

Cancer Program Annual Report 2004



ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
CANCER PROGRAM
ANNUAL REPORT 2004

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I. RWJUH MISSION, VISION, VALUES

RWJUH MISSION

Our CORE Mission is to provide the highest quality patient care, education, research, and community outreach in a supportive environment that enhances the well being of everyone we touch.

Care: to keep the patient at the center of our Mission and to continually strive to provide patients with the most appropriate and highest-level of health care possible in a safe and supportive environment.

Outreach and Service to the Community: to develop a wide range of public health education and service activities tailored to the needs of its constituents.

Research: to serve as the center for clinical research and the advancement of medical knowledge.

Education: to maintain viable medical and health education programs.

RWJUH VISION

- ❖ Be nationally recognized as a premier academic medical center committed to patient care, community outreach, research, and education.
- ❖ Provide leading edge technology and health care professionals demonstrating excellence in the delivery of patient care.
- ❖ Provide high-quality, patient-centered care in a safe and supportive environment, demonstrated by superior outcomes and integrated, efficient use of clinical and financial resources.
- ❖ Maintain and continue to develop distinctive programs using the unique resources of an academic medical center and through the development of strategic partnerships that will allow the Hospital to fulfill its Mission and maintain its presence in the marketplace.

RWJUH VALUES

- ❖ Respect for human dignity and the worth of each individual
- ❖ Continuous pursuit of excellence
- ❖ Collaborative and safe approach to patient care delivery
- ❖ Providing an environment for the advancement of education of health care professionals
- ❖ Commitment to the effective stewardship of entrusted resources, including human and financial capital
- ❖ Service to the community

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II. OVERVIEW OF RWJUH CANCER PROGRAM



The Cancer Hospital of New Jersey at RWJUH brings together the latest technologies, cutting edge cancer research, and the very best in compassionate, supportive, evidence-based care for oncology patients.

As the flagship hospital of the Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ), New Jersey's only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, the 123-bed "hospital within a hospital" is comprised of many specialized units. These include: an outpatient chemotherapy treatment area, a bone marrow transplant unit, a hematology-oncology unit, a medical oncology unit and a surgical oncology unit. In addition, there is a four bed urgent-care center located on the medical oncology unit which enables patients to be treated immediately by oncology specialists, bypassing the Emergency Department.

For children and young adults with cancer, the Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital at RWJUH houses a pediatric hematology-oncology unit offering age-appropriate care in a family-oriented environment. Patients, who range in age from birth to twenty-one, are supported with age-appropriate medical, psychological, and spiritual care. On-site tutoring along with recreation and activity centers staffed with Child Life Specialists enable children to normalize activities while hospitalized. Established Thanatologic counseling, as well as pediatric palliative care and parent advocacy programs complete the full spectrum of cancer care modalities offered to our pediatric population.

To complete the full spectrum of services offered, RWJUH's Cancer Program hospital provides wide-ranging oncology-focused services including diagnostic, laboratory, psychosocial services, pain management, and radiation therapy.

Radiology services are offered around the clock in all venues of diagnostic imaging including CT Scan, MRI, Interventional Radiology, Ultrasound, and Nuclear Medicine including PET scanning. Services are offered for all populations, with increased specialization for Pediatrics.

The diagnostic services offered include the latest in breast cancer detection and treatment. The Women's Imaging Center at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital offers the latest technology in mammography, breast, and gynecological ultrasound. The Center also offers stereotactic breast biopsy, ultrasound-guided core breast biopsy and ultrasound-guided fine-needle biopsy as well as needle-localization for breast biopsy and lumpectomy.

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The Radiation Oncology department offers Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy [IMRT], stereotactic radiosurgery, precise high-dose radiation treatment therapy, brachytherapy, and CT simulation, a body scanning technology providing high resolution images to map tumor location, for both inpatients and outpatients. Providing on-site radiation therapy services enables hospital inpatients to receive radiation therapy that is coordinated with their other care modalities; providing for both continuity of care while avoiding the expense and inconvenience of off-site transport to receive cutting-edge cancer treatment.

The Cancer Hospital of New Jersey focuses on the total care of the patient and family, ensuring all needs are met including education, psychological and spiritual support. Supportive services available for this Magnet Award-winning hospital include the care of a dedicated oncology social worker, an oncology nutritionist, two oncology-specific outcomes managers, a chaplain, and a wide variety of complementary therapies provided through our Integrative Healing Program. Therapies include: reiki, acupuncture, massage therapy, pet therapy, therapeutic touch, music therapy, meditation, and guided imagery.

In addition, there are numerous support and education opportunities for patients and their family. The oncology chaplain holds weekly support sessions for patients and caregivers. Educational sessions regarding various aspects of cancer care are regularly held, and patient and family education areas, including Internet access, are available throughout the Cancer Hospital of New Jersey. Patients and families also have access to the support and educational programs offered at CINJ.

