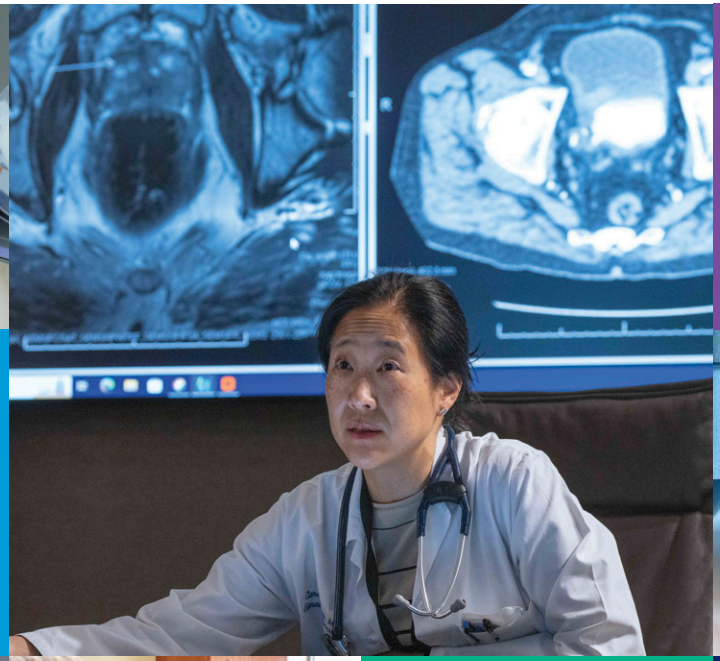
A powerhouse of HOPE | 2025 report



HENRY FORD HEALTH®
Cancer

henryford.com/cancer

Letter from the Medical Director

Pursuing perfect care

At Henry Ford Cancer, we dedicate ourselves each day to our just cause: to create a community where every individual is cared for with the level of expertise, innovation, collaboration, empathy and respect that we would only accept for ourselves and our loved ones. This commitment extends across several core themes that inspire us every day:

Seamlessly integrated care

With our expanded cancer network of 21 treatment sites, we are providing increased access, streamlining care coordination, making treatment more convenient and sharing the latest innovations to a greater number of patients—which nearly doubled in one year. We also continue to expand our network's capabilities, including opening a new state-of-the-art endoscopy center that will support clinical care and research in oncology, gastroenterology, hepatology and other areas.

Excellent outcomes for all

Our dedication to reducing cancer disparities permeates every aspect of our care. Through resources such as our SM Gavini Center for Cancer Prevention, we are using education and outreach to make cancer prevention accessible to more patients. And for over a decade, our Game on Cancer initiative has worked to alleviate barriers to care, covering essentials such as housing costs, groceries, utilities and transportation to and from appointments. Disparities also inform our research. In one recent study, our team identified race-associated molecular differences in pancreatic cancer.

Whole person care

Effective cancer care includes addressing the psychological and emotional effects of cancer, during and after treatment. We offer several support resources to our patients, including a comprehensive integrative medicine program. In 2026, we will be hosting the Society of Integrative Oncology annual meeting in Detroit. We also use real-time patient-reported outcomes measures to help facilitate symptom communication, management and shared decision making. In 2025, *Becker's Hospital Review* ranked Henry Ford Hospital as one of the leading 50 hospitals with the lowest rates of emergency room visits for patients receiving chemotherapy.

Clinical innovation

Our commitment to treatment innovation begins with pioneering research to develop the most effective new therapies. This includes our lung cancer research program, where our team helped secure approval for the first two immunotherapy medications for lung cancer. Through advancements such as preoperative 3D robotic modeling and in both MR-guided and CT-guided adaptive radiation, we are also delivering greater precision for our patients. And we are home to one of the nation's few dedicated pancreatic cancer centers, which consistently achieves outstanding oncologic results.

Groundbreaking discovery

We recently celebrated a major milestone in the construction of our new Henry Ford + MSU Research Center, a 7-floor, world-class research facility that is set to open in 2027 in Detroit. Since 2021, the Henry Ford + MSU partnership has received NCI awards totaling $45.5 million in funding to support groundbreaking cancer research. This collaboration continues to unite researchers locally and beyond—our 5th Annual Henry Ford + MSU Cancer Research Symposium drew more than 300 researchers and clinicians.

Accepting no limits

I am honored to serve as the Medical Director of Henry Ford Cancer, where I work with an outstanding team who pushes the boundaries of what's possible in cancer care, every day. It's no wonder that our excellent patient satisfaction scores and *USNWR* ranking for cancer continue to improve. Our stellar team is the driving force behind the exciting evolution of our cancer program.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Movsas, M.D., FASTRO, FACR, FARS
Medical Director, Henry Ford Cancer
Chair, Department of Radiation Oncology
Henry Ford Health
bmovsas1@hfhs.org

Surgical and noninvasive therapies for liver malignancies

Henry Ford Cancer patients have access to the full range of liver-directed treatments, including surgery, embolization (TACE, TARE, bland), ablation and advanced MR-guided adaptive radiation therapies. Henry Ford is also a leader in liver transplantation for cancer and has the largest program for adult liver transplants in Michigan. Recent advancements include:

- **Noninvasive histotripsy treatment:** Henry Ford Health recently performed the first-ever histotripsy procedure in the greater Detroit area. This groundbreaking procedure for solid liver tumors uses focused ultrasound therapy to mechanically break down targeted tissues and tumors. Early research suggests histotripsy not only provides high local tumor control but may also stimulate systemic immune responses, potentially enhancing the effectiveness of systemic therapies.
- **Hepatic arterial infusion (HAI) therapy:** Henry Ford Health recently launched its Hepatic Arterial Infusion Program, one of only two in Michigan. HAI delivers chemotherapy directly to liver tumors via a surgically implanted pump, achieving high local drug concentrations while minimizing systemic side effects, increasing the likelihood of surgical resection and improving survival outcomes. HAI offers a novel treatment option for patients with liver-dominant advanced cancers, who otherwise may not have meaningful treatment options. In select studies, HAI therapy has been shown to significantly improve survival.

