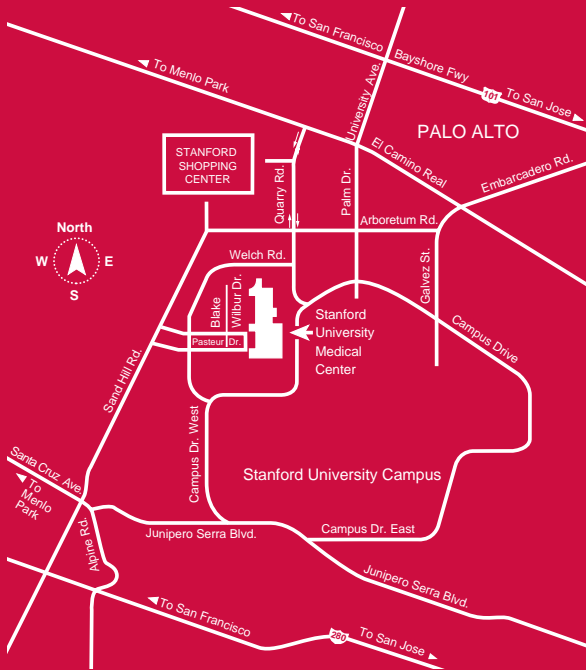


Early diagnosis and treatment, along with Stanford's excellent record in complicated pancreas surgery, optimize the prognosis for both malignant and benign conditions of the pancreas.



Contact Information

Stephanie Fouchy

Administrative Associate to:

Ralph S. Greco, MD

Johnson & Johnson Distinguished Professor
Chief, Division of General Surgery
Director - General Surgery Residency Program
Stanford University School of Medicine
300 Pasteur Drive - Room H3591
Stanford, CA 94305

Phone: (650) 736-1355

Fax: (650) 736-1663

E-mail: sfouchy@stanford.edu

Ralph S. Greco, MD:

(650) 736-1250

Jacques Van Dam, MD, PhD

Professor of Medicine
Stanford University School of Medicine
Clinical Chief and Director of Endoscopy,
Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
Stanford University Medical Center
300 Pasteur Drive - Room H1121
Stanford, CA 94305

Office: (650) 736-0431

Fax: (650) 498-4302

Appointments: (650) 723-6961

Surgical Specialties Clinic:

(650) 723-5461

Cancer Care Referral Line:

