

2009

Cancer Program Annual Report
and Outcome Study on
Prostate Cancer

Mercy Hospital Western Hills



2008 Cancer Program Summary

Mercy Hospital Western Hills offers the highest quality of cancer care as evidenced by the tri-annual approval of our cancer program by the Commission on Cancer, American College of Surgeons. Under the leadership of the Cancer Committee, our Cancer Program has also received commendations for excellence in key areas of patient care. Achieving and exceeding compliance with the required standards of care set by the CoC, assures our patients that they will receive the best of care from diagnosis, throughout the treatment period and continuing to end of life care.

In addition to a wide range of diagnostic and treatment services, our hospital offers many programs to provide assistance to both our patients and their families as they cope with a diagnosis of cancer. Our support services include nutritional support, spiritual support, rehabilitation, palliative care, educational programs for our patients and the community, information on access to clinical trials and cancer support groups and programs, many of which are provided through participation with the American Cancer Society.

To meet the growing and changing needs of the patients and the communities we serve, our Cancer Committee continually strives for Cancer Program excellence by annually reviewing our services, performing patient care studies, and by setting annual goals to improve and enhance our services.

Mercy Hospital Western Hills implemented many patient care improvements, sponsored a large number of patient, community and staff educational offerings and improved many of our services last year. 2008 Cancer Program Achievements include:

- The Community Outreach program offered and participated in a variety of activities for cancer prevention, early detection and screening including promotion of breast cancer awareness and breast self- prostate screening, and colon, lung, breast and prostate cancer awareness.
- Education and symptom management is important to our cancer patients. We have implemented a new procedure to offer the patients with cachexia information on how to manage their symptoms, this done on an individual basis, as needed.
- In order to provide highly skilled nursing for the cancer patients we have continued to promote ONS certification and chemotherapy provider courses to increase number of nurses with provider cards- all inpatient nurses are now expected to take the course and obtain & maintain competency in chemotherapy skills
- As stated above, our Cancer Program was the recipient of the Commission on Cancer's Outstanding Achievement Award during the past year. Everyone involved continues to work diligently to help provide the best possible care for our cancer patients and we are very proud of our accomplishments.

Mercy Western Hills Cancer Committee

The Cancer Committee is a multi-disciplinary team of hospital employees, staff physicians and members from the American Cancer Society, which meets quarterly to monitor our performance and review our available services and programs.

Our mission is to ensure that our patients, their families and our communities have access to a full-range of medical services, supportive programs and services and community outreach activities that impact the quality of life and survival. Our focus is on prevention, screening and early detection programs and quality of life services.

2008-2009 Cancer Committee Membership

Mark Jennings, MD - Chair/CLP	General Surgery
George Wagner, MD	Diagnostic Radiology
Jay Jiang, MD	Pathology
Susan Feeney, MD	Radiation Oncology
J. Bhaskaran, MD	Medical Oncology
Kurt Leuenberger, MD	Medical Oncology
Priya Rudolph, MD	Medical Oncology
Mary McCullough-Kolkmeyer, MD	Medical Oncology
Alan Cordell, MD	Urology
Ernest Meese, MD	Thoracic Surgery
Kathleen Gray, RHIT, CTR (2008)	Cancer Registry
Mary A Minges, RN	Oncology Nursing
Mary A Hengehold, RN	Quality Department
Aaron Bley	PR/Community Affairs
Nancy Klusman, RN	Palliative Care
Julie Schermbeck	Nutrition
Mary A Kasselmann	Rehabilitation
Gary Greiner	Pharmacy
Christine Kirby	Pharmacy
Sue Raterman/ Joe Kappa	Women's Center
Debbie Epperson	HIM
Linda Schweder	Medical Staff SVCS

Cancer Program Coordinators

Jay Jiang, MD	Quality of Registry Data
J. Bhaskaran, MD	Cancer Conference
Aaron Bley	Community Outreach
Kathleen Gray, RHIT, CTR (2008)	Quality Improvement

Cancer Conferences

Cancer conferences provide a format for multidisciplinary involvement in the planning of care for cancer patients. They are integral to improving the care of cancer patients and provide education to physicians and hospital staff. Consultative services and education are optimal when physician representatives from the disciplines involved in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer participate in the discussions. Patient identities are kept confidential

Mercy Hospital Western Hills offers prospective, patient-oriented and multidisciplinary Cancer Conferences, which provide free consultative services to our patients and education to the medical and hospital staff. Medical Oncology, Radiation Oncology, Diagnostic Radiology, Pathology, Thoracic Surgery and General Surgery specialties are present to discuss possible treatment options for the types of cancers presented at the conferences. Physicians from all specialties, including urology and gynecology are also invited to attend.