There are various Oncology-focused Community Outreach activities that are also offered. Screening programs for the citizens of Middlesex County include monthly breast cancer screenings including mammography for low- income citizens, biannual prostate cancer screenings and colorectal cancer screenings. In addition, periodic skin and oral cancer screenings for residents are coordinated through the University of Medicine and Dentistry/Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

Working in concert with CINJ, patients at both The Cancer Hospital of New Jersey at RWJUH and The Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital at RWJUH have access to many clinical trials. Providing a complete range of services for patients is further accomplished through our contractual agreement with Compassionate Care Hospice. Through this agreement, we are able to offer adult patients the option of transitioning to hospice care while still at RWJUH, enabling them and their families' time to make further arrangements and receive education and care regarding end of life and palliative care treatments.

The Cancer Hospital of New Jersey at RWJUH maintains an on-site Tumor Registry. The Registry reports to the State of New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services Cancer Epidemiology Services. Registry services are highlighted in section V of this report.

The services offered at the Cancer Hospital of New Jersey at RWJUH are truly full spectrum, ranging from cancer screening, diagnostic and laboratory services for diagnosis, to in- and outpatient treatment areas, supportive and complementary therapies, and hospice care.

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III. MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CANCER COMMITTEE AT RWJUH



On behalf of the Cancer Program at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital (RWJUH), the Cancer Committee is pleased to present the 2004 Cancer Program Annual Report. This report highlights the goals, achievements, activities, and services that have contributed to the success of the Cancer Program during this past year. I am pleased to report that the **American College of Surgeons (ACoS) Commission on Cancer (CoC)** has accredited the Cancer Program at RWJUH as a National Cancer Institute-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Program. This important designation acknowledges our continued demonstration of a multidisciplinary, comprehensive, and integrated approach to the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer. It also demonstrates our commitment to our **CORE Mission: Care, Outreach, Research, and Education.**

It is through partnerships with The CINJ, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ)-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (RWJMS), physicians, scientists, community, caregivers, patients, and others that the Cancer Program at RWJUH continues to grow. In addition to this Cancer Program Annual Report that demonstrates our success according to American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer standards, annual reports and other literature that describe cancer services, programs, and achievements in more detail are also available. To name a few:

- ❖ Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Annual Report (contact the Public and Community Affairs at 732- 937-8521 and Web Site at www.rwjuh.edu)
- ❖ The CINJ Annual Report (contact the Public Relations Department at 732-235-8611 and Web Site at www.cinj.umdnj.edu)
- ❖ University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Annual Report (contact the Public Relations Department at 973-972-5000 and Web Site at www.umdnj.edu).

The interdisciplinary health care team at RWJUH merit high praise for their dedication to improving the lives of cancer patients and their families, furthering outreach efforts, advancing cancer research, and continuing the education of the public and future health care professionals. It is an exciting time for the Cancer Program at RWJUH!

William N. Hait, MD, PhD
Chairman, RWJUH Cancer Committee

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IV. CANCER COMMITTEE AND PROGRAM

A. PURPOSE

The Cancer Committee at RWJUH is a multidisciplinary committee that provides vision, leadership and direction for RWJUH's Cancer Program. The Cancer Committee convenes regularly and is responsible for goal setting, planning, initiating, implementing, evaluating, and improving all cancer related activities. Dr. William Hait, Director of CINJ and Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology at UMDNJ-RWJMS, chairs the Committee. Dr. Michael J. Nissenblatt, Medical Director of Medical Oncology at RWJUH and Professor of Medicine at UMDNJ-RWJMS, is the Cancer Liaison Physician.

B. MEMBERSHIP

The Cancer Committee membership is multidisciplinary, representing physicians from the diagnostic and treatment specialties and non-physicians from administrative and supportive services. The following list of Committee members in 2004 reflects the multidisciplinary nature of the Cancer Committee:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Specialty</u>
Joseph Aisner, MD	Medical Oncology
David A. August, MD	Surgical Oncology
Bonnie Baloga-Altieri, MSN, RN, CNAA	Cancer Program Administrator
Nicola Barnard, MD	Pathology
Rachel Behrendt, RN, C, BA	Oncology Nursing Education
Maureen Bueno, PhD, RN	Disease Management/Clinical Outcomes
Regina Cunningham, Ph.D., MA, RN	Chief Nurse, CINJ
Reverend John DeVelder	Pastoral Care
Richard Drachtman, MD	Pediatric Hematology/Oncology
Henry Durivage, PhD	Clinical Research Data
Maureen Eng, MA, RN	Hospice and Home Care Administrator
Richard S. Feinstein, MD	Diagnostic Radiology
Molly Gabel, MD	Radiation Oncology
Debra Good, MSW, LCSW, CMAC	Case Management
James Goydos, MD	Surgical Oncology
William Hait, MD, PhD	Cancer Committee Chair, Medical Oncology
Brandi Handel, MSN, RN, APN	Oncology Nursing
Mary Jo Kelleher RN, BSN, OCN	Oncology Nursing
Mary Kelly, RN, MA, AOCN, BC-PCM	Oncology Nursing
Tracey Malast, RN, MSN	Surgical Oncology Nursing
Aracelis M. Maisonet, CTR	Cancer Registry
Miriam Merced	Community Outreach
Michael J. Nissenblatt, MD	Cancer Liaison Physician, Medical Oncology
Richard Ragovin	Radiology/Radiation Oncology
Lorna Rodriguez, MD	Gynecological Oncology
Joan Runfola	Community Outreach
Steve Shiff MD	GI
Christine Skotzko, MD	Psychiatry
Pat Stack, RN, CPHQ, LNC	Performance Improvement
Roger Strair, MD	Hematology Oncology
Mary Todd, DO	Deputy Director, CINJ
Stan Trooskin, MD	Surgical Oncology

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C. ACHIEVEMENTS AND GOALS

The Cancer Committee develops and evaluates the annual goals and objectives for the clinical, community outreach, quality improvement, and programmatic endeavors related to cancer care.

