitourinary cancer specialists are indeed leaders. The first minimally invasive robotic prostatectomy in Southern California was performed at UC Irvine Medical Center, home to the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center. Since 2002, UC Irvine urologists have completed more than 1,200 radical prostatectomies using the da Vinci Surgical System® robot, which also is used to perform radical and partial nephrectomies and radical cystectomies.

A UC Irvine urologist also pioneered an innovative technique that utilizes a device to cool the prostate area during surgery to significantly reduce post-prostatectomy incontinence.

In addition to having clinical expertise, the cancer center is part of a network of research sites in the Southwest Oncology Group participating in the largest prostate cancer prevention trial in U.S. history. One study is assessing whether selenium and vitamin E can protect against prostate cancer. Other research involves discerning a genetic signature that will identify patients with an aggressive form of prostate cancer at the time of diagnosis.

SERVICES
- Laparoscopic partial or total nephrectomy for kidney cancer.
- Laparoscopic or percutaneous cryoablation of small kidney tumors.
- Retroperitoneal lymph node dissection for testicular cancer.
- Robot-assisted radical prostatectomy.
- Radical cystectomy and continent urinary diversion.
- Intracapsular lymph node dissection for penile cancer.
- Intensity-modulated radiation therapy.
- Brachytherapy.

For the past five years, UC Irvine’s Department of Urology has been recognized as among the best in the nation in U.S. News & World Report’s “Best Hospitals in America” issue.
**HEMATOLOGIC MALIGNANCIES**

Hematology/oncology physicians at the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center provide consultation and treatment for patients with all types of hematologic malignancies, ranging from leukemia and lymphoma to Hodgkin’s disease and multiple myeloma.

Hematologist/oncologists maintain a close relationship with the board-certified pathologists at UC Irvine Medical Center to ensure accurate and timely diagnosis of hematologic malignancies associated with chromosomal alterations. These malignancies are then treated using proven interventions such as chemotherapy, radiotherapy, immunotherapy, or bone marrow/stem cell transplantation. Such complex treatment plans require collaboration among the center’s highly trained specialists, including oncology-certified nurses, radiation oncologists and radiation therapists. Care is further supplemented by interventions designed by registered dietitians, licensed clinical social workers and physical and occupational therapists.

Our physician-scientists also participate in NCI- and industry-sponsored clinical trials involving new drugs and diagnostic tools designed to identify and treat hematologic malignancies. Physicians also initiate studies in integrative and alternative cancer therapies, targeted therapeutics, and the amelioration of cancer care side effects.

**SERVICES**

- Full consultative and treatment services for malignant disorders of the blood
- Identification and treatment of hematologic malignancies that express changes in a patient’s genetic code
- Affiliation with CHOC Children’s Hospital for the specialized care of children and young adults with hematological malignancies
- Affiliation with UCLA Medical Center for bone marrow or stem cell transplantation
- Coordination of pre- and post-transplantation services

**MELANOMA**

The Melanoma Center at the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center specializes in screening, diagnosing and treating patients with all stages and forms of skin cancer, including melanoma, basal and squamous cell carcinoma and cutaneous T-cell lymphoma. Coordinated care is provided by a multidisciplinary team of specialists, including medical, surgical and radiation oncologists; dermatopathologists; nuclear medicine physicians; plastic and reconstructive surgeons; nurse case managers and other allied health professionals.

UC Irvine Medical Center utilizes many advanced technologies to treat melanoma, including spectrophotometric intracutaneous analysis (SIAscopy) to establish an optical, rather than a physical, biopsy and to determine whether moles are normal, atypical or characteristic of melanoma.

Physicians also are skilled at performing sentinel node biopsy, a procedure used to facilitate the earliest possible detection of disease in the lymph nodes.

The Melanoma Center is one of only two facilities in Southern California that participate in clinical trials testing the A3 experimental vaccine in patients whose tumors have a specific genetic signature. Staff members also are involved in a clinical trial evaluating targeted therapy for stage IV melanoma.

**SERVICES**

- Sentinel lymph node biopsy
- Optical biopsy of pigmented lesions
- Curettage and electrodesiccation
- Mohs micrographic surgery
- Laser therapy
- Radiotherapy
- Chemotherapy
- Adjuvant biological therapy involving vaccines and interferon
- Plastic and reconstructive surgery
- Medical oncology
The UC Irvine Multidisciplinary Sarcoma Center addresses the full spectrum of bone and soft tissue disease in children, adolescents, young adults and adults. The center’s multidisciplinary tumor board, which includes surgeons, medical oncologists, musculoskeletal radiologists, radiation oncologists and pathologists, is unique in Orange County. This wide scope of specialty coverage makes it possible for patients to receive every aspect of surgical treatment, radiotherapy and chemotherapy within the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center.