#1 largest program for adult liver transplants in Michigan

1 of 2 HAI programs in Michigan

Grand opening of new endoscopy center. From left: Steven Kalkanis, M.D., Sumit Singla, M.D., Kimberly Brown, M.D., Amy Engelhardt, D.O., and Eric Scher, M.D.

New state-of-the-art endoscopy center

From early cancer detection to novel interventional procedures, the new Singla Family Endoscopy Center at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit will support clinical care and research for oncology, gastroenterology, hepatology and more.

The expanded space will allow Henry Ford Cancer to develop and expand quaternary care subspecialties such as endohepatology, bariatric endoscopy, endoscopic cancer ablation, complex pancreatobiliary endotherapy, submucosal endoscopy and other areas that are unique to our system.

24,000
square feet

11
advanced procedure rooms

29
patient recovery bays

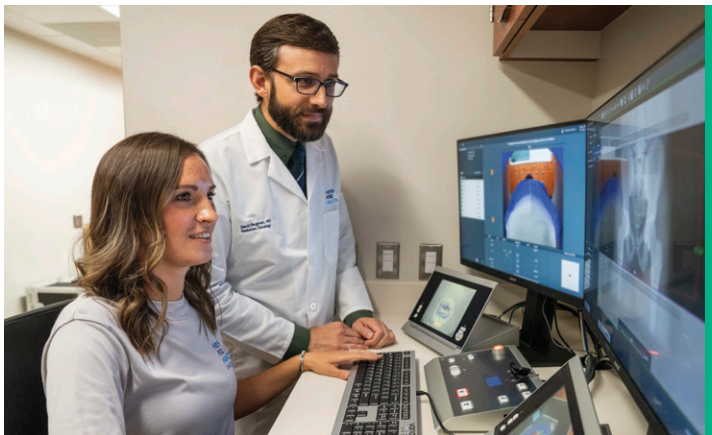
Seamlessly Integrated Care

Henry Ford Cancer's large integrated network provides broader access to coordinated care and the latest treatment innovations, providing hope for more patients.

Expanded Henry Ford Cancer network offers several benefits for patients

Over the span of one year, the Henry Ford Cancer network doubled in the number of care sites and patients served, dramatically impacting the health and wellness of the communities it serves. Benefits of the expanded network include:

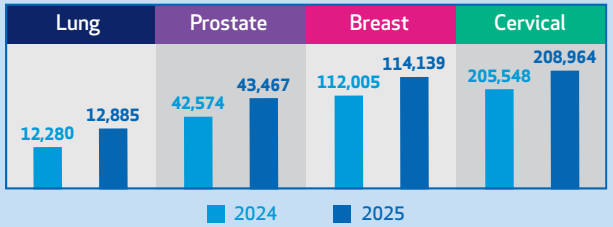
- **Increased access:** With additional locations, patients now have more local access points for treatment.
- **Care coordination:** Advanced cancer care requires a significant level of clinical coordination to ensure that patients get the right treatment at the right time. Henry Ford Cancer's larger, integrated network of care is streamlining care for patients.
- **Advancing innovation:** Given Henry Ford Cancer's expanded footprint and physician base, these providers are able to share expertise and the latest innovations to a greater number of patients.
- **Clinical trials and other research:** A larger network makes the latest clinical trials, including for rare and complex cancers, available to more patients. Henry Ford Cancer also has access to more diverse patient groups for clinical trials and other research.
- **Convenience:** With advanced care available locally in more communities, many patients can receive treatments closer to their homes, reducing travel time.



15,184
patients treated in 2024

20+
treatment sites

Cancer Screening Volumes



Early detection matters

For the best possible treatment outcome, cancer needs to be detected early—especially for certain types such as lung cancer, which often has no symptoms in the early stages when it's most treatable. Henry Ford Health offers a full range of screening tests to identify all types of cancer. Its team-based approach to cancer screening continues to make an impact in the communities it serves, and recent initiatives have helped to drive the program's growth, including:

- **HFH-MSU CSRN ACCrual Enrollment and Screening Site (ACCESS):** Henry Ford + MSU was one of seven centers to receive funding from the National Institutes of Health. The ACCESS grant is supporting the development of new screening technologies and leveraging patient recruitment infrastructure to help pilot these novel strategies.
- **Galleri® test:** Henry Ford Health was the first in Michigan to offer the groundbreaking blood test. Research has shown the test, from GRAIL, can detect a cancer signal shared across more than 50 types of cancer through a single blood draw.

Henry Ford Cancer integrated network

Genesee County

1. Genesys Hurley Cancer Institute
2. Henry Ford Cancer – Genesys Hospital

Jackson County

3. Henry Ford Cancer – Jackson Hospital

Macomb County

4. Henry Ford Cancer – Hayes Road
5. Henry Ford Cancer – Macomb Hospital
6. Henry Ford Cancer – Waldenburg
7. Henry Ford Cancer – Warren (Webber Cancer Center)

Oakland County

8. Henry Ford Cancer – Bloomfield Township
9. Henry Ford Cancer – Columbus
10. Henry Ford Cancer – Providence Novi Hospital (Assarian Cancer Center)
11. Henry Ford Cancer – Providence Southfield Hospital (CK Potluri Cancer Center)
12. Henry Ford Cancer – Rochester Hills
13. Henry Ford Cancer – Rochester Hospital
14. Henry Ford Cancer – West Bloomfield Hospital