Achievements of the RWJUH Cancer Program for the year 2004 are reported below:

- The Cancer Committee leadership was restructured to adhere to the ACoS CoC 2004 Standards. Leadership now includes the designation of coordinators for Cancer Conference, Quality Control of Cancer Registry, Quality Improvement, and Community Outreach.
- Activities and services offered by American Cancer Society for patients in the hospital were increased.
- A cytogenetics lab was opened on campus to improve efficiencies of cytogenetics lab findings and results.
- RWJUH received re-accreditation from JCAHO.
- A 31 bed inpatient surgical oncology unit with intermediate care was opened within the Cancer Hospital of RWJUH.
- Brachytherapy services were expanded and are now available on the Surgical Oncology Unit.
- The construction of the 5 story building for the CINJ expansion of services was completed.
- The Resource and Learning Center at CINJ was opened to provide education and resources to patients, families and the community to learn more about their cancer diagnosis, treatment, procedures, and symptom management.
- The LIFE Center for young women at risk for breast cancer was opened.
- CoPATH was implemented in the RWJUH Pathology Department, with an update that will assist physicians in complying with Clinical Association of Pathology (CAP) protocols and standards.
- Core grant renewal was achieved through CINJ re-designation as NCI-Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Implementation of a closed-system chemotherapy delivery system was completed ensuring both reduced potential for staff exposure and adherence to the latest OSHA chemotherapy recommendations.
- Stereotactic cranial radiosurgery was added to radiology services.
- Two special patient care evaluation studies on breast cancer and lung cancer were completed, utilizing tumor registry data.
- The Integrative Healing Program was implemented offering complementary therapies such as: acupuncture, massage therapy, therapeutic touch, reiki therapy, music therapy, guided imagery, herbal counseling, nutritional counseling and spiritual care.
- A Women's Resource Center at RWJUH was opened offering health book lending, internet access, videos, and weekly workshops for women.
- A childhood cancer survivors' clinic program was implemented at CINJ.
- Tumor Registry data was sent to the state in a timely manner.
- A college level oncology nursing course was offered to undergraduate students at Rutgers University.

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2005 is expected to be another productive year. Goals for 2005 include:

- To implement Matched Unrelated Donor Hematopoietic Progenitor Cell Transplant program.
- To establish a pediatric oncology specific performance improvement team.
- To develop a standardized form/location for TNM staging.
- To present at the Oncology Nursing Society annual conference in Florida.
- To implement use of PleurX®catheter as a treatment modality for malignant ascites.
- To look at palliative care issues through chart review on end of life care and to create a taskforce to address these issues.
- To review relative toxicities of open versus laparoscopic nephrectomy
- To review adjuvant treatment for stage III colorectal cancer
- To work on implementing a consent form for chemotherapy
- To increase outreach/treatment/education to underserved populations through Spanish translations
- To reorganize Oncology Performance Improvement team into service specific groups (medical, hematology, GYN, radiation, surgical)
- To pilot and implement PAACT-a pediatric palliative care program at home.
- To implement complementary therapy, including acupuncture.

D. ACTIVITIES



A continuum of care exists between RWJUH and the CINJ. Since its inception, RWJUH's Cancer Program has been committed to providing resources to address the physical, psychosocial, emotional, and spiritual needs of our patients, families, and significant others. The Cancer Program offers some of the most innovative and advanced therapies in the state for oncology patients. Because the Cancer Program clinicians and research scientists work closely together, new drugs and treatments developed in the laboratory are rapidly translated into clinical practice offering patients innovative therapeutic options. A coordinated effort among individuals from nursing and patient services, pastoral care, social services/case management, volunteer services, and many other departments exists to meet and exceed the expectations of adult and pediatric patients who need guidance, assistance, and support. The following is a brief summary of some of these services (listed below in alphabetical order).

Case Management

The Department of Case Management, comprised of Social Workers, Outcome Managers, and a Placement Coordinator, work collaboratively with other members of the health care team to promote positive outcomes for the oncology patient population. Comprehensive services are provided to insure continuity of care. Discharge planning services aid in patients and their families making arrangements

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for the next step after hospitalization, whether it is to home or to a facility. Referrals to community programs help patients' transition back to home living. Interventions with insurance companies maximize reimbursement and services for the highest level of care. Counseling for patients and families in all stages of the disease helps in adjustment to the illness and changes in lifestyle. The specific needs of the bone marrow transplant population are anticipated and addressed. Assistance is provided for end of life issues and hospice referrals.

