Shaping the future of cancer care

For many years, SCI has participated in clinical trials that evaluate new approaches to diagnosing and treating cancer, including testing new devices and medications. For example:

• Through clinical trials, SCI’s medical oncologists are able to offer patients drugs that are not available locally, as well as some that are not even available nationally.

• SCI was a leader in testing many drugs that are now considered the standard of care, including Taxol, Herceptin, Avastin, Cetuximab and Oxaliplatin.

• Research at The Centers for Advanced Targeted Radiation Therapy at Swedish and the Swedish Radiosurgery Center provides additional treatment options that are not widely available.

• Numerous clinical trials at SCI assess the value of combining treatments (surgery, radiation therapy, radiology and chemotherapy) to improve outcomes and enhance quality of life.

• SCI is one of a few programs selected to test a minimally invasive diagnostic screening for early detection of lung cancer, and one of the first in the region to evaluate the use of low-dose CT scans to detect lung cancer in high-risk individuals.

Is a clinical trial right for you?

Making clinical trials available to our patients is a privilege. These trials are carefully regulated by Federal and State agencies and have strict eligibility requirements. Talk with your doctor if you are interested in learning more about clinical trials as a possible treatment option.

For more information, contact the SCI Research Department at 206-215-3086 or CancerResearch@swedish.org.

www.swedish.org/CancerResearch
Clinical trials at the Swedish Cancer Institute

The Swedish Cancer Institute (SCI) is one of the leading clinical trial sites in the western United States. With more than 100 available studies at any given time involving most types of cancer, a clinical trial could be one part of your personalized treatment plan.

Participation in a clinical trial depends on a lot of factors, including strict eligibility requirements. Once eligibility has been determined, however, the final decision is personal – one that is best made while talking with your doctor about your treatment options.

An important step toward tomorrow’s breakthroughs

There are many steps in the research process. A clinical trial is a critical step in developing new technologies or medications and determining whether they will be made available to the general public. A clinical trial is also a proven method of testing innovative approaches to preventing, diagnosing or treating a particular disease. Some clinical trials look at combinations of treatments to determine if a new way of delivering those treatments will produce better results. Clinical trials often lead to standards of care that benefit many patients.

SCI leads the way

SCI physician investigators and research partners are at the leading edge of the clinical trials stage of the research process. SCI is often the only site in the Pacific Northwest—and sometimes the first in the world—to participate in many clinical trials.

At SCI, our studies:

- Find new treatments and/or more effective combinations of treatments
- Identify new methods of detecting cancer in its earliest stages
- Discover new ways to improve the quality of life of cancer patients
- Test new approaches to preventing cancer

“Being able to offer a clinical trial to one of my patients is one of the great benefits of working at SCI. It is important for us to have as many tools as possible so we can customize treatment plans and produce the best possible results for each of our patients. A clinical trial, which allows me to use a new medication before it is widely available, may give my patient an advantage in our fight against cancer.”

Dr. Philip J. Gold, M.D.
Director, Clinical Research
Swedish Cancer Institute

“This program is so important not only because it gives me the opportunity to provide researchers with information and tools that they need to further their research in early detection, but because it offers me a ‘safety net’ for my own health. I had no second thoughts about participating — the choice was obvious.”

Rachel Prouser Marenstein
Participant in the Ovarian Cancer Early Detection Program