The Sarcoma Center has the only microvascular surgical team in Orange County that is capable of reconstructing muscle tissue, blood vessels and nerves as well as bone following surgical excision of large defect sarcomas. Surgical teams are highly skilled at designing prostheses for children that adapt to the growing and developing body.

An NCI-funded project is examining the genetic signature of sarcoma and developing animal models of human sarcoma as part of an envelope-pushing research initiative. Research also is seeking new therapeutic compounds that may control the spread of disease.

SERVICES
- Intraoperative brachytherapy for limb salvage
- Bone and soft tissue microvascular limb reconstruction
- Cryosurgery
- Radiofrequency ablation of benign and malignant bone tumors
- Complex joint replacement for sarcoma and metastatic bone disease
- Minimally invasive surgery for bone and soft tissue tumors
- Custom-made growing prosthetic replacements for children
- Medical oncology

The Lung Cancer Program at the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center provides diagnostic, palliative and therapeutic services for patients with malignant diseases of the lung, pleura, chest wall and mediastinum. The program brings together experts in thoracic surgery, medical oncology, radiation oncology and pulmonary medicine to coordinate and individualize care. Patients with locoregionally advanced and challenging tumors are discussed in a multidisciplinary forum to formulate evidence-based treatment protocol.

Our physicians perform state-of-the-art interventional and surgical procedures – including minimally invasive thorascopic resections and robotic surgery – for accurate diagnosis, staging and treatment of thoracic malignancies. UC Irvine is the first medical center in Orange County to perform robotic lobectomy for primary lung cancer. Our surgeons also have taken an aggressive stance on adjuvant surgical treatment of lung metastasis from distant primary sites, including extremity soft tissue sarcoma, colorectal carcinoma, and a number of other solid-organ malignancies such as breast cancer and melanoma. On the research front, our thoracic oncologists are participating in several major NCI and intergroup-sponsored clinical trials for chest malignancies.

SERVICES
- Endoscopic ultrasound-guided needle biopsies
- Laser resection of endotracheal and endobronchial tumors
- Sclerent treatment of malignant airway obstruction
- Radiofrequency and cryoablation of pleural tumors
- Video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery (VATS)
- Robotic lobectomy
- Robotic resection of mediastinal tumors
- Tracheal and bronchial sleeve resections
- Radical chest wall resection and reconstruction
- Medical oncology
For nine years, UC Irvine has been named one of the U.S. News & World Report’s “Best Hospitals in America” for gynecology, honoring the excellence of our women’s health experts. Women’s cancers – gynecologic and breast cancers – receive expert diagnosis and treatment, including innovative therapies.

**GYNECOLOGIC ONCOLOGY**

An aggressive approach is key when diagnosing and treating gynecologic cancers of all kinds, including ovarian, uterine, cervical, vulvar and endometrial.

Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center gynecologic oncologists are skilled at performing extensive cytoreductive surgery for ovarian cancer and related malignancies, complex laparoscopic surgery, including minimally invasive radical hysterectomy and single-incision laparoscopic surgery; fertility-preserving procedures, vaginal reconstruction, and other restorative procedures. Surgeons use the revolutionary da Vinci Surgical System robot to perform a broad array of advanced procedures for gynecologic cancer. Further, UC Irvine gynecologic oncologists have a proactive program to closely monitor women at high risk for ovarian cancer.

On the research front, patients have ready access to a variety of high-priority clinical trials, including the world’s first randomized trial to evaluate the ability of bevacizumab to block the formation of new blood cells that nourish cervical cancer. Researchers also are testing the drug’s use as single-agent therapy for ovarian cancer and are working to develop medical imaging techniques to assess response to novel therapies, including MRI and SPECT as tools for observing the action of chemotherapeutic agents.

**SERVICES**

- Comprehensive gynecologic consultation and examination
- Diagnosis and treatment for all stages of gynecologic cancer
- Chemotherapy
- Laser therapy for preinvasive genital tract lesions
- Screening for ovarian and cervical cancer
- Hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) combined with cytoreductive surgery
- Complex radical gynecologic and pelvic surgeries
- Minimally invasive surgery, including robot-assisted procedures
- Ovarian cancer prevention program for high-risk patients

**BREAST CANCER**

The UC Irvine Breast Health Center brings together a full spectrum of diagnostic and treatment programs. The program also offers evaluation, genetic counseling and testing for women believed to be at high risk for developing breast cancer. New imaging technologies include digital mammography and breast MRI, stereotactic and ultrasound-guided biopsy, and sentinel lymph node mapping.

