UAB Breast Health Center

Program Overview

The UAB Breast Health Center is a leader in the diagnosis and treatment of both benign breast problems and breast cancer. The center is unique in the Southeast for services including screening, risk assessment, diagnosis and treatment and prevention strategies, along with rehabilitation and research. Using a multidisciplinary approach to bring together nationally recognized experts from the appropriate oncologic specialties to develop a recommendation and treatment/follow-up plan for each patient. The Breast Health Center has earned full accreditation by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers. The NAPBC is a consortium of national, professional organizations dedicated to the improvement of the quality of care and the monitoring of outcomes for patients with diseases of the breast. The Breast Health Center has also received a 2016 Women’s Choice Award naming it one of American’s Best Breast Centers. In addition, the Breast Imaging Center is accredited as an American College of Radiology Center of Excellence.

Program and Services

Surgical Breast Clinic

The Surgical Breast Clinic provides first and second opinions for problems related to the breast including but not limited to abnormal mammograms, lumps, nipple discharge and breast pain. The clinic also provides surgical management for breast cancer patients, including lymphatic mapping for sentinel lymph node biopsy, axillary node dissection, breast conservation therapy (with image guidance, if necessary), mastectomy, including skin- and nipple-sparing mastectomy.

Interdisciplinary Breast Clinic

Advances in the knowledge of breast cancer and its treatment have increased the complexity of the disease. At UAB, a multidisciplinary team of providers specialized in breast cancer meet with newly diagnosed breast cancer patients in a single clinic visit to help them evaluate their options as effectively as possible. Physician team members include a member from medical oncology, surgical oncology and radiation oncology. The approach promotes better communication among team members and the patient and family. Patients are evaluated initially by one of our breast specialists and then presented to other team members for face-to-face discussion and long-term treatment planning. Individualized plans of care are developed in roundtable discussion and presented to the patient and family that same visit, allowing the patient the opportunity to ask questions of each team member. The following services are available as a referral if indicated (most the same day): plastic surgery, genetic counseling and testing, fertility preservation counseling and treatment, rehabilitation and physical therapy, and supportive care. The Breast Health Center has nurse navigators that help coordinate appointments and next steps of care. Nurse Practitioners can see new patients within 24-48 hours of calling to map the course and plan of care for the patient.

Lynne Cohen Preventive Care Program

The Lynne Cohen Preventive Care Program for Women’s Cancer at UAB offers counsel to women at increased risk for either breast or ovarian cancer, providing them risk reduction strategies, access to the latest clinical trials, advanced screenings, computerized risk assessment, genetic assessment, and lifestyle counseling. Physicians, nurse practitioners, genetic counselors, and research nurses give patients comprehensive and individualized care.

Breast Health Research

As part of the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Care Center, a nationally recognized leader in the field of breast cancer research, the Breast Health Center benefits from the resources of the Translational Breast Cancer Research Consortium, a national group of 16 research centers that conducts innovative, hi-impact clinical trials in breast cancer. UAB has earned the highly sought-after National Cancer Institute Breast Cancer SPORE award. UAB develops and tests innovative treatments.

UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center

The UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center is the only NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center located in a four-state area that includes Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. The UAB Cancer Center was one of the original federally designated comprehensive centers. It now is home to an outstanding faculty of more than 350 physicians and researchers who treat an estimated 5,000 new patients each year. We also offer a variety of support services through the comprehensive cancer center. More information about the support services can be obtained by contacting Education and Supportive Services at (205) 934-5772.
Consultation & Patient Referrals

In order to see patients quickly and provide an accurate plan of care at the patient’s initial visit there are some essential clinical documents and specimen needed. The providers within the Breast Health Center need most recent clinical note, imaging reports, pathology reports, disc or films of imaging and pathology specimens. All of this information allows us to provide patients with a more complete plan of care and expedites any additional testing that may be needed.

For Referring Physicians

The UAB Breast Health Center is located on the third floor of the Kirklin Clinic at UAB Hospital, 2000 6th Avenue South, Birmingham, AL 35233
For physician-to-physician consultations, or to refer your patient, please call UAB MIST at 1.800.UAB.MIST (1.800.822.6478).

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