



Georgia's leader in *gynecologic cancers*

Effective treatment of gynecologic cancers can hinge on early detection. However, diagnosing gynecologic cancer can be difficult in the early stages. The signs and symptoms aren't always clear and often resemble other conditions. Northside Hospital leads the Southeast in diagnosing and treating more cases of gynecologic cancers—endometrial, ovarian and cervical—than any other hospital in Georgia. The Gynecologic Oncology Program at Northside focuses on improving the overall patient experience through facility enhancements, new technology and compassionate care.

Innovative treatments

Northside leads the way in treating gynecologic cancers with innovative and minimally invasive treatments to give better outcomes. Many of our surgeons are pioneers in laparoscopic surgery and are nationally recognized for their expertise. It's this level of expertise that also guides Northside's

Advanced Center for Robotic Technology. Less scarring and shorter recovery times are two benefits of these innovative treatments. As one of the first hospitals in the Southeast to acquire a robotic surgical system, Northside now employs four robotic systems for more than 500 procedures every year. Giving doctors a three-dimensional view of the surgical area with finer and more complex control, robotic surgery has helped propel Northside to the top five percent of hospitals in the United States using these procedures to treat women.

Northside's Ovarian Cancer Program also integrates innovative treatments with the use of hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemoperfusion (HIPEC)—a procedure in which heated chemotherapy solution is administered into the patient's abdominal cavity during surgery to penetrate diseased tissue. More than 100 HIPEC procedures have been completed at Northside with minimal complications and excellent results.

At Northside Hospital, patients don't have to choose between clinical excellence and compassionate care when fighting cancer.

Dedicated gynecologic cancer inpatient unit

As Atlanta's leader in women's health, Northside Hospital remains dedicated to accommodating the needs of women by providing a patient-centered experience. To provide complete care, Northside has dedicated an inpatient cancer unit specifically for women diagnosed with gynecologic cancer. Nurses and staff are specially trained in gynecologic cancer, chemotherapy and symptom management to provide resources, care and overall support.

Northside's reputation and strength in cancer care

At Northside Hospital, patients don't have to choose between clinical excellence and compassionate care when fighting cancer. The Cancer Care Program, fully accredited by the American College of Surgeons (ACOS) Commission on Cancer, combines expertise with compassionate care. Northside received an Outstanding Achievement Award based on full compliance in all 36 cancer-care standards set by



At Northside Hospital

- More new cancer cases are diagnosed and/or treated than at any other hospital in Atlanta.
- More cases of breast cancer and gynecologic (cervical, ovarian and uterine) cancer are diagnosed and treated than at any other hospital in Georgia.
- Numerous cancer clinical trials provide opportunities that are often only available at university-based hospitals.
- The National Cancer Institute selected Northside to join the NCCCP—one of just 30 cancer centers nationwide and the only program in the Atlanta area.
- A myriad of resources and activities are available for patient support.
- Metro Atlanta consumers voted Northside as Atlanta's Most Preferred Hospital for Overall Healthcare Services for the past 14 consecutive years.*
- Northside has received National Research Corporation's Consumer's Choice Award three times.*

*Consumer surveys conducted by the National Research Corporation, an independent national healthcare market research firm.



ACOS. Northside was also recently chosen by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) as an NCI Community Cancer Centers Program (NCCCP) location, expanding opportunities for clinical trials and research.

Leading-edge research

“The five-year survival rate for ovarian cancer hasn't seen a significant change despite increased funding levels in the last 40 years,” says Benedict Benigno, M.D., Northside Hospital director of gynecologic oncology. Dr. Benigno, a world-renowned cancer surgeon, also founded the Ovarian Cancer Institute (OCI) at the Georgia Institute of Technology to generate more innovative, lifesaving research. Northside joins OCI's mission for an “outside the box” and integrative approach to ovarian cancer research. The hospital provides OCI with tissue and serum samples, which are collected in operating rooms for research studies. Sharing tumor samples and medical histories has established a partnership between Northside Hospital and OCI yielding dynamic results and setting future goals—to develop a diagnostic test for ovarian cancer and new treatments for the disease.