In addition to comprehensive treatment, the Breast Health Center also offers various options for preserving breast aesthetics, such as lumpectomy and partial mastectomy. Immediate breast reconstruction following breast cancer surgery is provided in consultation with plastic surgeons to speed physical and emotional recovery. In recognition of its advanced services, research and other qualities, the Breast Health Center was granted a three-year full accreditation by the National Accreditation for Breast Centers after undergoing a rigorous evaluation and review.

The Breast Health Center also gives patients access to a range of clinical trials involving promising new chemotherapeutic agents and diagnostic technologies, such as optical laser and whole-breast ultrasound scanning.

**SERVICES**

- BRCA gene counseling
- Comprehensive breast cancer risk assessment utilizing various validated tools
- Full imaging capabilities, including digital mammography, ultrasound, MRI and image-guided biopsy
- Surgical options ranging from lumpectomy and partial mastectomy to total or modified radical mastectomy
- Skin-sparing surgery
- Partial breast irradiation
- Medical oncology
UC Irvine cancer doctors are among the few in the country who specialize in cancers that affect people between the ages of 18 and 39. These oncologists are expert in rare cancers that affect this age group as well as in the more common forms of cancer, which often impact young adults differently, compared to older patients.

The Young Adult Cancer Program at the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center provides specialty services in the treatment of hematologic cancers, including leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma, brain tumors, breast and gynecological cancers, colorectal malignancies, hepatocellular carcinoma, melanoma, thyroid cancer and sarcoma.

The program offers a team of specialists that addresses not only the disease itself, but also the physical, emotional and psychosocial development of patients at this very difficult time in their lives.

To raise awareness and improve medical and psychosocial outcomes for young adults with cancer, the cancer center has hosted more than 20 educational and informational events for community physicians and patients in recent years. The program also has spearheaded the development of SeventyK, a patient bill of rights campaign designed to improve care for young adults with cancer.

SERVICES
- Surgical, medical and radiation treatment of cancers
- Education
- Fertility counseling
- Health policy and advocacy
- Psychological counseling
- Social services
The Infusion Center at the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center has been undergoing extensive renovation to improve the delivery of a broad array of clinical infusions, including research and investigational agents, blood transfusions, chemotherapy and biotherapy. Fast-tracking stations for laboratory work, short infusions and injections are included in the large-scale enhancement.

Within its walls are private rooms, a central chemotherapy unit and fasttrack areas tailored to meet individualized patient care needs in an environment that is enriched with expansive window views and designed to maximize comfort. Internet service allows patients to remain engaged with others, or they may choose to view and listen to programming of their choice. Priority access to oncology physicians, nurses and pharmacy specialists is available during all phases of treatment.

The Infusion Center is staffed by skilled chemotherapy- and biotherapy-certified oncology nurses who are recognized for clinical excellence and compassionate care. Such excellence has its rewards: UC Irvine Medical Center is the only hospital in California to be named twice as a Magnet hospital by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

SERVICES

- Nutritional classes
- Onsite oncology pharmacy specialist
- Multilingual educational materials
- Social support service programs
- Extensive volunteer services
- Massage, music and pet therapy programs
- Valet parking

SERVICES

- Intensity-modulated radiation therapy
- Image-guided radiation therapy
- Three-dimensional conformal radiation therapy
- MammoSite and Savi targeted partial breast radiation therapy
- Frame-based stereotactic radiotherapy
- Frameless stereotactic radiotherapy using optical tracking technology
- SIR-Spheres and Therasphere microsphere therapy
- High-dose rate and low-dose rate brachytherapy

The UC Irvine’s radiation oncology services encompass a multidisciplinary group of specialists that includes radiation oncologists, medical physicists, dosimetrists, radiation therapists and radiation oncology nurses.
UC Irvine Healthcare doctors are leaders in the field of robot-assisted surgery. In 2010 UC Irvine established the Robotic Oncology Center, believed to be the first center of its kind in the United States dedicated to advancing robotic surgery.

UC Irvine surgeons are using the surgical robot to perform a growing number of cancer treatment procedures. UC Irvine Douglas Hospital houses three da Vinci Surgical System® robots, and a fourth is in the UC Irvine Surgical Education Center for training.

Robotic technology enhances surgeons’ precision and range of motion during laparoscopic surgery, provides magnified, 3-D images of the surgical site, reduces surgeons’ fatigue and eliminates tremor. Patients benefit from smaller incisions, less scarring, reduced blood loss and faster recoveries.