Clinical Programs

Active clinical programs at RWJUH/CINJ include:

- ❖ Bone Marrow/Stem Cell Transplant- autologous and allogeneic matched related donor and umbilical cord
- ❖ Breast Oncology
- ❖ Cancer Risk Assessment and Genetic Counseling/Familial Cancers
- ❖ Clinical Research
- ❖ Gastroenterology Oncology
- ❖ Genitourinary Oncology
- ❖ Gynecological Oncology
- ❖ Hospice and Home Care
- ❖ Leukemia/Lymphoma
- ❖ Melanoma and Soft Tissue Oncology
- ❖ Pathology
- ❖ Pediatric Oncology
- ❖ Phase I/Developmental Therapeutics
- ❖ Radiation Oncology
- ❖ Symptom Management Supportive Care
- ❖ Thoracic Oncology

Community Outreach

Outreach to the community is a cornerstone of the RWJUH mission. As such, education of the public is an incumbent responsibility of every healthcare provider within the institution. The RWJUH Cancer Program provides community education regarding early detection and prevention of cancer as well as information about treatment resources. Education is a collaborative and interdisciplinary activity. Each discipline assesses the learning needs relating to their particular specialty. In total, the biological, psychological, physiological, spiritual and cultural needs of the patient are assessed through our public education and outreach. Various programs that are offered include, but are not limited to: cancer screenings, cancer prevention programs, public education programs about specific cancer topics, Cancer Education and Early Detection Services (CEEDS) in collaboration with the State of New Jersey, annual American Cancer Society events, health fairs, and publications.

2004 Cancer Awareness, Screenings, and Education Initiatives Included:

Breast Cancer and Prostate Cancer Theater Projects- This year's initiatives included:

1. The "Sharing Stories/Compartiendo Historias" Breast Cancer Theater Project which reached-out to over 355 community residents in 2004. The presentations included a play, an educational seminar,

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an evaluation and referrals to local free mammogram clinics available in the community. The NJ Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure Foundation funds this program.

2. The “I am a Man/Soy un Hombre” Prostate Cancer Theater which reached-out to over 135 community residents in 2004. The presentation included a prostate cancer awareness play, an educational seminar, an evaluation and referrals to local community prostate cancer screenings. This program is made possible through the CINJ Novartis Outreach Grant.

Free Mammogram Screening- This year was the final year of the Free Breast Cancer Screening Research Project. After 7 years, the CHPP in conjunction with the CINJ were able to provide through this study a total of 770 free mammograms to minority women of the greater New Brunswick area. In 2004, a total of 118 mammograms were provided as part of the study. An additional 30 women were referred to the CINJ for follow-up services, and 90 new referrals for mammograms were sent to the Middlesex County Public Health Department CEED Program.

Annual Free Prostate Cancer Screening- This year, the CHPP partnered with the CINJ Outreach Department, the Dean and Betty Gallo Prostate Cancer Center, RWJUH Urology Department, the New Brunswick Faith Based Collaborative to expand our annual prostate cancer screening to three days. As a result, a total of 298 men participated in this years screening, and 24 men were referred for follow-up services. The CHPP was able to increase to 64% the amount of men screened for prostate cancer.

Annual PAP Day- A total of 31 women participated at this year’s screening. In addition, 12 women were referred for further follow-up services. As in the past, the CHPP, the Cancer Institute of NJ, and the Middlesex County Public Health Department sponsored this screening.

[Consultation and Liaison Psychiatry Services](#)

The Consultation and Liaison Psychiatry Department provides services to both the patients and staff of the hospital. Faculty includes psychiatry attendings with extensive clinical experience in oncology. We additionally provide education for medical students from UMDNJ-RWJMS, and trainees from Family Practice, General Internal Medicine, and Psychology Internship Programs. Assistance in evaluating and managing anxiety, depression, confusion, and adjustment issues, while decreasing distress and optimizing comfort are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Expertise exists in managing organic brain syndromes, complex pain complaints, and chemotherapy induced changes in mentation.

[Home Care and Hospice Services](#)

Home Care Services include professional nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, social services, and home health aides that are coordinated to meet the individual needs of oncology patients in their homes. In addition, home care for oncology patients often includes home intravenous infusion for medication delivery and TPN. Particular emphasis is placed on the continuum of care so that the patient and family experience as seamless a transition as possible from in-patient care to home care. The home care interdisciplinary team uses a collaborative approach to teaching self care management and independence. Patients may be referred for either inpatient hospice services or at hospice care in their home. RWJUH offers inpatient hospice services, through a contractual agreement with a Medicare certified hospice, to all patients who may require aggressive symptom management prior to going home on hospice as well as to those patients that may be too ill to be moved. In 2004, 117 patients elected their hospice benefit at RWJUH.

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A major initiative of the RWJUH Home Care Department has been to address and assist patients to manage their pain. Quality indicator results for 2004 have continued to show the Home Care Department to be consistently about the national norm for positive outcomes.

[Nursing Services](#)

Comprehensive nursing services are provided to adult and pediatric patients with medical, hematologic and/or surgical oncology conditions. An interdisciplinary approach to nursing care is provided for both inpatients and outpatients. Nursing staff collaborate with outcomes managers, dietitians, pastoral care workers, pharmacists, physicians, respiratory therapists, social workers, among others in the delivery of care to patients. Nursing staff achieve and maintain competency in providing care to patients requiring chemotherapy, biotherapy, radiation therapy, pain management, management of neutropenia, thrombocytopenia and anemia, blood and blood product administration, telemetry monitoring, implementation of research protocols, and more. Oncology nurses utilize standards of care and practice that are based on current research as well as standards and guidelines from the Oncology Nurses Society (ONS) when developing and implementing individualized plans of care. Hospital-wide policies and procedures, oncology specific policies and procedures, and regulations from regulatory agencies also govern nursing practice.