Treatment based on national guidelines and AJCC staging is the focus of discussions. National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Practice Guidelines in Oncology, information on open clinical trials, and cancer registry data are provided for the cancer sites presented.

Mercy Hospital Western Hills Cancer Conferences

Cancer Conferences are held at Mercy Hospital Western Hills on the third Tuesday of each month at noon in our 6th floor Auditorium and are approved by the Ohio State Medical Association for one Category 1 CME credit hour,

Physicians may contact the Cancer Registry (389-5588) or the Medical Staff office (389-5125) for more information or to receive a current meeting schedule.

Cancer Registry

The Cancer Registry is a vital component of the cancer program, providing data for programmatic and administrative planning, research, and for monitoring patient outcomes. Data are collected according to the current standards of the Commission on Cancer to create a detailed cancer-focused record for all reportable tumors diagnosed and/or treated at our hospital. Each record entered into the database contains information on the diagnosis, extent of disease, treatment received, recurrence of disease and lifetime follow-up for each patient. Aggregate data are analyzed and published without patient identifiers to protect the confidentiality of each patient entered into the cancer database according to Ohio state laws and HIPAA regulations.

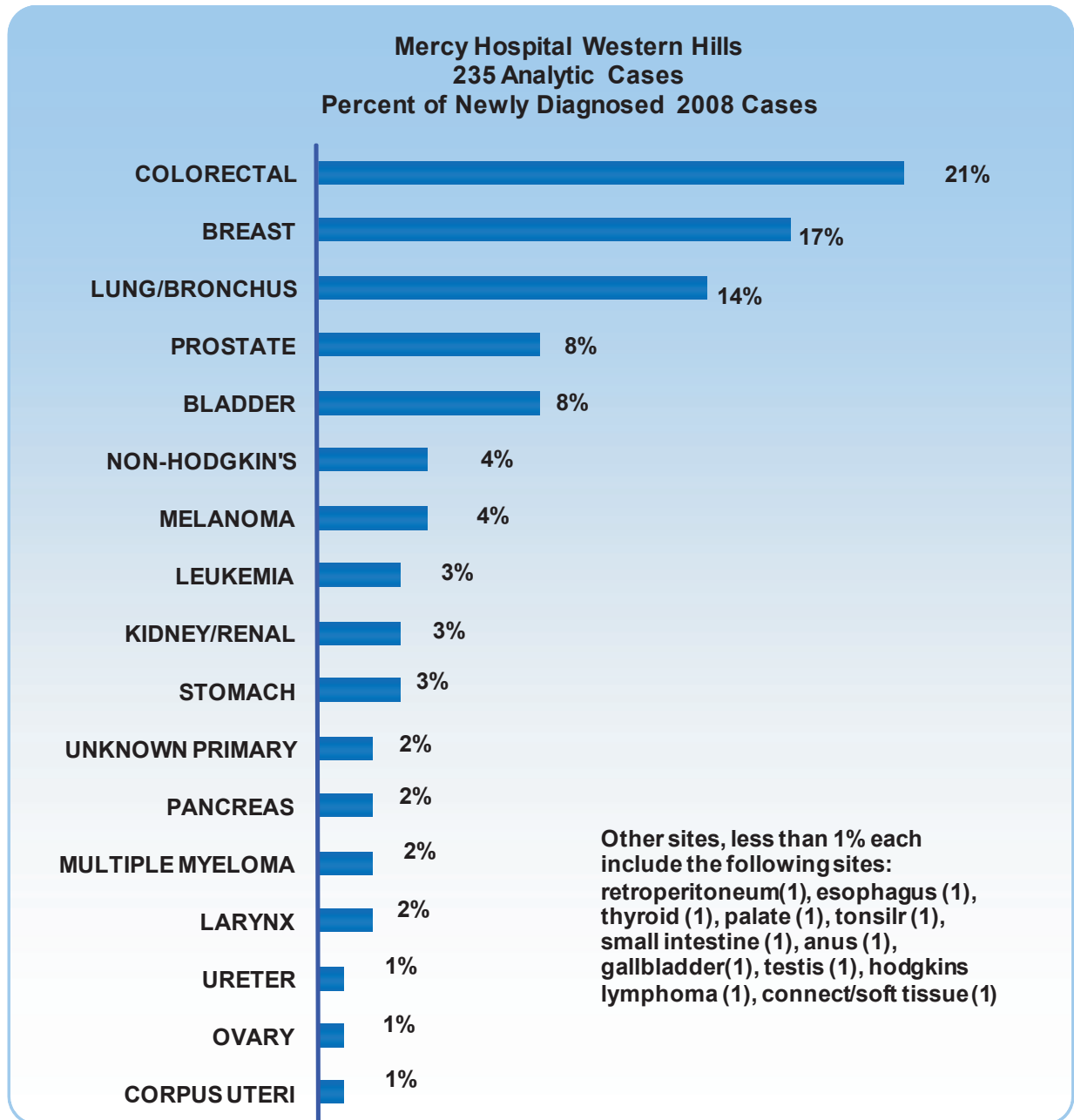
A Cancer Registrar performs the collection, interpretation, analysis and reporting of cancer data. The National Cancer Registrars Association defines Cancer Registrars as data management experts who collect and report cancer statistics for various healthcare agencies. Registrars work closely with physicians, administrators, researchers, and health care planners to provide support for cancer program development, ensure compliance with reporting standards, and serve as a valuable resource for cancer information with the ultimate goal of preventing and controlling cancer. The cancer registrar is involved in managing and analyzing clinical cancer information for the purpose of education, research, and outcome measurement.