SERVICES
Robot assisted surgery for:
- Pancreatic resections and distal pancreatic lesions
- Liver resections
- Lower anterior resection of the colon and adjoining lymph node tissue for diagnosis
- Total, radical and supracervical hysterectomies for uterine, endometrial and cervical cancers
- Oophorectomy and salpingo-oophorectomy for ovarian masses
- Pelvic and para-aortic lymphadenectomy for staging of endometrial, cervical and ovarian cancers
- Lung cancer staging and diagnosis and wedge excision of nodules
- Mediastinal tumor excision
- Prostatectomy and pelvic lymph node dissection
- Cystectomy, lymph node dissection and possible urinary diversion for bladder cancer
- Radical nephrectomy and partial nephrectomy for kidney cancer
- Radical nephrectomy and partial nephrectomy for upper tract urothelial cancer
- Distal ureterectomy with ureteral reimplant for ureteral tumor
- Adrenalectomy for adrenal tumor

The Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center is committed to basic, clinical and epidemiological cancer research, transferring knowledge from the laboratory bench to the bedside whenever possible. Here, scientists and clinicians work on the leading edge of cancer research, developing and applying innovative technologies, therapeutics and treatment modalities to improve clinical care and outcomes.

Research is organized into six programs: cancer prevention and control, carcinogenesis, chemical and structural biology, developmental biology, growth factors and signaling, and onco-imaging and spectroscopy. Due in part to its National Cancer Institute comprehensive cancer center designation, the Chao center maintains a major focus on translational research. As Orange County’s only NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center, UC Irvine seeks to transform scientific discoveries into clinical applications that can reduce cancer burden. Translational working groups concentrate on four areas of strength: breast cancer, cervical cancer, melanoma and prostate cancer.

The cancer center offers various shared resource facilities to help foster innovative, educational, basic, clinical and epidemiological research into the causes, treatment and effects of cancer and allied diseases. These include:
- Biobehavioral Shared Resource Facility
- Bioinformatics Core
- Biostatistics Shared Resource
- Clinical Research Office
- Experimental Tissue Shared Resource Facility
- Genomics High-throughput Facility
- In-vivo Functional Onco-Imaging
- Optical Biology Core
- Transgenic Mouse Facility
Cancer, the nation’s No. 2 killer behind heart disease, claimed the lives of an estimated 560,000 Americans in 2010, according to the American Cancer Society. Another 1.5 million Americans were diagnosed with the disease.

Against this backdrop, UC Irvine’s renowned physician-scientists at the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center dedicate themselves every day to finding new ways to prevent cancer, improve treatments and enhance the lives of those living with the disease.

In the process, our distinguished cancer specialists have given hope to people around the world. From basic science to research that transforms lab discoveries into lifesaving treatments, our cancer experts have moved us closer to finding a cure. We want to offer you the opportunity to partner with us in our fight against this modern-day scourge.

Your philanthropic support will raise money to help UC Irvine researchers make groundbreaking discoveries, fund endowed faculty chairs, help recruit and retain key faculty in an increasingly competitive job market, underwrite community lectures and other education activities, purchase advanced technologies, and improve patient care.

Together, we can create a brighter, healthier tomorrow.

For more information about making a gift to the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, please call UC Irvine Health Advancement at 714.456.3768 or visit www.ucifuture.com.

The nationally recognized Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of California, Irvine is Orange County’s sole National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated comprehensive cancer center and one of only 40 in the nation. The NCI’s prestigious designation, which is shared by cancer centers including those at Harvard, UC San Francisco and Johns Hopkins universities, recognizes UC Irvine’s high-quality patient care, research, training and community outreach.

Our renowned experts in urological, women’s, melanoma, prostate, gastrointestinal young adult and other cancers strive to provide the best and most compassionate care found anywhere. They collaborate daily to fulfill our mission: Discover. Teach. Heal.

Discover
- Dr. Kenneth Chang, director of the H.H. Chao Comprehensive Digestive Disease Center, serves as lead investigator in national trials of a new gene therapy against pancreatic cancer, one of the deadliest cancers.
- Dr. Frank Meyskens Jr., director of the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, and UC Irvine colleagues have shown that combining a cancer-fighting agent called DFMO and a low dose of an anti-inflammatory drug could significantly reduce the risk of recurring colorectal polyps, an early sign of colon cancer.

Teach
- Dr. Ralph Clayman, dean of the UC Irvine School of Medicine, and Dr. Elspeth McDougall cofounded the nation’s first five-day mini-residency program for practicing urologists. About 250 urologists from 35 states and nine countries have received advanced training in robotic, laparoscopic and other minimally invasive surgeries of cancerous and otherwise diseased kidneys and prostate.
- The Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center and UC Irvine offer practicing physicians continuing education in the latest advancements in melanoma, breast, gastrointestinal and other cancers.

Heal
- U.S. News & World Report has recognized UC Irvine Medical Center as one of the top 50 hospitals in the nation for numerous medical specialties for the past decade.
- A new 15-bed inpatient cancer care unit on the seventh floor of UC Irvine Douglas Hospital provides cancer patients with highly specialized care, including access to the newest treatments not widely available elsewhere.