Nurses maintain competency through participation in a variety of internal and external educational programs. In 2004, our 5-day Oncology Nursing Fundamentals course was offered to all new graduates as well as experienced nurses new to oncology nursing. This course, based on the Oncology Nursing Society's Core Curriculum, offers state-of-the-art information related to oncology nursing concepts and practices. In addition, nurses are encouraged to attain oncology nurse and other certifications. The Continuity of Care Committee comprised of nurse leaders from Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, the CINJ and community oncology offices continued to meet monthly in 2004 to further enhance patient care services between the inpatient and outpatient settings. Awards are offered annually to encourage educational advancement of oncology nurses. These awards provide financial assistance to nurses desiring to obtain Oncology Nurse Certification or to fund undergraduate or graduate nursing education. Another award is given to a member of the medical oncology clinical or support staff who is recognized for delivering exceptional care to patients. The award recipient may attend a professional meeting in his or her area of expertise to help pay for tuition, certificate or a continuing education program, or to support research activities by a staff member. The oncology areas in the hospital are actively involved in the hospital's patient satisfaction initiative.



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Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Department promotes holistic healing through the practice of competent and compassionate ministry, consultation, spiritual counseling, and religious services to patients, families, and staff of the Hospital. Chaplains provide weekly support groups for patients and families, and monthly support groups for staff. Clinically trained chaplains are available 24 hours each day for patients of all faiths. Chaplains make spiritual assessments, develop pastoral care plans, and contribute to the interdisciplinary patient care rounds, support groups, and bereavement groups. Chaplains work collaboratively with local clergy and congregations to strengthen the linkage between care given by the chaplain and care given by the patients' congregations.

Pathology and Laboratory Services

The Pathology Service and the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine play a major supportive role in the diagnosis and care of cancer patients and the research efforts of the Cancer Program through the divisions of Anatomic and Clinical Pathology. Anatomic Pathology is integrally involved in the care of oncology patients through its surgical pathology, cytopathology, neuropathology, and other sections. Clinical pathology remains active in transfusion medicine, clinical chemistry, molecular diagnostics, hematology, and microbiology areas. The labs have successfully handled a significant increase in volume and complexity of care for oncology patients.

Pediatric Hematology-Oncology

This state-of-the-art 10-bed unit accepts and treats patients with blood disorders and cancer. The pediatric Hematology/Oncology team participates in clinical research trials, administers chemotherapy, biologic modifiers and blood products, assesses and controls for infections secondary to neutropenia. There is an in-house school-tutoring program that helps pediatric patients maintain age-specific growth and development activities while hospitalized. Each single room provides a range of amenities including television sets, VCRs, Nintendo games and in-room sleeping accommodations for parents. Specialists in every aspect of pediatric care are available and participate, as needed, in the multidisciplinary team caring for each patient. A separate same-day services suite, pediatric emergency room, radiology suite and rehabilitation room is specially designed to meet the needs of children and their families assuring a pediatric focus that enhances every aspect of the services provided at the hospital. .



The Bristol Myers Squibb Children's Hospital at RWJUH

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Performance Improvement (PI)



The Oncology Program at RWJUH is fully integrated into the hospital's Performance Improvement (PI) Program. The PI program is a comprehensive, collaborative, interdisciplinary, and organization-wide approach to performance measurement, assessment, and improvement. It is linked to the Hospital's Vision, Mission, Values, and Strategic Plan. The PI program incorporates the Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), the Health Care Criteria for Performance Excellence of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Program, ACoS CoC quality requirements, and other relevant standards and regulatory requirements. PI projects designed to improve outcomes and process of care for cancer patients are determined based on data and are improved with involvement from various disciplines.

The Oncology Performance Improvement team has taken on many initiatives to improve the quality of healthcare delivered to our oncology patients using an evidence-based model. In 2004 the team continued its focus on quality chemotherapy ordering, administration and documentation. The chemotherapy policy was revised to incorporate new safety initiatives and changes in ordering process, verification process and documentation. The team also looked at nutritional support for oncology patients and used a "best practice" approach to address patient education on food/drug interaction and nutritional supplements. The PI indicator for nutrition was revised and implemented. In addition, the team looked at the adequacy of pain management in the oncology population. A new policy on pain management and a new pain documentation flow sheet were implemented following staff in-servicing and education. More so than ever before, the team is taking advantage of what the tumor registry has to offer in terms of data collection and taking a more disease-focused approach.

Radiation Oncology

The Radiation Oncology Department at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital is the (flagship) Radiation Oncology facility for the Cancer Institute of New Jersey. Since its opening in 2003, it has demonstrated its commitment to high quality care, combining the latest in technology with personalized and supportive care throughout and after treatment.