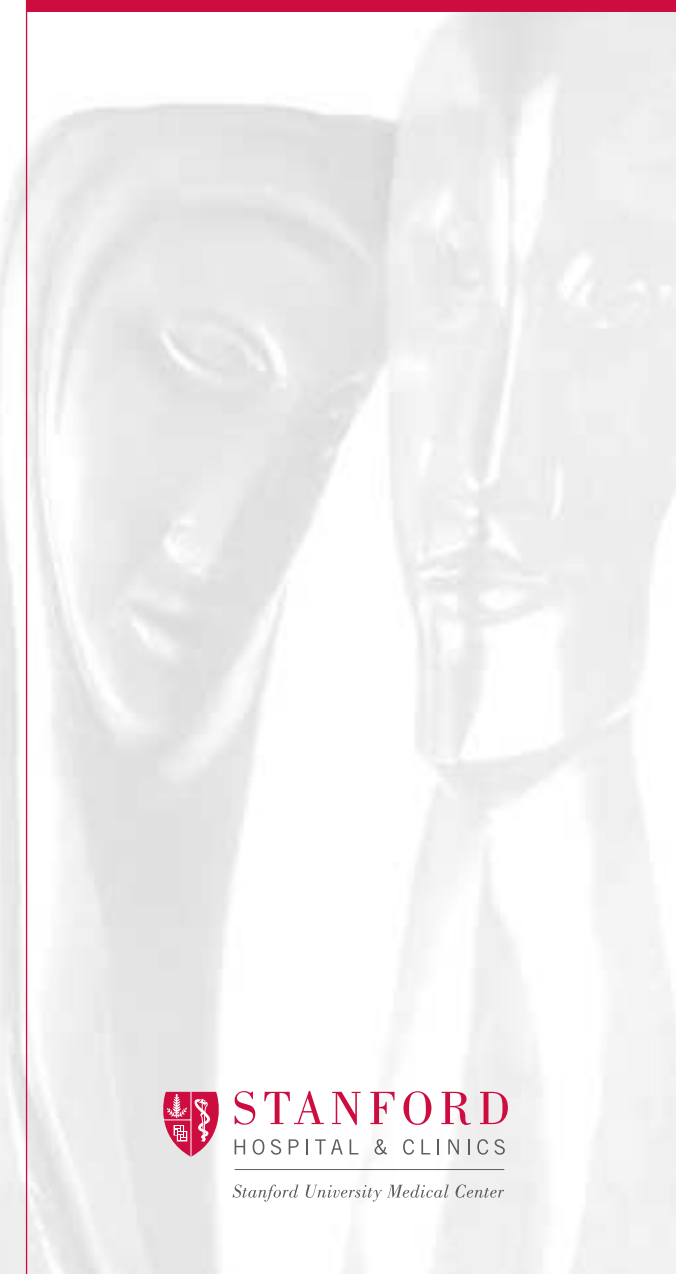
(877) 668-7535

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Stanford University Medical Center

Stanford Pancreas Center



Stanford University Medical Center

Introduction

The Pancreas Center at Stanford (PCS) is a multidisciplinary team of experts dedicated to the treatment of patients with benign and malignant diseases of the pancreas. The Center is firmly based on sound medical practice and tested models for treatment of the pancreas. It has clearly been shown that hospitals and physicians who treat large numbers of patients with diseases of the pancreas have much better outcomes, lower complication rates, and few, if any deaths directly attributable to surgical and related interventions.

Because of its location deep in the abdomen, symptoms related to diseases of the pancreas often occur late in the natural history of the disease. This is true not only in cancer of the pancreas, but in benign conditions as well. As such, this center is designed to be informative to patients and family members, to physicians who may be the primary or secondary caregiver, and to the community as a whole. By increasing public awareness, not only of the importance of this disease, but also of the need to be optimistic based on current and future breakthroughs in therapy, we aim to have an impact on patients and their families.

Afflicting men and women equally, cancer of the pancreas is increasing in incidence and is now the fifth most common malignancy in the U.S. Although it is generally taken as dogma that the prognosis in pancreas cancer is poor, it should be pointed out that in selected groups of patients, as many as 40-50% can be cured for five or more years. For benign conditions, such as the complications of pancreatitis, cystic tumors and pancreatic duct pathology, the survival rate should

approach 100%. These optimistic forecasts depend on early diagnosis and treatment by individuals well versed in the disease and technically capable in both surgical and other interventions.

Diagnosis

The diagnosis of diseases of the pancreas, both malignant and benign, usually requires sophisticated imaging studies such as CT scan and MRI, as well as diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopic procedures such as endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP), and/or endoscopic ultrasound (EUS). Both of these procedures are available at the Center. Where necessary it is possible to perform biopsies of tumors or masses using the guidance of CT scan or ultrasound. Pathologists specializing in gastrointestinal disease are also available to assist in pinpointing the type of tumor in each case.

Therapy

Gastroenterologists and interventional radiologists perform therapeutic interventions for benign conditions, but surgical interventions are also available through a number of nationally recognized experts well versed in pancreatic surgery. The outcomes for these conditions are excellent.

Cancer of the pancreas requires similar diagnostic and non-surgical interventions as well as complicated surgery, which should be left in the hands of experts. These operations which include the radical pancreaticoduodenectomy or Whipple procedure are performed almost every week at Stanford.

Stanford has an excellent record in complicated pancreas surgery. Often patients

who are turned down for pancreatic procedures elsewhere go on to have them successfully performed at Stanford. Stanford also offers information regarding ongoing clinical protocols nationally and at our medical center, and will facilitate enrollment for patients who meet entry criteria.

Physicians & Staff

The Center is directed by **Dr. Ralph S. Greco**, Johnson & Johnson Distinguished Professor and Chief of the Division of General Surgery, as well as Director of the General Surgery Training Program at Stanford. **Dr. Jacques Van Dam**, Professor and Clinical Chief of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, and expert in diagnostic and therapeutic/interventional endoscopy, is a Co-Director of the Center.

Dr. R. Brooke Jeffrey, Jr., Chief of Abdominal Imaging and expert in the radiologic diagnosis of pancreatic diseases, is a Co-Director.

Drs. Greco, Van Dam and Jeffrey are joined by a group of other surgeons, gastroenterologists, interventional radiologists, as well as medical oncologists and radiation oncologists to work together to treat patients with these complex illnesses. We have other dedicated staff whose goal is to make patients comfortable and to be certain that scheduling of diagnostic procedures and surgical interventions is as simple as possible. The goal of the entire staff is first and foremost, the patient's well being. There is an acknowledgement and commitment to the peace of mind of members of the family, communication with referring physicians, and follow-up care in the community.