Registry data is submitted 100% error free to the National Cancer Data Base (NCDB) annually as a requirement of the Commission on Cancer for all approved cancer programs. Submission of data to the National Cancer Database provides feedback to assess the quality of patient care. This feedback enables cancer programs to compare treatment and outcomes with the regional, state and national patterns. Major differences between the facility data and the national data are reviewed in an effort to identify the reasons for these differences.

Cancer data is also submitted to the Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System (OCISS). All reported data are used to support research, track trends, initiate epidemiologic studies, generate journal articles and provide data for allocation of services. The data are analyzed to identify opportunities for community cancer awareness and screening where higher stages (III-IV) of cancers are seen. This data also provides a means of identifying possible cancer clusters within the state.

2008 Cancer Data Summary and Comparisons

The total number of cases in the Mercy Hospital Western Hills Cancer Registry database since the 1997 reference date is 4363. During 2008, a total of 247 cases were accessioned into the registry database; 235 analytic (newly diagnosed) cases and 12 non-analytic (recurrent cancer) cases. The statistics contained in this report represent only analytic cancer cases.



Top Cancer Sites in 2008

The top sites in 2008 were lung (14 percent), colorectal (21 percent), prostate (8 percent), breast (17 percent). Bladder (8 percent), melanoma and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma each comprised 4% of our cases.

Compared with the estimated 2008 state and national data, our incidence of prostate was significantly lower, since we do not offer radiation therapy at our facility. Our incidence of Colorectal was higher which could be due to our high elderly population.

Top Cancer Sites for 2008			
Primary Site	US	OH	MWH
Lung & Bronchus	15%	17%	14%
Prostate	13%	12%	8%
Breast	13%	12%	17%
Colorectal	10%	11%	21%
Bladder	5%	5%	8%
NHL	5%	5%	4%
Melanoma	4%	4%	4%

Estimated Figures for US/Ohio
American Cancer Society, Facts & Figures 2008

Distribution of our cases by gender revealed that 103 (44 percent) were males and 132 (56 percent) were females. The most frequent cancer sites in women were lung, breast, colorectal and bladder. Lung, prostate, colorectal, and bladder cancers were the most frequently seen cancers in our male patients. This closely reflects the national incidence by gender.

Compared with national data, we saw fewer patients with prostate cancer. This is likely due to the fact that we do not perform radiation treatment and this is often the preferred treatment for this type of cancer. Our percentage of lung cancer for male genders is higher than is seen nationally. Lung cancer is traditionally high in our state and at our facility. This may be related to our high elderly population, a high number of smokers and former smokers and to industry in the Greater Cincinnati area.

2008 Top Cancer Sites by Gender Mercy Western Hills			
Male		Female	
Prostate		Breast	
U.S. 25%	MWH 17%	U.S. 26%	MWH 31%
Lung & Bronchus		Lung & Bronchus	
U.S. 15%	MWH 18%	U.S. 14%	MWH 11%
Colon & Rectum		Colon & Rectum	
U.S. 10%	MWH 20%	U.S. 10%	MWH 21%
Urinary Bladder		Uterine Corpus	
U.S. 7%	MWH 12%	U.S. 6%	MWH 2%
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma		Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	
U.S. 5%	MWH 4%	U.S. 4%	MWH 5%
Melanoma of the Skin		Thyroid	
U.S. 5%	MWH 6%	U.S. 4%	MWH 1%

American Cancer Society, Facts and Figures, 2008

Prostate Cancer Outcome Study

Prostate Incidence and Mortality

Incidence – Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in American men. The American Cancer Society (ACS) estimates 186,320 new cases of prostate cancer in 2008 and 192,280 in 2009, representing an increase in incidence. Studies show that 1 of 6 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during their lifetime while 1 in 35 will die of it.