The Cancer Hospital of New Jersey's Radiation Oncology Department provides the latest diagnostic and treatment technology including intensity modulated radiation therapy or IMRT, the most precise form of radiation therapy. Computer generated images direct higher and more precise radiation to

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tumors while protecting healthy tissue; stereotactic radiosurgery, a precision high-dose radiation treatment therapy; CT simulation, and an advanced body scanning technology that gives doctors the ability to better view the patient's anatomy with high-resolution, three-dimensional images, used to determine the shape and location of tumors.

Located in the G2 level of The Cancer Hospital at RWJUH in New Brunswick, the department offers:

3D Conformal external beam radiotherapy
Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy (IMRT)
Stereotactic Radiosurgery
Stereotactic Radiotherapy
Extracranial Radiosurgery
Gynecologic brachytherapy
Timely consultations
Automatic communication and return referral to referring physician(s)
Free Parking
Extensive patient education
Patient support programs



Radiology Services

The Radiology Service and Department are integrally involved in social aspects of cancer care ranging from diagnosis with the latest technology to vascular access and treatment with interventional radiology techniques. Radiology and mammography services, in particular, are accredited by the American College of Radiology. The department is actively involved in research studies involving cancer patients. On-site services offered include:

- ❖ Angiography
- ❖ Computerized Axial Tomography Scan (CT)
- ❖ Digital Radiography
- ❖ Mammography
- ❖ Magnetic resonance Imaging (MRI)
- ❖ Nuclear Medicine
- ❖ Positron Emission Tomography Scan (PET)
- ❖ Stereotactic Guided Biopsy
- ❖ Ultrasound

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Research

The Institute for Health Care Research (IHCR) at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital provides an organizational framework that supports interdisciplinary research and facilitates scientific inquiry to improve patient, provider and organizational outcomes. Funded by external funding sources, the ICHR is New Jersey's first and only research institute to be housed in an academic health care setting. The ICHR supports the Hospital's four-fold mission of Care, Outreach, Research and Education. The research agenda of the ICHR includes clinical interdisciplinary research studies of the care of patient with cancer. Funded within the ICHR is the position of the Yvette Stolzer, Oncology Nurse Research Scholar, which is held by a doctorally prepared research scientist. Her role is to collaborate with clinicians to identify research questions and conduct studies designed to improve oncology patient outcomes through evidence-based nursing practice.

Studies are underway to address the effective management of symptoms associated with cancer or cancer treatment. These include the effect of complementary therapies in managing pain and anxiety and improving sleep in hospitalized oncology patients. In addition, an examination of the relationships between language used to describe pain, pain intensity, cardiovascular reactivity and anxiety will add to the understanding of the pain experience and guide the development of targeted interventions.



The CINJ's \$26 million facility, located across the street from Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, serves as the nucleus of the most innovative cancer treatment and research centers in the state. At The CINJ, laboratory research is supported by more than \$80 million annually in cancer-related research grants. Research is being conducted in areas including oncogenes, epidemiology, chemical carcinogenesis, tumor virology and immunology, drug development and resistance, the relationship between cellular and genetic mechanisms and tumor development, and cancer genomics. Patients have unprecedented access to clinical trials that may provide the latest treatment options.

New Jersey Cancer Trial Connect, a web-based resource for healthcare providers and cancer patients, was launched in 2003 to enable people to identify active clinical trials that may be appropriate treatment options. Operated by the CINJ with support from the state of New Jersey, the service contains trial information provided by hospitals, academic institutions, oncology offices, and pharmaceutical companies. New Jersey Cancer Trial Connect enables people with cancer, their families and caregivers to enter specific information about their cancer diagnosis and treatment history. The system will then search its database to find a clinical trial "match." Patients are notified electronically when new clinical trials become available.

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Support Groups



RWJUH staff, physicians, and volunteers facilitate a variety of support groups for patients, families, significant others, and the community. They are either provided on-site or are coordinated with local agencies and facilities, such as The American Cancer Society and include the following:

- ❖ Living With Cancer
- ❖ Living with Cancer – Patient & Family Support Group
- ❖ New Horizons
- ❖ Prostate Cancer
- ❖ Breast Cancer
- ❖ Brain Tumor
- ❖ Leukemia, lymphoma & myeloma support group
- ❖ Lesbians With Cancer
- ❖ Adult Inpatient Support
- ❖ Pediatric Inpatient Support
- ❖ Families of Children with Cancer
- ❖ Bereavement Groups
- ❖ Days of Beauty
- ❖ Look Good Feel Better
- ❖ Strength For Caring
- ❖ Man To Man
- ❖ Reach For Recovery
- ❖ Road To Recovery
- ❖ Cancer Survivors Network
- ❖ STEPS for Learning – Skills to Empower People

In addition to supportive services, there are also numerous prevention and early detection programs provided on-site or coordinated with other facilities including the following:

- ❖ I Can Cope
- ❖ Chemoprevention programs
- ❖ Skin cancer prevention, screening surveys
- ❖ Smoking cessation
- ❖ Smoking prevention in adolescents
- ❖ Breast Care early detection, education, mammography and clinical exams
- ❖ Colonoscopy
- ❖ PAP testing
- ❖ Prostate exams with or without PSA
- ❖ High risk group surveillance

