Cutting-edge Collaborative Care

UCLA gynecologic cancer surgeons confer with their colleagues from related medical specialties in a multidisciplinary tumor board meeting each week. Every gynecologic cancer patient is discussed in detail and pathology slides and radiology findings are reviewed. The team develops and updates treatment recommendations that reflect what their clinical experience and scientific understanding suggest is the right course for each patient. When appropriate, the latest clinical therapies and science are applied to help patients achieve the best possible outcomes.

Division Faculty

The physicians of the Division are always available to provide around-the-clock coverage.

Oliver Dorigo, M.D., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology
Division of Gynecologic Oncology

Robin Farias-Eisner, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Chief, Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology

Amer Karam, M.D.
Assistant Clinical Professor
Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology
Division of Gynecologic Oncology

Sanaz Memarzadeh, M.D., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology
Division of Gynecologic Oncology

Gayle Guenthard, RN, OCN
Gynecology RN Case Manager

UCLA Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Division Gynecologic Oncology

200 UCLA Medical Plaza, Suites 430 and 220
Peter Morton Medical Building
Los Angeles, CA 90095
Appointments (310) 794-7274
Gynecology Case Manager (310) 794-9093

UCLA Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Care from the frontiers of science
Advanced... and Still Advancing

The UCLA Division of Gynecologic Oncology embodies an exceptional combination of medical and scientific expertise that places it in the front line of patient care and gynecologic cancer research. While offering the most innovative treatments currently available, UCLA physician-scientists are also furthering the scientific understanding of gynecologic cancers and developing tomorrow’s groundbreaking therapies.

But even while developing and delivering some of the newest ways to care for cancer patients, UCLA physicians continue practices whose value has long been known: showing concern for their patients’ well-being and sensitivity to their needs. Together with their colleagues in medical and radiation oncology, pathology and radiology, and with crucial support from a team of other healthcare professionals, Division of Gynecologic Oncology physicians offer their patients the full treatment and support resources of UCLA.

Robotic Surgery and Beyond

When surgery is indicated, laparoscopic techniques can be used in many cases to perform operations through one or more small openings and avoid the pain and cosmetic disadvantages of larger incisions. Minimally invasive techniques allow for shorter hospital stays and quicker recoveries compared to surgery done through a conventional opening.

UCLA’s gynecologic cancer surgeons are all experienced in the use of robotic surgery, further extending their ability to perform minimally invasive surgery. During robotic surgery, the surgeon works at a console that includes a magnified, three-dimensional view of internal structures. The surgeon operates a pair of hand controls that duplicate hand motions with micro-instruments operating within the patient’s body.

Offering a superior view of the surgical area, enhanced movement within the patient’s body and very fine control, robotic technology allows surgeons to sometimes achieve results that would not otherwise be possible. The complex and delicate nature of many gynecologic oncology surgeries lends itself to the robotic surgical approach. For example, when surgeons have to take biopsies from lymph nodes in a number of locations around the abdominal cavity to see if the cancer has spread, robotic surgery often provides an excellent ability to see clearly and operate precisely without having to make a large incision.

Focusing on People, Not Disease

Care at UCLA extends beyond medical and surgical treatments to include the understanding and support we provide all our patients and their families. An experienced oncology nurse works closely with each patient, answering questions and addressing concerns while making sure that patients and their families get the most out of UCLA’s considerable resources. Gynecologic cancer surgeons understand the difficulty of dealing with a cancer diagnosis and treatment. They make an extra effort to be available to their patients in order to meet patients’ needs at all stages of their care. Patients also have access to UCLA resources for psychological and psychosocial support.

New Understanding and New Treatments

UCLA’s Division of Gynecologic Oncology has an unusual commitment to scientific research, with most of the physicians heading their own research laboratories in addition to treating patients. This rare combination of clinical medicine and scientific research enables our physician-scientists to apply experience gained in each discipline to be more effective in both.

While offering the most innovative treatments currently available, UCLA physician-scientists are also furthering the scientific understanding of gynecologic cancers and developing tomorrow’s groundbreaking therapies.