

UVA High-Risk Pancreatic Cancer Program

Give Your Patients the Best Chance for Survival

As a physician, you know that pancreatic cancer is one of the most fatal cancers. You also know that by the time a patient experiences symptoms or is diagnosed, it's often too late.

At UVA, we're working to change that with:

- One of the first prevention programs in the country for patients at high risk for pancreatic cancer
- Advanced surgery options
- Breakthrough research and clinical trials to help catch the disease earlier

High-Risk Pancreatic Cancer Clinic

Located at our Emily Couric Clinical Cancer Center, this program is one of the first in the country to screen patients with key risk factors for pancreatic cancer. A screening at our clinic may involve:

- A comprehensive physical exam
- Documentation of family history
- Discussion of lifestyle and behavioral risk factors like smoking and alcohol use
- Genetic counseling and testing if appropriate
- Endoscopic ultrasound
- High-resolution pancreatic protocol MRI
- Follow-up throughout the rest of the patient's life
- Minimally invasive biopsy

Advanced Surgery Options

Our outcomes and volumes are among the best in the country. Our surgeons, gastroenterologists, pathologists, radiologists, nurses and genetic counselors are specially trained and are dedicated to providing the best care for your patients – both in terms of quality and the patient experience.

For pancreatic cancer patients needing surgery, we offer:

- The Whipple procedure
- Distal pancreatectomy
- Total pancreatectomy
- Minimally invasive surgical techniques

Breakthrough Research

We're always researching ways to identify pancreatic cancer early on and give patients the best chance for survival. Here's a snapshot of what we're currently working on:

- Kimberly Kelly, PhD, associate professor of bio-medical engineering, is leading research for a test that could identify precancerous pancreatic cells.
- Dr. Kelly, cancer researcher Tom Parsons and surgeon Todd Bauer, MD, have discovered a biomarker in the tumor that is a sign of cancer cells in more than 90 percent of all pancreatic tumors. They are currently working to develop an early detection blood test for pancreatic cancer and are working to develop the first early detection molecular imaging scan for pancreatic cancer.
- We also offer clinical trials to pioneer new treatment options for pancreatic cancer patients.

Hope for a Brighter Future

At its inception, the High-Risk Pancreatic Cancer Clinic set out to bridge the gap between the time patients know they have a strong risk factor for pancreatic cancer and when they are screened for cancer, with the goal of discovering pre-cancerous, or "early", lesions which can be successfully treated. By proactively seeking out high-risk patients, providing a comprehensive screening, establishing the nation's first evidence-based screening protocols and developing the world's first biomarker for pancreatic cancer, UVA aims to establish itself as the premier center for pancreatic cancer.

To make a referral or find out more about our program, call 434.243.5233.

UVA High-Risk Pancreatic Cancer Clinic
 Emily Couric Clinical Cancer Center
 1240 Lee Street
 Charlottesville, VA 22903

highriskpancreas@virginia.edu
uvahealth.com/pancreatic-cancer