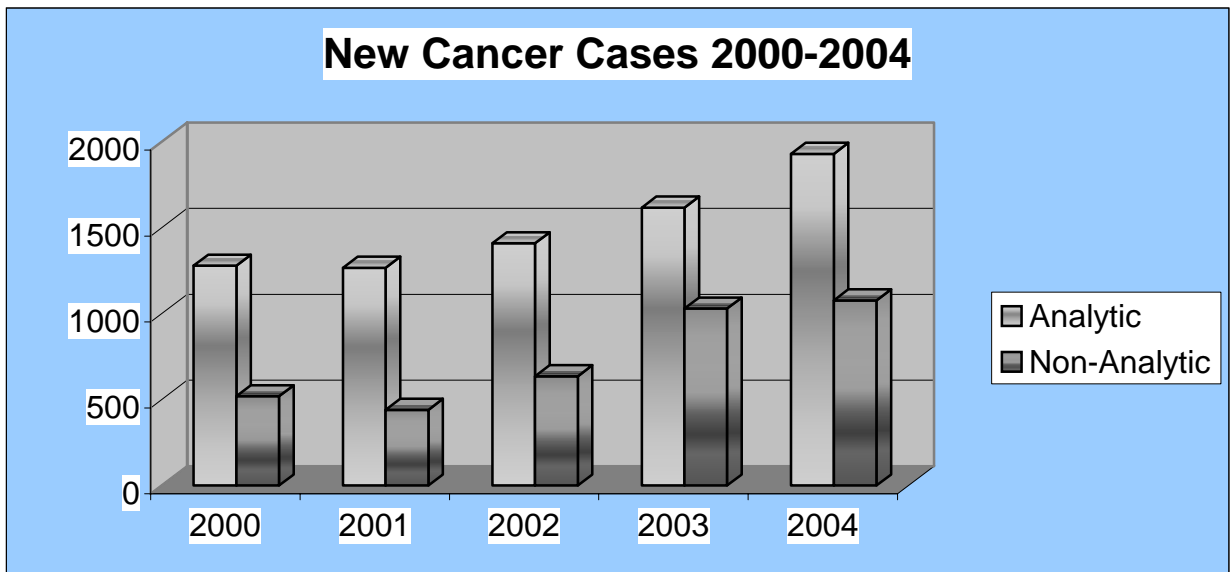
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V. CANCER REGISTRY ACTIVITY

The Cancer Registry is an integral part of the hospital's Cancer Program and a valuable research tool for those interested in the etiology, diagnosis and treatment of cancer. The Cancer Registrar accurately maintains complete data on all types of cancer diagnosed and/or treated at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and the CINJ. In addition, the Registry ensures compliance with the standards and guidelines set forth by the American College of Surgeons (ACOS) for an NCI-Designated Program. Our electronic oncology database contains demographic and clinical information, which includes the patient's history, diagnosis, treatment, and current cancer status. The information obtained by the Registry provides critical information used by physicians for the purpose of education, research, and outcome management. Once a month, all reportable cases are electronically sent to the NJ State Cancer Registry as required by law. At the end of the year, the registry also participates in the Commission on Cancer's National Cancer Data Base Call for Data (NCDB).

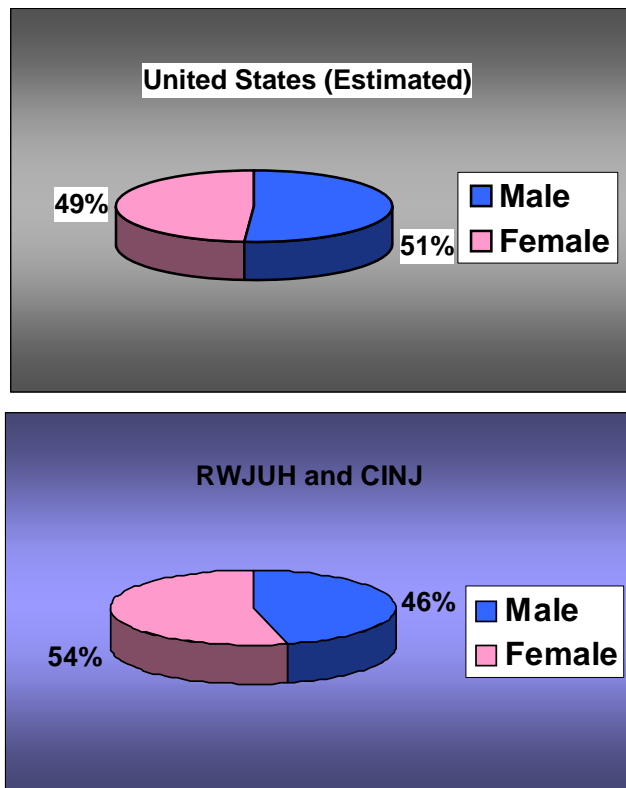
The Cancer Registry has certified skilled professionals who capture a complete summary of the patient's disease from diagnosis through their lifetime. Confidentiality of patient identifying information and related medical data is strictly maintained. The Cancer Registry staff currently includes a Manager, a Cancer Registrar, and a Cancer Registry Assistant.

The Registry maintains an extensive database of 28,414 cases. In 2004, the Registry staff abstracted a total of 3,007 cases; 1,930 were analytic and 1,077 were non-analytic. The graph below shows the total number of analytic and non-analytic cases accessioned in the Registry from 2000 through 2004.