St. Clair County

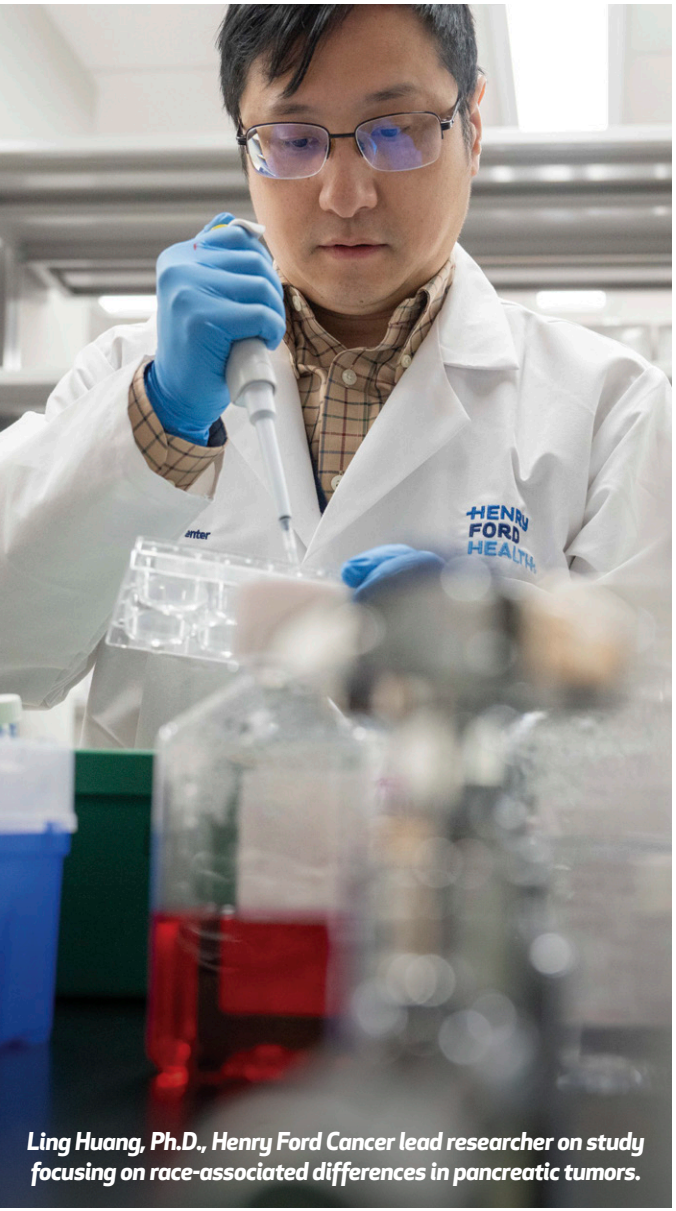
15. Henry Ford Cancer – River District Hospital

Wayne County

16. Henry Ford Cancer – Brownstown
17. Henry Ford Cancer – Detroit (Brigitte Harris Cancer Pavilion)
18. Henry Ford Cancer – Fairlane
19. Henry Ford Cancer – Plymouth
20. Henry Ford Cancer – St. John Hospital (Van Elslander Cancer Center)
21. Henry Ford Cancer – Wyandotte Hospital

Excellent Outcomes for All

Henry Ford Cancer's dedication to excellent outcomes for all is woven into every aspect of its care, from improving access and developing research studies to partnering with corporate and community organizations.



Ling Huang, Ph.D., Henry Ford Cancer lead researcher on study focusing on race-associated differences in pancreatic tumors.

Pancreatic center advancing research, treatment

The Henry Ford Pancreatic Cancer Center (HFPCC) is one of the nation's few dedicated pancreatic cancer centers, and it consistently achieves outstanding surgical and oncologic results with lower rates of postoperative complications, emergency department visits and hospital readmissions with superior outcomes. Established with a $36 million investment, it consults with over 1,000 new patients annually.

Under the stewardship of David Kwon, M.D., Philip Philip, M.D., and Howard Crawford, Ph.D., Henry Ford Health has been selected to be the first of four inaugural institutions to participate in the Alliance for Research and Patient Care in Pancreatic Cancer by the Lustgarten Foundation. Leading U.S. institutions will study how research impacts treatment in a culturally competent and sensitive manner.

Researchers identify race-associated molecular differences in pancreatic cancer

Henry Ford Pancreatic Cancer Center (HFPCC) researchers have discovered race-associated molecular differences in tumors that may impact the way patients with pancreatic cancer respond to immunotherapies. The findings were recently published in the *American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Journal* and reinforce the need to include racially diverse participants in clinical studies to reflect the racial makeup in the U.S., and to more accurately represent tumor molecular changes. Black or African American (BAA) patients, compared with other racial groups, have a higher incidence of pancreatic cancer, the third leading cause of cancer-related death in the United States.