Mortality – Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in American men. The ACS estimates 28,660 prostate cancer deaths in 2008 and 27,360 in 2009, representing a downward trend in mortality. There are more than 2 million men alive today with a diagnosis of prostate cancer.

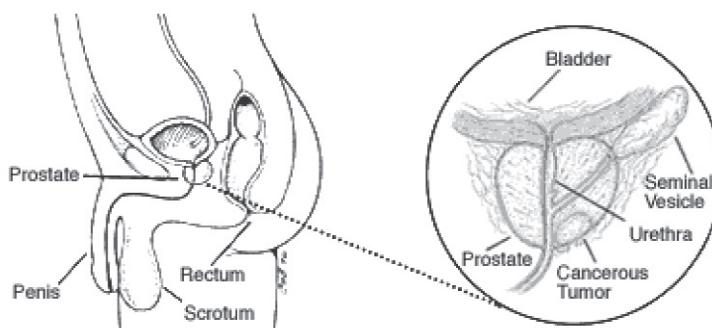
National, Ohio and Hospital Incidence Comparisons

Nationally, it is estimated that prostate cancer will account for about 13% of the cancers diagnosed in 2008. In the state of Ohio it is estimated that nearly 12% of the cancers will be prostate cancers. At Mercy Western Hills only 8% of our cases were prostate cancers. Our prostate caseload is lower than both the state and national incidence because radiation is the most commonly used treatment mode for prostate cancer and we do not provide this service at our hospital.

Anatomy and Physiology of the Prostate

The prostate gland, found only in males, is approximately the size of a walnut and is located beneath the bladder and in front of the rectum. The prostate produces fluid to protect and nourish sperm cells in semen. The seminal vesicles, which produce most of the fluid for semen, are located just behind the prostate gland. The urethra, a tube carrying urine and semen through the penis, runs through the prostate. The growth of the prostate is regulated by male hormones, called androgens, primarily testosterone which is produced in the testicles.

Fig. A – Anatomy of the Prostate



Prostate Histologies

While there are several types of cells in the prostate, over 99% of prostate cancers originate in the gland cells and are called adenocarcinomas. Other types of prostate cancers include transitional cell carcinomas, small cell carcinomas and sarcomas. All of our prostate cases were adenocarcinomas so our study is based on adenocarcinomas of the prostate.

Risk Factors For American Males

Although the exact cause of prostate cancer is not known, several well-established risk factors have been identified:

- Age - risk increases after age 50, especially after age 65
- Race/Ethnicity - occurs more often in African-American men
- Family history - having a brother or father or several affected relatives increases risk

Prevention

Currently, there is no way to prevent prostate cancer. Drugs such as finasteride (Proscar) and dutasteride (Avodart), 5-alpha-reductase inhibitors which inhibit prostate growth and are currently used to treat BPH, may reduce prostate cancer risk according to preliminary clinical trial results. Proscar is also used in a lower dose form, known as Propecia, to treat male pattern baldness. However, not all physicians agree on the benefits of these drugs for reducing prostate cancer risk. The results of the clinical trials will become clearer over the next few years.

Signs and Symptoms

Usually there are no signs or symptoms of early prostate cancer. Some men with advanced disease may experience the following:

- More frequent urination
- Loss of bladder control
- Blood in urine
- Urine flow is weak or interrupted
- Inability to start or stop urine flow
- Pain in pelvis, spine, ribs, and/or hips
- Erectile dysfunction
- Numbness or weakness in feet or legs

Screening and Diagnostic Methods

The American Cancer Society does not recommend routine testing for prostate cancer. The ACS supports discussion between the patient and his physician or other health care professional on the potential benefits and limitations of early detection prostate testing. According to the ACS, discussion should include an offer of PSA and DRE annually beginning at age 50 for men at average risk and with a life expectancy of at least 10 years. For men at high risk for prostate cancer, this discussion should take place starting at age 45. Men with several first-degree relatives who had cancer at an early age (younger than 65) are at higher risk and should have this discussion take place starting at age 40.

