

UCLA

Health System

Bladder Cancer

Teamwork, Innovation, Compassion



UCLA Bladder Cancer Program

With a devoted multidisciplinary team of experts, including urologists, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, pathologists and radiologists, the UCLA Bladder Cancer Program offers individualized treatments tailored to each patient's needs. UCLA urologists are leaders in minimally invasive surgical techniques, including the use of robotic-assisted laparoscopy and complex reconstructions of the urinary tract.

UCLA is a center of innovation in the management of bladder cancer. As a center of bladder cancer research, UCLA offers investigational therapies to patients as part of a clinical study before they become available at other centers. We are also actively involved in translational research to take discoveries from the laboratory to clinical reality.

Bladder cancer often affects older patients who suffer from chronic medical conditions. UCLA provides a compassionate support structure, including stoma nurses, pain specialists, physical therapists and social workers, to help ensure an optimal recovery. We have an internal medicine



hospitalist who works with each bladder cancer patient to coordinate care after surgery.



“As bladder cancer treatments often involve complex reconstructions, patients can best be treated at a center with a diverse and highly experienced treatment team.”

— *Arnold I. Chin, M.D., Ph.D.*
Assistant Professor in Urology



Why UCLA?

- Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and UCLA Department of Urology ranked “Best in the West” by *U.S. News & World Report*
- UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center is designated a comprehensive cancer center by the National Cancer Institute
- Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center ranked No. 1 in patient satisfaction*
- UCLA Institute of Urologic Oncology’s Multidisciplinary Tumor Board unites urology, medical oncology, radiation oncology, radiology, pathology and clinical trials
- State-of-the-art operating rooms and robotic surgery
- Access to emerging therapies through our Clinical Trials Program

*Source: *University Healthsystem Consortium*

Diagnosis

UCLA is dedicated to finding the best way to diagnose and treat your cancer. UCLA physicians thoroughly evaluate patients using visual inspection of the bladder interior by cystoscopy, bladder biopsies and biological markers in the urine. Advanced imaging studies including computed tomography (CT), magnetic resonance (MR) and positron emission tomography (PET), can be used to determine if the cancer has spread to other areas. We have a multidisciplinary tumor board that discusses complex cases.

Surgery

UCLA physicians perform hundreds of bladder cancer surgeries every year from local resections to radical surgeries and bladder reconstructions. Depending on the individual, these can include nerve-sparing approaches and robotic-assisted laparoscopic radical cystectomy. UCLA has expertise in complex reconstructions in the creation of neobladders, continent diversions and ileal conduits. Neobladders and continent diversions in appropriate patients will restore urinary function without the need for an external collection device. Patients will follow a carefully planned surveillance schedule after treatment.

Medical Therapies

Following local resection, UCLA offers multiple options for intravesical therapy including Bacillus Calmette-Guerin, interferon alpha and chemotherapeutics. For advanced disease, UCLA uses standard chemotherapy regimens as well as experimental therapies through clinical trials. These include molecular targeted drugs, which are used against specific biological pathways in cells.

Alternatives

In select patients at UCLA, we may offer chemotherapy and radiation therapy as an alternative to bladder removal. These patients follow a specialized protocol and carefully undergo surveillance to ensure a complete response.





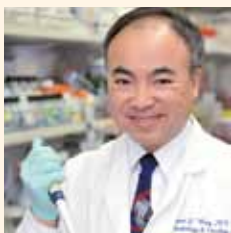
Appointments

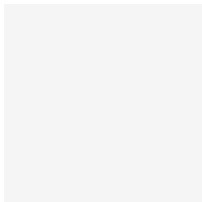
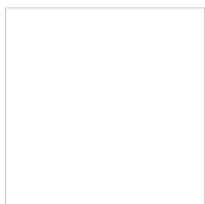
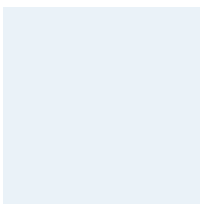
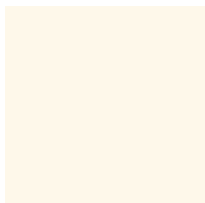
For an appointment with the UCLA Bladder Cancer Program, please call (310) 794-7700.

Clinical Trial Information

For information on bladder cancer clinical trials, please call (310) 794-7704.

For more information about the UCLA Bladder Cancer Program, visit www.urology.ucla.edu





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UCLA Bladder Cancer Program**

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