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Of the 1930 patients seen at RWJUH and CINJ in 2004, 878 patients were male and 1,052 were female. This is comparable to the estimated incidence for the United States in 2004.

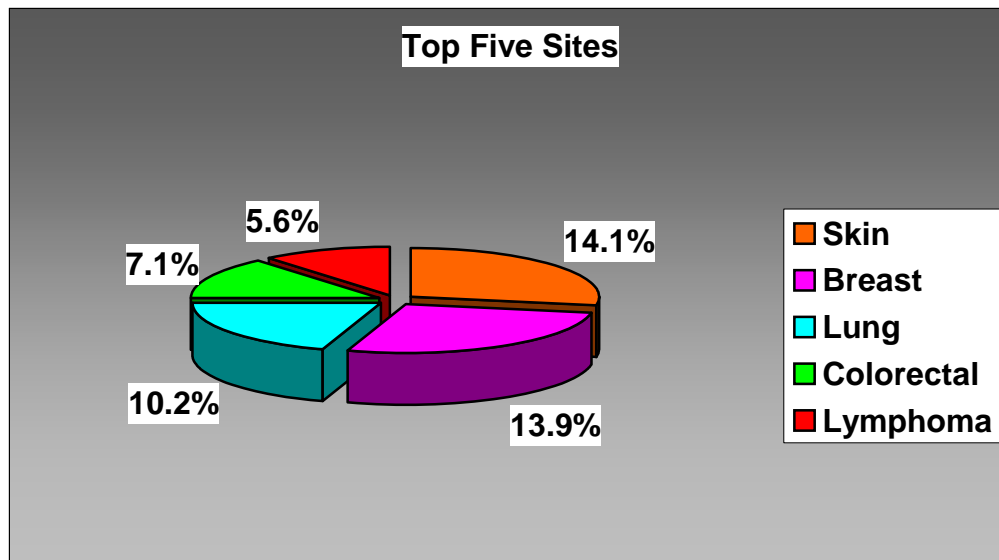


Lifetime follow-up is an important aspect of the Cancer Registry. Current patient follow-up serves as a reminder to physicians and patients to schedule regular clinical examinations and provides accurate survival information. Currently the Registry follows 13,097 patients.

SITE STATISTICS

A review of our 2004 data shows the top five cancer sites at Robert Wood Johnson University and the Cancer Institute of NJ were as follows:

1. Skin with an incidence rate of 14.1%.
2. Breast with an incidence rate of 13.9%.
3. Lung with an incidence rate of 10.2%.
4. Colorectal with an incidence rate of 7.1%.
5. Lymphoma with an incidence rate of 5.6%.





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SITE DISTRIBUTION REPORT FOR 2004
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital & The Cancer Institute of NJ

PRIMARY SITE	TOTAL	SEX		DOMINANT AJCC STAGE GROUP						
		MALE	FEMALE	0	I	II	III	IV	None	Unknown
Oral	7	3	4	0	1	0	1	2	0	3
Esophagus	26	20	6	0	4	4	7	5	0	6
Stomach	45	26	19	0	8	12	4	14	0	7
Colorectal*	137	75	62	8	33	27	33	25	1	10
Liver/Biliary	20	10	10	0	3	4	4	6	0	3
Pancreas	66	31	35	0	3	16	7	24	0	16
Larynx	8	5	3	0	0	1	2	3	0	2
Lung*	197	97	100	0	60	9	44	64	0	20
Connective	12	4	8	0	2	3	0	2	0	5
Skin/Melanoma*	272	135	137	64	133	43	24	3	0	5
Breast*	268	5	263	56	92	57	33	12	0	18
Cervix Uteri	20	0	20	0	5	6	7	1	0	1
Corpus Uteri	38	0	38	0	23	1	6	5	0	3
Ovary	42	0	42	0	7	3	25	5	0	2
Prostate	102	102	0	0	1	83	8	7	0	3
Testis	17	17	0	0	13	2	2	0	0	0
Bladder	61	48	13	20	11	10	5	11	0	4
Kidney/Other	91	62	29	4	59	6	4	15	0	3
Brain/CNS	75	40	35	0	0	0	0	0	75	0
Thyroid	36	8	28	0	27	3	2	3	0	1
Leukemia	84	45	39	0	0	0	0	0	84	0
Lymphoma*	111	71	40	0	27	23	15	32	0	14
Other	195	74	121	9	21	15	5	11	125	9
Total	1,930	878	1,052	161	533	328	238	250	285	135

*Top 5 Sites

Comparison of the Top Cancer Sites, By Gender and Site

MALES			FEMALES		
	RWJUH vs. ESTIMATED			RWJUH vs. ESTIMATED	
Lung	11%	14%	Lung	10%	12%
Prostate	12%	33%	Breast	25%	32%
Colorectal	9%	11%	Colorectal	6%	11%
Skin	15%	4%	Skin	13%	4%
Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma	8%	4%	Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma	4%	4%

*National Data was taken from the American Cancer Society – Cancer Facts and Figures 2004

**Excludes localized basal and squamous cell carcinoma of the skin and in-situ. Estimates based on NCI SEER (Surveillance Epidemiology and End Results) format