The most common methods used to diagnose prostate cancer early are the prostate specific antigen (PSA) in the blood and the digital rectal exam (DRE). If either of these tests are abnormal, more testing should be done to determine if cancer is present. Transrectal ultrasound biopsies are done to obtain prostate tissue for diagnostic information.

Prostate-specific antigen (PSA)

PSA, a substance made by both normal and abnormal cancer cells in the prostate gland, is mostly found in semen but is normally present in blood in small amounts. Most men have a PSA level under 4 ng/ml. As the PSA level increases, the chance of having prostate cancer goes up. However, about 15% of men with a PSA under 4 will have prostate cancer on biopsy. About a 25% of the men with a PSA in the borderline range of 4-10 and 50% of the men with a PSA more than 10 will have prostate cancer.

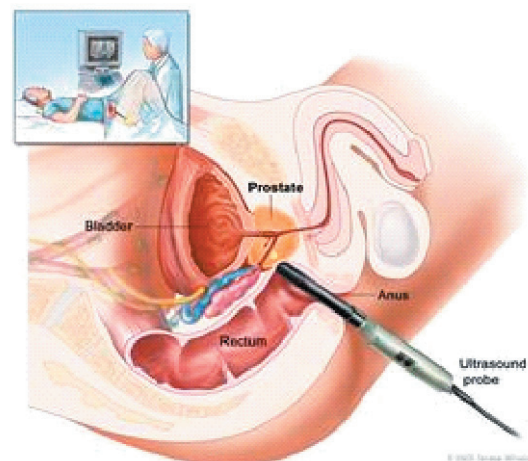
Digital Rectal Exam

Examination of the prostate gland is done by the physician, using a lubricated gloved finger in the rectum, to feel for bumps or hard areas. While it is less effective than the PSA in finding prostate cancer, it can help detect cancers in the presence of a low PSA. The ACS recommends that when prostate cancer screening is done, both the PSA and DRE should be done.

Transrectal Ultrasound (TRUS)

The TRUS uses sound waves from a rectal probe to create a computer-generated image of the prostate. It is not very useful by itself and is most commonly used during diagnostic prostate biopsies. TRUS is also useful in measuring the size of the prostate gland to determine PSA density and in determining treatment options. It may also be used as a guide during cryosurgery.

Fig. B - TRUS



Factors that Determine Treatment and Prognosis

Treatment and prognosis are influenced by the patient's age, stage of the cancer, PSA level, Gleason's score/grade and other medical conditions that may contraindicate certain types of treatment.

Age – Most patients (69% both nationally and at Mercy Western Hills) are diagnosed in the 6th and 7th decades of life. Some older patients may not tolerate the rigors of aggressive treatment.

Stage at diagnosis – cancer staging is based on the amount of tumor and the extent of invasion (T) and the presence or absence of nodal involvement (N) and distant metastasis (M). Most prostate cancers are diagnosed at stage 2 (77% nationally and 77% at Mercy Western Hills).

PSA level – According to results of a Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG) clinical trial study, a pre-treatment PSA of greater than 20 ng/ml predicts a higher risk of prostate cancer death, a greater likelihood of distant failure and a greater need for hormonal therapy. The PSA is also useful during the work-up and treatment planning period. In combination with clinical exam findings and tumor grade from biopsy, PSA level is used in planning the need for further testing such as CT and bone scans.

- A very high PSA usually indicates that cancer has spread outside the prostate gland.
- Monitoring the PSA after surgery or radiation therapy helps determine if the treatment was successful in removing or destroying all of the cancer cells.
- When a “watchful waiting “ approach is the chosen course, PSA levels can be used to monitor cancer growth and help determine if active treatment is needed.
- PSA levels during chemotherapy or hormonal therapy can help determine how effectively the treatment is working and whether a different form of treatment may be better.

Gleason's Score – Gleason score is the preferred grading method for prostate cancer and is a determining factor in treatment decisions. It has been shown to be the strongest predictor of death from prostate cancer, higher grades having a poorer prognosis.

Treatment of Prostate Cancer

Unlike most other cancers, after a diagnosis of prostate cancer, patients have many treatment options. Surgery, external beam radiation, radioactive seed implants (brachytherapy), and sometimes hormone therapy may be used for early-stage disease. Hormonal therapy, chemotherapy, radiation, or combinations of these treatments are used for more advanced disease. Hormone treatment may control prostate cancer for long periods by shrinking the size of the tumor, thus relieving pain and other symptoms. The patient and his physicians decide together on the appropriate course of treatment.

