ABOUT US: BENCH TO COMMUNITY

The University of Illinois Cancer Center is the only public university-based cancer center in Chicago dedicated to the pursuit of health equity and study of cancer disparities.

Our expert, multidisciplinary cancer focused physicians and researchers are committed to advancing innovative breakthroughs with the goal of preventing and eliminating cancer.

Through our nationally renowned community outreach programs that address health care disparities and build upon our population health initiatives, we have established a community-based program through our Federally Qualified Health Centers to screen and navigate patients early—before their cancers become more aggressive and to increase their chances for positive outcomes.

CONTACT US

UI Cancer Center
Administrative Office
312-413-5598

For UI Health Patients
866-600-CARE

Primary care at one of our local
Federally Qualified Health Centers
312-996-2000

facebook.com/UICancerCenter
@Uicancercenter

Office of Community Engaged Research and Implementation Science (OCERIS)

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How We Help

Prevention, Screening, Survivorship, Advocacy

Low and no cost screening programs available for these cancers:

- Lung
- Breast
- Colorectal
- Cervical
- Prostate

Prevention is the best way to stay healthy. Available prevention programs include:

- Tobacco cessation
- Obesity
- Lifestyle and diet
- HPV

Policy Work

Influencing local and national policies is critical to driving change and saving lives.

Highlights of recent policy successes:

- Advocated for low dose CT scan use for lung cancer screening. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in the United States.
- Partnered with the American Cancer Society to change colorectal screening guidelines to begin at age 45.
- Strengthened prostate screening guidelines for men.
- Advocated for a policy that now allows more young women to be screened for cervical cancer.

National Institutes of Health (NIH) Funded Research and Collaborations

We are fortunate to have NIH funding. Some of these partnerships are:

**CHICAGO CHEC** (Chicago Cancer Health Equities Collaborative): ChicagoCHEC is a comprehensive partnership to address cancer disparities through research, education, training, and engagement.

**All of Us SM Research Program** All of Us SM Research Program is an effort to improve the prevention and treatment of disease based on individual differences in lifestyle, environment, and genetics.

**CHER CHICAGO** (Center for Health Equity Research Chicago): This program addresses how various social structures and determinants contribute to the health of marginalized groups.

**Patient Brigade:** We pride ourselves on including the voice of the community/patients/patient advocates in all areas of our research through engagement with our Patient Brigade volunteers.

Introducing Young People to Health Disparities Careers and Research

Through several programs we train young scientists in cancer disparities and introduce them to careers in cancer research. These programs include The GUIDE Project, a collaboration with Governors State University; ResearchStart which is geared to introducing cancer disparities research to high school students; and a program through Chicago CHEC to introduce young investigators to the field.

“African American women who live on the south and west sides of Chicago suffer disproportionate mortality rates from breast cancer compared to women residing in other areas. Providing genetic counseling to African American women with a family history of breast cancer may prove to be an effective strategy in mitigating breast cancer mortality rates.”

— Kaylan Norise, a senior at Governors State University and 2017 GUIDE Summer Scholars Program Participant