Study Highlights

4,249
patients studied

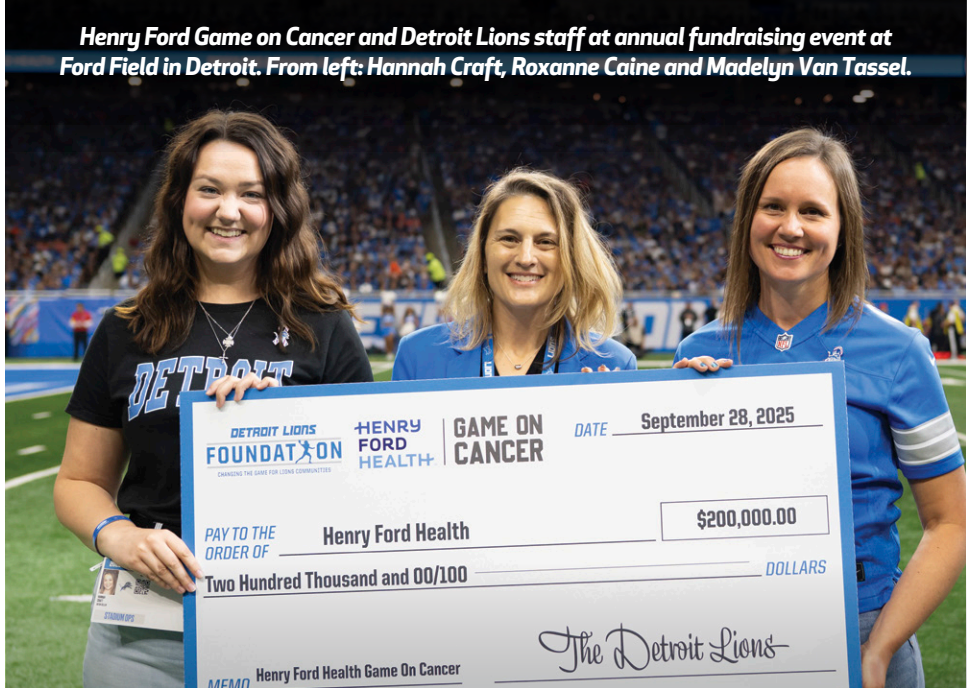
10.6%
BAA patients

89.4%
white patients

- **TP53 mutations:** Higher prevalence in BAA patients compared with white patients ($P < 0.001$).
- **KRASG12R mutations:** Occurred more frequently in female patients in the BAA versus white group ($P = 0.007$).
- **Higher tumor mutational burden:** BAA patients had a higher tumor mutational burden ($P < 0.001$) and PD-L1 overexpression ($P = 0.047$)

Medical oncology: New Genentech pancreatic cancer study

Henry Ford oncologist Gazala Khan, M.D., is evaluating the efficacy and safety of adjuvant autogene cevumeran plus atezolizumab and modified leucovorin, 5-fluorouracil (5-FU), irinotecan and oxaliplatin (mFOLFIRINOX) versus mFOLFIRINOX alone in participants with resected pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) who have not received prior systemic anti-cancer treatment for PDAC and have no evidence of disease after surgery.



Henry Ford Game on Cancer and Detroit Lions staff at annual fundraising event at Ford Field in Detroit. From left: Hannah Craft, Roxanne Caine and Madelyn Van Tassel.

Game On Cancer: A new year of impact in 2025

For more than 10 years, Henry Ford Health's Game On Cancer initiative has been a source of strength for patients and families navigating one of life's hardest battles. Cancer doesn't pause for real life. Bills still come, gas tanks still need filling and dinner still needs to be on the table. That's why Game On Cancer has grown far beyond clinical support, meeting people where they are and helping them shoulder the weight of everyday challenges.

Powered by the Detroit Lions, committed corporate partners, enthusiastic volunteers and passionate fundraising teams, Game On Cancer is on a mission to remove the financial roadblocks that stand between patients and the care they deserve. This community-powered effort helps cover essentials such as housing costs, groceries, utilities and transportation to and from appointments—practical support that brings immediate relief during an overwhelming time.

But the impact doesn't stop there. Game On Cancer also drives forward-thinking research, supports innovative therapies that bring comfort and healing—acupuncture, massage, exercise programs and more—and strengthens survivorship resources so patients have a caring community long after their treatment ends.

$10.8M total raised in donations, including over $1.1M in 2025

12,000 patients supported

Cancer prevention center focuses on education, access and outreach

The SM Gavini Center for Cancer Prevention has locations at Henry Ford Ascension Providence Novi and Southfield hospitals. Carmen Stokes, Ph.D., FNP-BC, CNE, coordinator of the SM Gavini Center for Cancer Prevention, and her team are working to make cancer prevention accessible and approachable.

The Center focuses on prevention of several types of cancer that have a genetic link, including breast, colorectal, pancreatic, lung, uterine/cervical, melanoma and others.

Thanks to her efforts, Dr. Stokes won the 2025 Gary Cowger Legacy Award from the American Cancer Society.

Breast cancer is a large focus

The Center is active in community outreach through Detroit-area churches, community leaders and organizations. They also partner with:

- **Henry Ford Mammography:** Including a risk assessment score to help women learn more about their personal risk.
- **Operation Breast Density:** To help uninsured or underinsured women pay for screenings.
- **City of Detroit:** Employee health lunch series that features discussions about genetics, dense breasts, and general prevention.
- **Breast Cancer Tea:** Annual cancer prevention event that focuses on the benefits of aromatherapy.

Whole Person Care

Henry Ford Cancer focuses on its patients' entire cancer care journey, offering integrative medicine as well as clinical and support resources for physical and emotional well-being, during and after treatment.

Integrative medicine can help reduce psychological and physical side effects

For the past 20 years, Henry Ford Cancer has partnered with the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) to develop guidelines around integrative medicine therapies, which include:

- **Acupuncture:** Studies have shown that acupuncture can minimize symptoms such as hot flashes in breast cancer patients (see related patient sidebar at right). Henry Ford Cancer was asked to participate in the IMAGINE Project at the Society for Integrative Oncology (SIO). Funded by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), the study focuses on acupuncture and massage as a cancer treatment and uses evidence-based oncology acupuncture and massage protocols that were previously established as safe and effective in the PCORI-funded IMPACT trial.
- **Massage therapy:** Can relieve pain, reduce stress and anxiety, and increase relaxation.
- **Chiropractic care:** Can relieve pain and stiffness in joints or muscles caused by cancer treatment.
- **Nutrition services:** Side effects of treatment can make it difficult to eat. Cancer dietitians are trained to work with the unique needs of those who have cancer.
- **Exercise programs:** ExCITE is a one-of-a-kind program at Henry Ford Cancer that provides individualized exercise programs for cancer patients and survivors to increase stamina and strength and reduce fatigue.
- **Yoga:** Can reduce several side effects, including fatigue, stress and anxiety, hot flashes, pain and inflammation. It may also improve sleep quality and reduce breathing difficulty in some lung cancer patients. Henry Ford Cancer is currently researching the mental health effects on breast cancer patients receiving infusion that utilize yoga therapy treatments.