Watchful Waiting

Watchful waiting or active surveillance is an option for slow growing tumors or for elderly patients with multiple co-morbidities and health issues and a short life expectancy. This option is offered to older men in poor health to avoid the side effects of treatment. Patients are monitored closely and no treatment is given unless symptoms appear or the cancer shows signs of growing aggressively. PSA blood tests and a digital rectal exam (DRE) are usually completed every six months along with a biopsy of the prostate on a yearly basis.

Surgery

Prostatectomy is the surgical approach of treatment of prostate cancer. Patients with early stage disease are given the treatment option of a radical prostatectomy. This removes the entire prostate gland and some surrounding tissue. There are several methods used to perform a prostatectomy. The most common type is the radical retropubic prostatectomy. An incision is made in the abdomen and the prostate is cut out from the pubic bone. The urethra is sewed directly to the bladder so urine is able to flow. A nerve sparing radical prostatectomy is a modified version of the radical prostatectomy where the nerves that control erections are not removed.

In a laparoscopic prostatectomy, small incisions are made in the abdomen and the laparoscope, connected to a video camera, is inserted into the abdomen to perform the surgery using small instruments. There is less pain, minimal blood loss, and earlier recovery with this procedure.

Robotic assisted surgery, using the daVinci® System is similar to laparoscopic surgery because it allows the surgeon to operate through small ports instead of large incisions. Robotic-assisted surgery uses a computer enhanced surgical system to provide a 3-D view of the surgical field that can magnify the surgical field up to 15 times. Instruments are designed to mimic the movement of the human hands, wrist and fingers. This allows an extensive range of motion and more precision. Master controls allow the surgeon to manipulate the instruments for a more precise movement and maximum preservation of nerves, muscles, organs and other structures surrounding the prostate. The benefits of this procedure are reduced pain, fewer complications, shorter hospital stay and reduced recovery time.

Cryosurgical Ablation

Cryotherapy is another technique for the treatment of prostate cancer. It is a minimally invasive procedure that uses a precise freezing and thawing technique to destroy prostate cancer cells. Small needle shaped probes are inserted into the prostate using “real-time” transrectal ultrasonography imaging. After needle placement, temperature sensing thermocoupler needles are placed in key areas: the tumor, the space between the rectum and prostate and the urinary sphincter. The thermocoupler needles monitor the temperatures in these areas throughout the procedure. A warming catheter is placed through the urethra into the bladder and warm water is continually circulated through the catheter to protect the urethra from freezing. Argon gas is circulated through the needles, producing ice balls on the tips of the needles. The ice encapsulates cancerous tissue. After freezing cycle is complete the physician thaws the ice. The freeze-thaw cycle is completed twice. There is the risk of impotency with this procedure due to the nerve bundles near the prostate being frozen.

Radiation Therapy

Radiation therapy is frequently the choice of treatment for prostate cancer. There are two types of radiation therapy: external beam radiation and brachytherapy. Radiation therapy is local treatment that is aimed directly at the tumor. Unfortunately, healthy cells may be damaged by the radiation along with cancer cells since treatment must often pass through normal tissue. However, normal cells have the ability to repair themselves.

External beam radiation is the most common form of radiation. Tumor localization is crucial in the administration of external beam radiation. A simulation is performed with treatment planning to locate tumor volume. With the use

of scans and treatment planning software the precise location to aim radiation is determined. There are several forms of external beam radiation: stereotactic radiosurgery (Gamma Knife®), high dose three dimensional radiation therapy (HD3D), intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT), and intraoperative radiation therapy (IORT). These types of focused- beam therapies minimize damage to nearby tissue and structures. The Calypso® 4D Localization System™ is now available for use in the treatment of prostate cancer. It works like a GPS system to determine the exact location and movement of the prostate during treatment.

Brachytherapy is radiation in the form of radioactive pellets that are implanted into the prostate. In most cases the pellets are placed in the prostate permanently. The pellets contain radioactive iodine or palladium. Treatment is planned to determine placement of the seeds in a manner that will achieve the required dose of radiation.

Hormone Therapy

Hormone therapy is used in the treatment of prostate cancer. This therapy alters the body’s hormone balance to prevent certain cancers from growing. Hormone therapy can be accomplished with the use of drugs or surgery that remove hormone producing organs such as the testes. Drug therapy is the most common form of hormone therapy. Drugs used for prostate cancer are triptoreline (Trelstar), leuprolide (Lupron, Eligard, Vantas), and goserelin (Zoladex). These drugs block testosterone to slow the prostate cancer’s rate of growth. Anti-androgens such as flutamide (Eulexin) bicalutamide (Casodex) and nilutamide (Nilandron) work by preventing the body from using testosterone. Hormone therapy does not cure prostate cancer. It is used to delay progression of prostate cancer and to increase survival while maximizing quality of life.

