

Advances in Prostate Cancer Treatment

MONTEFIORE EINSTEIN CENTER FOR CANCER CARE
PHYSICIANS ARE PROVIDING PROSTATE CANCER PATIENTS
ACCESS TO INNOVATIVE TREATMENT MODALITIES
THROUGH THE USE OF STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY
AND OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN CLINICAL TRIALS.

THE MONTEFIORE EINSTEIN Center for Cancer Care, in partnership with the National Cancer Institute–designated Albert Einstein Cancer Center, leads translational research focused on developing therapeutics that increase efficacy and reduce toxicity while enhancing patients’ quality of life. This is evident in the area of prostate cancer care, where the Center for Cancer Care offers more targeted, less-invasive treatments that zero in on the tumor and protect healthy tissue. These novel treatment modalities include robotic nerve sparing radical prostatectomy, brachytherapy and stereotactic radiosurgery using the Calypso GPS Localization System and the most advanced chemotherapeutic options. The facility also offers active surveillance as an option for low-risk patients. The Center for Cancer Care helps patients manage prostate cancer via a multidisciplinary team of urologic oncologists, radiation oncologists and medical oncologists who collaborate to provide individualized treatment to patients.

Minimizing the Effects of Surgery

Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care urological surgeons are highly skilled in minimally invasive and robotic surgeries, utilizing the most advanced da Vinci Si Surgical System. This approach results in a shortened hospital stay of one night, faster recovery and a dramatic reduction in the chance of blood loss and need for transfusions. The advanced magnification and visualization capa-

bilities of the system lead to improved functional outcomes, including superior preservation of erectile function and reduced risk of incontinence.

In addition, newer techniques of athermal nerve sparing surgery with preoperative utilization of endorectal coil magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) are employed routinely in the Center for Cancer Care. In addition, extensive surgical databases are utilized for detailed oncologic and functional outcome studies on the efficacy of the center’s surgical treatments.

Providing Enhanced Localization During Radiosurgery

Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care physicians use the Calypso GPS for the Body technology, which allows them to view changes in the prostate’s position, even during movement and without having to expand the size of the prostate. As a result, the motion of the prostate can be tracked during treatment, thereby reducing the margin of tissue that receives high-dose radiation therapy.

Physicians are also finalizing a treatment modality that will significantly shorten treatment time for prostate cancer patients undergoing radiation therapy. The modality currently under investigation will allow patients to complete their radiation treatments in as few as five to eight days as opposed to eight weeks.

New Treatment Agents

In the last 10 months, the FDA approved three drugs — Jevtana, Provenge and Zytiga — that have been shown to



prolong life in late-stage cancer patients with less toxicity.

These drugs are all offered at Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care, which is also the only institution serving the Bronx, Westchester and Putnam counties to offer Provenge.

Clinical Trials Give Patients Access to the Newest Innovations

Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care provides prostate cancer patients access to the most advanced treatments through its portfolio of clinical trials. The Center for Cancer Care recently participated in an international consortium of institutions that conducted the first generation of clinical trials on the BioProtect SpaceGuard Balloon, an inflatable, absorbable balloon that is inserted between the prostate and rectum using a minimally invasive procedure. The goal is to minimize radiation exposure to the rectum. Once inserted, the biodegradable balloon is inflated, which provides additional space between the rectum and prostate.

The Prostate Cancer Program of Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care is also one of a few sites in the Northeast participating in a clinical trial examining the efficacy and safety of high-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU), a minimally invasive treatment for recurrent prostate cancer after radiotherapy.

To learn more about innovative treatments available for prostate cancer at Montefiore, visit <http://www.montefiore.org/services/coe/cancer/urology/>. ■

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