Henry Ford hosting 2026 Society of Integrative Oncology annual meeting

Henry Ford Cancer Radiation Oncologist Eleanor Walker, M.D., is co-chair of the SIO's annual meeting, which is also being hosted by Henry Ford Cancer at the MGM Grand Casino, in Detroit. The international conference, "Cultivating Community and Belonging in Integrative Oncology," takes place Sept 29 – Oct 1, 2026.

Acupuncture helps spur breast cancer patient's recovery

After breast cancer surgery at Henry Ford Cancer, 40-year-old Donna was treated with endocrine therapy, which caused menopausal symptoms, including hot flashes, joint pains, risk of osteoporosis, elevated cholesterol, fatigue and mood changes. Acupuncture therapy alleviated her symptoms and allowed her to continue her recommended strength training. This approach is based on our prior randomized trial performed at Henry Ford Cancer and published in *Journal of Clinical Oncology (JCO)*. During her recovery, Donna's daughter, Mariana, expressed interest in Taekwondo, and the two joined a local dojo. In March 2025, Donna achieved two major milestones: Her 5-year MRI that revealed her breast cancer was in remission, and black belt degrees for both her and Mariana.

Donna | Breast cancer survivor and acupuncture patient

PROMs Coordinating Center impacts clinical care, research

Patient-reported outcomes measures (PROMs) are a direct report from patients about their quality of life, symptoms or experience, using validated questionnaires. When taken in context of other clinical data, PROMs help facilitate symptom communication, management and shared decision making. Highlights of PROMs and Henry Ford Cancer's unique Coordinating Center include:

- **Survival predictor:** PROMs were identified as being a better predictor of survival than traditional prognosticators and often are more accurate than physician-reported adverse events.
- **Real-time patient care:** In its first year, the Henry Ford PROMs Coordinating Center has optimized the process for ensuring that severe scores are addressed in a timely manner to guide providers on how to use PROMs on a day-to-day basis.
- **Research:** The Center also formalized a data resource for investigators and team members interested in using PROMs data for research and quality improvement.

PROMs case study examples

- **Helping prevent a second ED visit:** A metastatic breast cancer patient was experiencing extensive bone pain after injection, visited the ED and received medical pain management. Three days later, the patient completed PROMs and triggered a severe pain interference score. The PROMs RN completed triage and contacted the patient, then discussed with the care team and OncoStat, Henry Ford Cancer's same-day urgent care clinic, for next steps. After adjusting pain management medications, the patient reported improvement in pain control and avoided a repeat ED visit.
- **Detecting serious symptom changes in between visits:** A metastatic breast cancer patient responded to PROMs and triggered a severe physical function score. While speaking on the phone with a PROMs RN, the patient expressed acute chest tightness and burning, shortness of breath on exertion and ankle swelling. The PROMs nurse triaged the patient and alerted OncoStat, and the clinic scheduled the patient the same day. The patient was admitted to the hospital and received the timely care she needed.
- **Facilitating multidisciplinary symptom management:** A stage IV non-small cell lung cancer patient had been seen in the ED several days prior for chest pain, and acute causes of chest pain were ruled out. However, days later, the patient triggered a severe pain interference score. During the triaging call with the PROMs RN, the RN facilitated management of these symptoms by placing referrals with palliative medicine and the cancer pain clinic.

Healing Arts center at Henry Ford Providence Novi Hospital.

Healing Arts Program enhances cancer patient experience

The Henry Ford Cancer Healing Arts Program was established to create a soothing and calming environment for patients, visitors and staff by integrating the creative arts and aesthetic experiences into the healing process.

Healing arts enhances the patient experience by utilizing the arts as a positive distraction to reduce pain, anxiety and stress. The program features multiple locations and uses literary, performing and visual art experiences to celebrate the cultural diversity of the local community.

Working with a licensed art or music therapist can offer many of the same benefits as traditional talk therapy. In cancer care, these therapies are designed to help reduce stress and improve overall well-being.

The program offers a variety of art and music therapy opportunities for cancer patients, caregivers and loved ones, including in-person and virtual group classes.

Clinical Innovation

Henry Ford Cancer's multidisciplinary teams have a rich heritage of pioneering the latest clinical innovations, from precision medicine to advanced radiation therapy, providing expert cancer care to thousands of patients each year.

Henry Ford leading lung cancer clinical trials and other research, driving new therapies

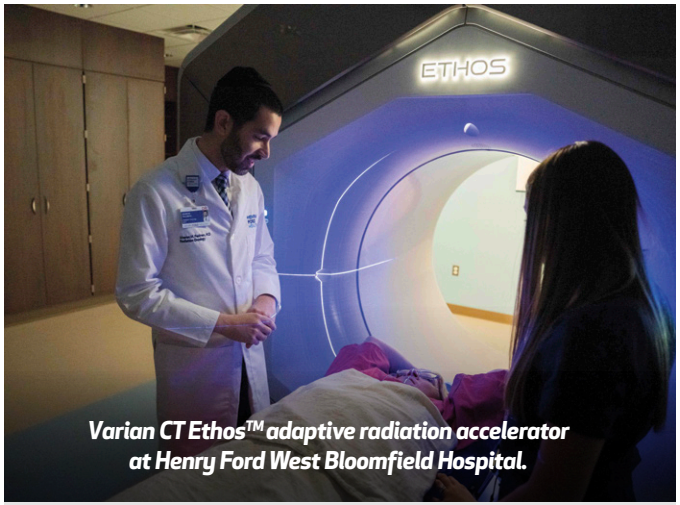
Existing treatments for lung cancer may cure the disease in early stages but many patients aren't diagnosed until later stages, when the disease has advanced. Henry Ford Cancer regularly takes part in research to test new and more effective treatments for lung cancer that spreads, stops responding to treatment or returns after treatment. Its research program includes:

- **Clinical trials:** Henry Ford Cancer runs one of the most active programs for lung cancer clinical trials in Michigan and the entire nation. It helped secure approval for the first two immunotherapy medications for lung cancer treatment, nivolumab and pembrolizumab.
- **Priority trial site:** Henry Ford is one of only three sites in the United States and 20 worldwide established as a priority clinical trial site by Merck, offering early access to any Merck clinical trial available to patients.
- **Basic science research:** Backed by $15M in philanthropic funding, the lung cancer research team, led by Shirish Gadgeel, M.D., delivers novel advancements in science and discovery through collaborations between Henry Ford + MSU and scientists around the world.

Henry Ford's lung cancer team has also helped pioneer the latest medical oncology treatments, including targeted new therapies that disrupt the growth of tumor blood vessels in some small-cell lung cancers.

Grant supports work on squamous cell lung carcinoma

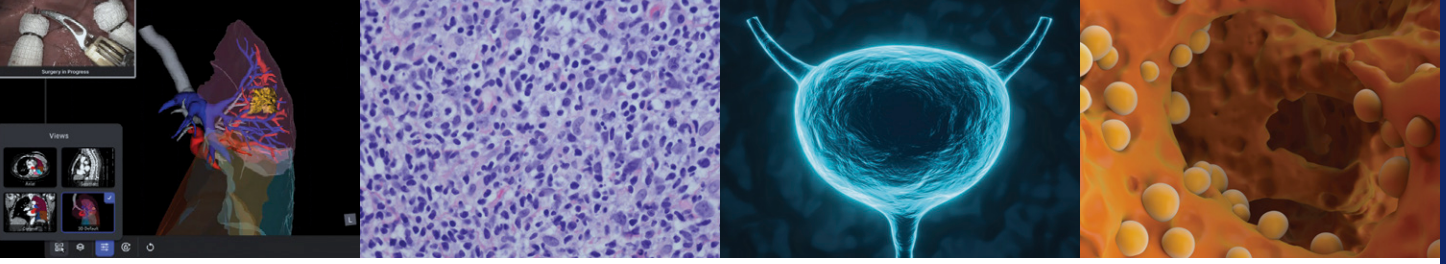
Henry Ford Cancer medical oncologist Fawzi Abu Rous, M.D., recently received a research grant of more than $310,000 to continue his work on his project: *Prognostic and Predictive Relevance of 3q Amplification in Racially Diverse Patient Population with Advanced Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Lung*. Awarded by U CAN-CER VIVE, the two-year grant period began in February 2025. In addition, Dr. Abu Rous has received the American Society of Clinical Oncology Young Investigator Award for the research project, which shows the relevance and promise of his work. Dr. Abu Rous intends to develop a biomarker for patients with advanced squamous cell carcinoma of the lung.



Varian CT Ethos™ adaptive radiation accelerator at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital.

Latest adaptive radiation technology

Recently, Henry Ford Cancer installed a new Varian CT Ethos™ at Henry Ford Medical Center – Brownstown. Ethos uses real-time imaging and AI-driven technology to personalize treatment for each patient. By adjusting plans based on anatomy and tumor changes in real time, Ethos delivers greater precision, safety and improved outcomes. The adaptive therapy is also currently available at Henry Ford Jackson Hospital, Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital and Henry Ford Macomb Hospital. Henry Ford Cancer is pioneering both MR-guided and CT-guided adaptive radiation, and is making these accessible to more patients, while enabling research otherwise not possible.



Henry Ford Cancer specialty teams transforming complex care

Surgical oncology

Dr. Richard Berri, Chief of Surgical Oncology at Henry Ford St. John Hospital, created the first PIPAC (pressurized intraperitoneal aerosolized chemotherapy) program in the State of Michigan—and it can be life-changing for those with advanced abdominal cancers who otherwise have limited options. PIPAC is a minimally invasive procedure that uses high pressure to deliver chemotherapy directly into the abdominal cavity. It destroys tumors that are too microscopic to surgically remove. Henry Ford Health is also proud to offer HIPEC surgery at two sites. PIPAC, along with noninvasive histotripsy and hepatic arterial infusion (HAI) therapy, are some of the emerging, advanced abdominal procedures that Henry Ford Cancer is helping to pioneer.

Henry Ford Cancer is also the only center in Michigan using 3D digital modeling technology in a fully integrated way with robotic surgery. Preoperative 3D modeling allows for greater manipulation of the model, digitally subtracting certain anatomy elements and identifying with much greater precision the location of the tumor.

Cutaneous oncology

Henry Ford specializes in the treatment of melanoma, high-risk squamous cell carcinomas, basal cell carcinomas and other cutaneous neoplasms, such as dermatofibromasarcoma protuberans, atypical fibroxanthoma, sebaceous carcinomas and other complex tumors. The Henry Ford Dermatology Cutaneous T-cell Lymphoma Clinic's dermatologists are known nationally for expertise in the diagnosis and treatment of this rare skin cancer.

Gynecologic oncology

Henry Ford's gynecologic oncology experts are leaders in the field, with expertise in robotic-assisted hysterectomy and other robotic and minimally invasive procedures, which help improve outcomes, decrease pain and shorten hospital stays. The team treats cancers of the ovary, uterus, cervix, vulva and vagina, and offers vaginal reconstruction and fertility preservation.