Chemotherapy

Chemotherapy is not generally recommended as first course of treatment for prostate cancer, but it may be used to treat recurrent cases of advanced prostate cancer.

Other Treatment Types

Transurethral Resection of Prostate (TURP)

An incidental finding of cancer may be discovered during a TURP for urinary symptoms believed to be benign. TURP is a type of surgery that is done to treat an enlarged prostate (benign prostatic hyperplasia, or BPH). When the prostate gets bigger than normal, it may put pressure on the urethra and cause problems with urination. Surgery is done to make the prostate smaller by removing some pieces of it, which relieves the blockage. This reduces pressure on the urethra and generally gives relief from urinary symptoms. The procedure is done by inserting a scope through the urethra into the bladder. The scope is a thin, lighted tube with lenses like a microscope. Fluid is put into the bladder to help the surgeon see the area to be removed and a scope with a heated wire loop is used to remove pieces of prostate tissue. The pieces of tissue are flushed out of the bladder and sent to the lab for tests. Sometimes the tissue examined is found to contain cancerous cells. When this occurs, further testing is needed to determine what treatment, if any, is needed. Sometimes TURP is used as palliative treatment for prostate cancer, which means it is done to relieve symptoms, not as a cure. This surgery may be used if you are having trouble urinating because of the cancer.

Palliative Treatment

When prostate cancer is diagnosed in late stage; the focus of treatment may be palliative. Palliative treatment can include surgery, radiation, hormone therapy, a combination of these, or simply consist of comfort measures alone. Comfort measures may also be appropriate for patients who are not candidates for treatment due to age, comorbidity and high-risk. The Palliative Care programs at Mercy Health Partners provide a wide range of services to our patients that cover the spectrum of physical, emotional, and practical needs.

Clinical Trials

Clinical trials for cancer treatment offer additional treatment options, including new drugs, new surgery or radiation therapy techniques, or even complementary or alternative medicines. Some trials study drugs that are already approved for one type of cancer to see if it works on a different type of cancer or works better when given a certain way or when combined with other treatments. Clinical trials provide access to treatment that is not otherwise available, and might be safer or more effective than current treatment options. When clinical trials show that a new treatment is better than the current treatment, the new treatment may become a standard treatment. All clinical trials are reviewed and approved by scientific panels to make sure they are ethical, safe, and at least as good as, and possibly better than, the standard and currently available treatments.

According to the American Cancer Society, the number one reason people give for not taking part in a clinical trial is that they didn't know the studies were an option for them. Before starting treatment, patients may want to think about taking part in a clinical trial. Ideally, the patient, family, and health care team should be involved in the decision on choosing the most appropriate cancer treatment.

Treatment Comparison to National Cancer Database

Prostate Cancer- Diagnosed 2006

Treatment by Stage Comparison - NCDB vs Mercy Hospital Western Hills

Treatment Type	NCDB	MHWH	NCDB	MHWH	NCDB	MHWH	NCDB	MHWH	NCDB	MHWH
	Stage 1	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 4	Stage Unknown	Stage Unknown
Surgery Only	56%	0%	36%	100%	58%	100%	11%	25%	29%	0%
Radiation Only	15%	0%	27%	0%	3%	0%	4%	0%	17%	0%
Radiation and Hormone	7%	0%	21%	0%	14%	0%	17%	0%	11%	0%
Hormone Therapy only	2%	0%	4%	0%	2%	0%	29%	25%	9%	0%
Other Specified Therapy	5%	0%	5%	0%	21%	0%	26%	25%	7%	0%
No 1st Course Rx	14%	0%	9%	0%	2%	0%	13%	25%	26%	0%
% of Cases for Stage Group	2%	0%	77%	79%	7%	4%	6%	17%	9%	0%

Source: National Cancer Database

At Mercy Hospital Western Hills, 79% (19 patients) of our prostate cases were diagnosed at stage 2, 4% of the cases stage 3 (1 patient) and 4 patients at stage 4. We had no patients diagnosed at stage 1. Nationally, 77% of the patients presented with stage 2 disease and 6% with stage 4 disease.

100% of these stage 2 patients were treated with surgery only, 73% had a radical prostatectomy and 27% had TURP with incidental finding of cancer, compared to 36% nationally.

0% of the stage 2 patients chose “active surveillance”. Nationally, 9% of the patients had no treatment.

Our one stage 3 patients, had surgery only, compared to 58% nationally.