Genitourinary (GU) oncology

The GU team includes international experts in minimally invasive treatments for bladder cancers, and Henry Ford is one of the highest-volume centers for robotic bladder surgery in the Midwest. Henry Ford Cancer treats both superficial and invasive cancers and offers bladder-preserving options. When bladder removal is required, Henry Ford surgeons have extensive experience in robotic and open radical cystectomy for the most complex cases. Surgeons perform reconstructive surgery at the same time to create a new pathway or new bladder to restore urinary function—using the latest techniques, including robotic continent urinary diversion (neobladder surgery), conduit and reservoir procedures. This builds on Henry Ford Health's leadership in urology in pioneering robotic prostatectomy.

Sarcoma

The orthopedic and complex surgical oncology teams are experienced in the latest surgical techniques to treat all types and stages of bone cancer and soft tissue sarcomas. The team often can avoid amputation and restore the function and appearance of the affected area. Henry Ford Cancer also offers allografts, bone reconstruction, prosthetic implants and minimally invasive ablation therapy.

Stem Cell Transplant and Cellular Therapy Program at the forefront

Henry Ford's hematology experts provide the latest therapies for blood cancers and disorders, including rare and complex cases. The program had its best performance ever in the latest CIBMTR audit with an error rate of only 0.9 %.

- **Comprehensive program:** Our experienced multidisciplinary transplant team offers all types of stem cell transplant and cellular therapy, including CAR T-cell therapy, a highly personalized immunotherapy option. In 2025, 114 patients received expert treatment, including autologous/allogenic stem cell transplants, donor lymphocyte infusions and CAR T-cell therapy.
- **Quality:** The program has been accredited by the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT) since 2006, demonstrating our commitment to quality care. Our 100-day and one-year transplant survival rates often exceed expected results.

Henry Ford Health's Sickle Cell Center of Excellence provides adult comprehensive care in Michigan. Under the leadership of Asif Alavi, M.D., the team performed its first haplo-identical transplant for sickle cell disease, and the program aims to achieve three primary goals:

- Improve quality of life and prevent organ damage
- Reduce unnecessary emergency department visits and hospitalizations
- Manage acute pain crises

Groundbreaking Discovery

Henry Ford Cancer's regional, national and global partnerships, and unrelenting commitment to research excellence, are setting the standard in transformational cancer care.

Henry Ford + MSU celebrate milestone in research center construction

After a year of continuous construction, the final steel beam was hoisted into place at the future site of the Henry Ford + MSU Research Center. Set to open in 2027, the Center will be a cornerstone for medical innovation in Detroit:

- **Research focus:** The state-of-the-art facility will empower researchers to advance studies on the health conditions most affecting communities, with a strong emphasis on addressing health disparities in cancer and beyond and improving outcomes locally and globally.
- **Home to the Neurofibromatosis Research Institute:** The first brick-and-mortar institute solely dedicated to neurofibromatosis, and one of the first to leverage organoid technology and other novel models to address a single disease.
- **Part of Future of Health: Detroit:** A $3 billion development that is anchored by a major Henry Ford Hospital expansion, as well as housing and retail by the Detroit Pistons.

7
stories

335,000
square feet

80+
PI teams

500+
team members focused on advancing joint research in cancer, neuroscience, cardiometabolic diseases, immunology and precision health.

NCI awards increase as cancer research collaborations grow

Driven by the successful collaboration between Henry Ford + MSU, the number of National Cancer Institute (NCI) awards received has increased significantly since 2021. Together, the institutions have received NCI awards totaling $45.5 million in funding to support groundbreaking cancer research. NCI funding has enabled Henry Ford + MSU scientists and institutions to:

- Advance the understanding of the causes and prevention of cancer
- Explore the complexity of the tumor microenvironment
- Develop nanodrugs for the treatment and prevention of cancer
- Improve symptom management during treatment
- Establish cancer screening recruitment sites

The NCI's mission is to lead, conduct and support cancer research across the nation to advance scientific knowledge and help all people live longer, healthier lives.

Over 300 people attended the 5th Annual Henry Ford + MSU Cancer Research Symposium held in Lansing.

Eric Mellon, M.D., Ph.D.

Henry Ford + MSU hires renowned physician-scientist

Henry Ford + MSU is proud to welcome Eric Mellon, M.D., Ph.D., to its team. Mellon joins the partnership as a physician-scientist, a position that contributes to the bold joint effort to advance cancer innovation through research and clinical excellence. Mellon, an academic radiation oncologist and imaging scientist, brings nationally recognized expertise in the treatment of brain and spine tumors.

Through his Henry Ford + MSU position, Mellon serves as senior member and vice chair for translational research in the Department of Radiation Oncology at Henry Ford Health. He also holds a dual appointment as a professor in the Department of Radiology at Michigan State University's College of Osteopathic Medicine.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania's prestigious Medical Scientist Training Program, Mellon earned his M.D. and Ph.D. in magnetic resonance physics. His NIH-funded research focuses on using advanced MRI and spectroscopy to detect hidden cancers, analyze metabolic responses during therapy and adapt treatments in real time—particularly in aggressive tumors such as glioblastoma.

Ian Lee, M.D., Co-Director of the Hermelin Brain Tumor Center, presents at the inaugural Patient and Caregiver Conference in Detroit.

Renowned brain tumor center treats the most aggressive cases

Since 1993, the Hermelin Brain Tumor Center (HBTC) has been recognized by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) for delivering leading brain tumor therapies to patients in the Midwest region and beyond. Henry Ford was among a select group of the nation's centers—and the only one in Michigan—chosen to participate in the NCI-funded Adult Brain Tumor Consortium (ABTC) and Brain Tumor Trials Collaborative (BTTC). HBTC's treatment approach includes:

- **Top diagnostics and imaging:** Including Michigan's only magnetoencephalography (MEG) system for mapping brain activity.
- **Precision medicine:** HBTC's tumor typing looks at each tumor's specific molecular features to identify the most promising treatments.
- **Glioblastoma expertise:** The HBTC has treated more than 1,900 people with glioblastoma, the most aggressive primary brain tumor, and led the development of new national guidelines for progressive glioblastoma.
- **Options for metastatic disease:** The HBTC offers a dedicated program for cancer that has spread to the brain. Its team led the effort to develop comprehensive national guidelines for metastatic brain cancer.
- **The latest treatments:** Featuring safer and more precise brain tumor surgeries, newer brain cancer chemotherapy delivery methods that reduce side effects, targeted brain cancer radiation therapy—including stereotactic radiosurgery and MR-guided adaptive radiation—minimally invasive Visualase laser treatment for certain tumors and access to the latest brain cancer clinical trials.