One stage 4 patient received surgery and was found to have positive nodes, compared to 11% nationally; 1 received no therapy compared to 13% nationally; 1 was treated by “other specified therapy” compared to 5% in the U.S and stage 4 (age 75) was treated with hormone therapy only, compared to 29% nationally.

According to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) treatment guidelines, active surveillance, radiation, or radical prostatectomy are treatment options for stage 2 disease. The treatment received by our stage 2 patients was appropriate. When taking into account that we do not provide radiation services on site, and therefore do not see many of the patients who choose radiation, and considering the advanced age of our smaller patient group, our treatment is comparable to the U.S.

Prostate Cancer Survival by Stage

National Cancer Database-Diagnosed 1998-2001

	Stage				
	1	2	3	4	Overall
At Diagnosis	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Year 1	96%	98%	99%	78%	97%
Year 2	92%	96%	97%	61%	94%
Year 3	89%	94%	94%	51%	91%
Year 4	84%	91%	92%	43%	88%
Year 5	80%	88%	89%	38%	85%

Mercy Hospital Western Hills-Diagnosed 1998-2001

	Stage				
	1	2	3	4	Overall
At Diagnosis	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Year 1	100%	92%	92%	45%	88%
Year 2	89%	90%	92%	18%	82%
Year 3	89%	86%	92%	9%	78%
Year 4	67%	86%	92%	0%	73%
Year 5	67%	81%	92%	0%	69%

Comparison of Mercy Hospital Western Hills to National Survival

The most recent data on relative survival for all men with prostate cancer indicates that five year survival for prostate cancer is almost 100%, 93% may survive 10 years and 79% for 15 years. It should be noted that 5 year survival is based on patients diagnosed and treated over 5 years ago (1998-2001 or 9 to 10 years ago, in this study). Patients recently diagnosed with prostate cancer are likely to have better survival.

Comparison of survival data for our patients diagnosed in 1998 through 2001 shows that our survival is similar to the national experience and that our overall survival closely compares to the nation's survival statistics.

Summary of Findings:

- We continue to have a low number of prostate cancers. All of the patients we see for the treatment of prostate cancer have chosen radical prostatectomy for their treatment. We do not offer radiation therapy so our other cases come for TRUS biopsy and diagnosis and likely have radiation elsewhere.
- Nearly all of our prostate cancers presented with stage 2 disease.
- Our treatment for prostate cancer is similar to national treatment.
- Our overall survival closely reflects national survival statistics.

Recommendations:

- Continue to promote prostate cancer awareness through patient education and community outreach activities.
- Work with the American Cancer Society to provide information on screening and support services for men with prostate cancer.
- Promote awareness of clinical trials for the treatment of prostate cancer.
- Continue to promote and monitor stage-based treatment in accordance with national guidelines.

Community Outreach

Mercy Hospital Western Hills and our Cancer Program, led by our Oncology Committee, are committed to making a difference in our community. We do this through several means, including increasing prostate cancer awareness through participation in local Health Fairs, conducting Prostate Cancer Awareness Month activities, increasing awareness of clinical trials and participation in or referral to American Cancer Society programs.

American Cancer Society Programs and Screening Guidelines

- For information on American Cancer Society Programs and Screening Guidelines: Visit <http://www.cancer.org> or call 1-800-ACS-2345 (1-800-227-2345)

Informational websites

For information on prostate cancer and other cancers, call or visit:

- National Cancer Institute at 1-800-4-CANCER or www.cancer.gov
- People Living With Cancer: The official patient information website of the American Society of Clinical Oncology at www.cancer.net/portal/site/patient
- National Comprehensive Cancer Network at www.nccn.org/patients
- American Cancer Society - 1-800-ACS-2345 or www.cancer.org
- National Library of Medicine at www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/healthtopics.html
- US TOO! International, Inc at www.ustoo.org

Clinical Trial Information

For information on access to clinical trials in your area:

- Call the American Cancer Society, Clinical Trials Matching Service (a free, confidential program) at 1-800-303-5691 or visit www.cancer.org
- Visit the National Cancer Institute (NCI) website at: www.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials/search
- Visit the Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups at: www.cancertrialshelp.org

Illustrations

Figure A, page 8 – Anatomy of the prostate. Source: American Cancer Society – http://www.cancer.org/docroot/CRI/content/CRI_2_4_1X_What_is_prostate_cancer_36.asp?sitearea=

Figure B, page 10 – Transurethral ultrasound biopsy of the prostate. Source: National Cancer Institute – <http://www.med.nyu.edu/healthwise/article.html?hwid=ncicdr0000062965>