HBTC Brain Tumor Bank collects 6,000th tumor sample

The vision and leadership of Mark Rosenblum, M.D., Chair Emeritus of the Department of Neurosurgery at Henry Ford Health, has grown into one of the largest and most respected tumor banks in the world—a resource that continues to power discoveries and transform how we understand, diagnose and treat brain tumors. The milestone is a tribute to Henry Ford Cancer patients and families. Their willingness to contribute to research amid their own cancer journeys is the reason progress is possible. Each donation is a gift of hope, advancing science for generations to come.

National Institutes of Health grant awarded for HPV-related head and neck cancer research

Through a $3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, Henry Ford + MSU researchers are working to develop a new type of immunotherapy for HPV-related head and neck cancer, one of the fastest-growing and most difficult-to-treat cancers. The new treatment is aimed at helping the immune system better recognize and fight these cancer cells, which often hide behind virus-created shields. The goal is to better understand how HPV-related head and neck cancers escape the immune system, which would allow physicians to tailor treatments to attain the same results but reduce side effects. And even in some cases, allow them to cure formerly incurable cancers. HPV-related head and neck cancers can impact patients ability to speak, eat and breathe, and survivors often face lifelong challenges.

Select active clinical trials at Henry Ford Cancer

Clara Hwang, M.D., Division of Hematology/Oncology
Phase 3, Open-label, Multicenter, Randomized Study of Xaluritamig vs Cabazitaxel or Second Androgen Receptor-Directed Therapy in Subjects With Metastatic Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer Previously Treated With Chemotherapy

Tobias Walbert, M.D., Department of Neurosurgery
IIT: Phase I Study of Replication-Competent Adenovirus-Mediated Double Suicide Gene Therapy With Stereotactic Radiosurgery In Patients With Recurrent or Progressive High Grade Astrocytomas

Amy Weise, D.O., Division of Hematology/Oncology
A First-in-Human (FIH), Open-Label, Phase 1a/1b Dose Escalation and Expansion Study to Evaluate the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics, and Pharmacodynamics of SON-DP in Subjects with Relapsed/Metastatic Solid Tumor

R00 grant focuses on aging in older cancer survivors

There is a critical need to understand the long-term aging process of the growing population of older cancer survivors. In *Risk and Resilience Factors in Memory Aging Among Older Cancer Survivors: A Cross Country Comparison of the US and England*, a three-year study supporting by an R00 grant, Ashley Westrick, Ph.D., Assistant Scientist for Public Health Sciences at Henry Ford Health, is identifying long-term memory trajectories of older cancer survivors in the US and England, evaluating socioeconomic disparities in the relationship and identifying modifiable Alzheimer's disease and related dementia (ADRD) risk factors.

African symposium focuses on cancer research

In July 2025, Dr. Evelyn Jiagge, Henry Ford Cancer researcher, was one of over 220 cancer researchers, clinicians and scientists from 28 African countries and beyond who gathered in Accra, Ghana, for a three-day symposium, "Catalyzing Basic and Translational Cancer Research in Africa: Advancing Progress and Capacity Building." The transformative event, organized by Precision Medicine for Aggressive Breast Cancer (PMABC) in partnership with AORTIC, was designed to strengthen African-led research, promote collaboration and develop sustainable infrastructure for cancer research across the continent.

Henry Ford Cancer is renewing hope for patients in its community and around the world.

The generosity of its donors fuels community wellness by advancing important research, supporting education and training, and expanding access to innovative care to strengthen outcomes.

To donate to Henry Ford Cancer, scan the QR code or contact Chris Ruemenapp, Lead Development Officer at **cruemen1@hfhs.org** or **313.876.8431**.

Forging the future of cancer care

As a nonprofit healthcare system, philanthropy is the difference maker and margin for innovation that enables exceptional patient-centered care, leading-edge research and broad community impact.

Henry Ford Health has been fortunate to have donors like Marty and Anne Welch who are generously supporting the creation of a collaborative hematology oncology database that will help improve patient outcomes. This database will focus on gathering patient data for those with malignant hematological diseases such as multiple myeloma, lymphoma and leukemia.

Ultimately, this critical donor support aids our researchers in advancing precision medicine efforts, enabling more personalized care for our patients.

By collaborating with our molecular diagnostics team, this database will strengthen the power of our next-generation sequencing portfolio for genomic testing in patients with malignancies such as myeloma and lymphoma.

This information can be used as a source for research studies, publications and clinical trials, ultimately leading to novel discoveries that improve treatment and outcomes.

Stem Cell Transplant Lab expands with donor support

Henry Ford Health was one of Michigan's first programs to provide stem cell transplant and other types of cellular therapy. Since 1988, we've offered lifesaving care, helping people with cancers or blood disorders produce healthy blood cells and fight disease.

Thanks to the generosity of donors David and Jan Rosen, Henry Ford Health is expanding its Stem Cell Transplant Lab at Henry Ford Cancer in Detroit. Located in the Brigitte Harris Cancer Pavilion, the lab will be three times the size of the existing one. The Rosens' support purchased six new freezers, doubling existing storage space for storing stem cells. This expansion will enhance Henry Ford's participation in CAR T-cell therapy research and additional clinical trials to patients with hematologic malignancies.