

New Marrow Transplant Program Opens

Aims To Build International Reputation



Dr. Arthur
Molina, III

Ochsner's Leukemia, Blood and Marrow Transplant Program debuted last fall, bringing together highly experienced transplant specialists, a new dedicated inpatient unit and outpatient infusion suite, state-of-the-art stem cell processing lab, and clinical trials.

This latest addition to Ochsner's growing cancer services is a much-needed medical service for our region's cancer patients, who have been traveling to other locations outside the state for marrow transplantation. Ochsner's aim is to develop it into an international-caliber program.

"In putting together our program, we relied on what has been perfected in our field," says Director Arthur Molina, III, M.D. "We designed our facilities, lab and training of nursing staff to deliver the best care for our patients. We have all the elements in place to build our program and offer state-of-the-art care." Dr. Molina has ten years of experience as a leukemia and transplant physician, originally training at Seattle's highly ranked Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center. He is assisted by Charles Wendling, Jr., M.D., who was fellowship-trained in Bone Marrow Transplantation at Stanford University.

The new comprehensive program provides the full range of care and treatment from

diagnosis to long-term follow-up for all adult hematologic malignancies. The six-bed inpatient unit was especially designed with hepa filtration and positive air pressure to reduce the risk of infections for patients. The well-equipped stem cell laboratory, part of the Ochsner Blood Bank, has new instrumentation, and was developed as a free-standing stem cell processing laboratory, in conjunction with the American Association of Blood Banks. There is also a dedicated outpatient infusion suite to support the transfusion needs of leukemia and transplant patients. A new outpatient transplant clinic is planned to open in November 2011, and will feature new rooms and waiting areas specifically designed for marrow transplant patients.

The program's major focus is advanced hematopoietic stem cell transplantation through autologous, allogeneic, and peripheral stem cell procedures. Dr. Molina has two research interests – reduced-intensity allogeneic marrow transplantation and tandem transplants for patients with multiple myeloma.

"Low-intensity transplants use less toxic doses of chemotherapy and radiation therapy before an allogeneic transplant," Dr. Molina says. "This approach may help patients, including those over 60 who are prone to complications with standard marrow

transplants. About 70 to 80 percent of patients with leukemia, lymphoma, or myeloma are older. We continue to investigate ways to increase the efficiencies of marrow transplant with this large group by using less toxic transplants that harness the immune system to treat the underlying disease."

The program is an important part of Ochsner's array of cancer services and an exceptional resource for leukemia, lymphoma, and myeloma patients who may need marrow transplantation as part of their treatment. By having this resource available in our city, patients will no longer have to travel out of state or away from their loved ones to receive the state-of-the-art care they need.

Call 888-551-4662 for more information or patient referral to Ochsner's Leukemia, Blood and Marrow Transplant Program.

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Breast Services Expand at Ochsner Baptist



Dr. Adam I. Riker

Ochsner Baptist Medical Center has expanded its breast services with the Comprehensive Breast Program. This extends the advanced, multidisciplinary service model that is similar to the nationally recognized Lieselotte Tansey Breast Center at Ochsner Medical Center to Uptown New Orleans patients.

Ochsner Baptist is a one-stop center for the widest range of advanced breast services:

- Screening and digital mammography
- Ultrasounds
- Biopsies
- Surgery
- Chemotherapy
- Hormonal therapy
- Radiation therapy
- Reconstruction

The Ochsner Baptist program has its own staff and facilities and provides all services at its 2820 Napoleon Avenue location. “Ochsner Baptist’s campus has much to offer, including skilled physicians, surgeons, technology and convenience,” explains Medical Director of Cancer Services Adam I. Riker, M.D.

“Our program is unique in the Uptown area. We offer clinical trials and meet weekly to discuss cases. This program is part of our efforts to bring additional services to the Ochsner Baptist campus to benefit patients.”

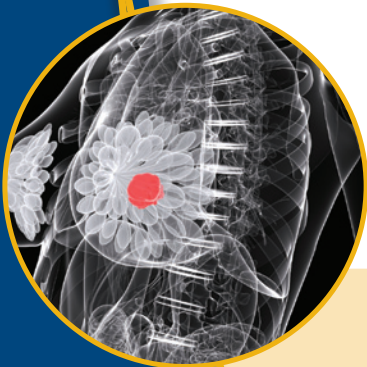
One benefit is the patient-tracking system. Patients register once and receive all their care from the Ochsner Baptist team of physicians and surgeons, who coordinate their care and focus intensely on each patient and their treatment. This boosts the efficiency by eliminating fragmentation of care. A personal nurse navigator helps patients understand diagnosis and treatment and guides them throughout the process.

For information and patient referrals to the Ochsner Baptist Comprehensive Breast Program, call 504-842-9294.

Ochsner Baptist Comprehensive Breast Program Specialties

Radiation Oncology
Hematology/Oncology
Surgery, Breast Reconstruction
Plastic Surgery, Breast Reconstruction
Breast Radiology
Breast Pathology
Surgery
Surgical Oncology

Patients register once and receive all their care from the Ochsner Baptist team of physicians and surgeons, who coordinate their care and focus intensely on each patient and their treatment.



Ochsner Has North Shore’s Only Pediatric Intensive Care Unit



Dr. Eduardo Hernandez

When it comes to caring for seriously ill children, it can be vital to have specialized medical resources close to home.

The Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at Ochsner Medical Center – North Shore stands ready. It offers advanced treatment for serious illness, trauma, and post-surgical care for patients one month to eighteen years.

Directed by experienced Pediatric Pulmonologist Eduardo Hernandez, M.D., the PICU is part of a continuum of pediatric care at Ochsner Medical Center – North Shore, which has 24-hour emergency treatment, a pediatrics inpatient unit, and pediatric rehabilitation. Additionally, Ochsner Medical Center – North Shore collaborates with Ochsner Medical Center to provide a complete depth of care.

The PICU staff includes a pediatric nurse practitioner, experienced pediatric nurses, and other child health professionals.

For more information or to arrange a referral, call 985-646-5642

Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Strengthens, Grows



Dr. Raj Warriar

Ochsner has revitalized its Pediatric Hematology-Oncology program with experienced and highly regarded physicians, expanded inpatient and outpatient care, and developed a dedicated pediatric infusion center.

“Over the past year, our program has grown and is fully staffed, active and team-oriented. All elements of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology have been revamped,” says section head Raj Warriar, M.D. “We’re seeing increasing numbers of children with cancer, sickle cell anemia, other anemias, and bleeding disorders.” Drs. Warriar and Craig Lotterman, joined Rafael Ducos, M.D., to complete the fellowship-trained physician staff.

Children receive multidisciplinary, comprehensive care for cancers and blood disorders, from diagnosis through treatment, and follow-up care. Pediatric surgical specialists, pediatric oncology nurses, social workers, child life personnel, and a host of support personnel staff – along with the full array of state-of-the-art diagnostics, chemotherapy and radiation therapy – assures the best possible care for children with cancer or blood disorders.

“Cancer is the second-leading cause of death in children, and leukemia is the most common childhood cancer,” Dr. Warriar says. “As a cancer care center, Ochsner now has the resources to offer advanced care to children with these conditions. Pediatric Hematology-Oncology hopes to provide consultations and care for children with cancer and blood disorders and enhance our regional cancer services.”

Cancer in a child remains one of the most frightening diagnoses a family can receive. As with all Ochsner’s Pediatric and Cancer

Services, Hematology-Oncology delivers excellent medical care while supporting each child’s emotional, social, and educational needs. Says Dr. Warriar, “Just one example is our infusion center. It’s a happy place that is as comfortable as possible for children and parents. Our environment and services are completely child-centered. We have the pediatric nurses and child life professionals who make sure of it.”

Ochsner can also continue to care for children as they mature, with a seamless transition to adult Cancer Services. “As they age, they can stay within our system,” he says. “They don’t have to find a new hospital for their care.”

Dr. Warriar, Dr. Lotterman and their team encourage physicians and healthcare professionals to call and discuss any questions or concerns regarding diagnosis or management of childhood cancer or blood disorders. We offer quick outpatient consultations in New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and North Shore locations within Ochsner Health System.

To learn more or to send a referral, call 1-888-551-4662.

Pediatric Hematology-Oncology sees patients at Ochsner Medical Center on Jefferson Highway, Ochsner Children’s Health Center – Covington, Ochsner Health Center – Baton Rouge and Ochsner Medical Center – West Bank Campus.

Ochsner Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Physicians

Raj Warriar, M.D.

Craig Lotterman, M.D.

Rafael Ducos, M.D.

Breathing Easier: Pediatric Pulmonary Delivers Advanced Care



Dr. Fernando Urrego

Specialized care can be essential to children with a variety of lung disorders, and Ochsner’s active Pediatric Pulmonary service, led by Fernando Urrego, M.D., delivers it.

Over four years, Pediatric Pulmonary at Ochsner has developed to treat all acute and chronic lung diseases in children. It now includes clinics at four regional Ochsner facilities and a dedicated Pediatric Pulmonary Function Laboratory.

“The common issues we see are asthma and lung disease of prematurity,” says Dr. Urrego. “Our cystic fibrosis clinic is active and is providing care for many infants via the state’s Cystic Fibrosis Newborn Screening Program.

In addition to inpatient consultations, our bronchoscopy services contribute to a large portion of our pulmonary in-patient procedures.

The Pediatric Pulmonary Function Laboratory at Ochsner Medical Center on Jefferson Highway is key to the program’s specialized care. It is the only facility in the area to offer impulse oscillometry (IOS), an effort-independent test for respiratory impedance which Dr. Urrego performs in children ages three and above. “Having a dedicated pediatric pulmonary lab is important as children are not small adults,” he says.

Advanced pulmonary testing is particularly useful in determining the etiology of pediatric lung conditions such as asthma. Dr. Urrego

explains, “Asthma is often over-treated. Having a specialized Pediatric Pulmonary Function Testing lab helps to more objectively determine patient’s lung disease and avoid over treatment.”

The Pediatric Pulmonary program is always available for consultations. “We are a resource for pediatricians and family practice physicians, as well as for all the families in our region,” Dr. Urrego says.

Dr. Urrego sees patients at Ochsner Medical Center for Children, Ochsner Health Center – Marrero, Ochsner Health Center – Baton Rouge (Medical Center Drive), Ochsner St. Anne General Health Center – Raceland and Ochsner Children’s Health Center – Covington.

To learn more or to send a referral, call 1-888-551-4662.

New Liver Transplantation Outcomes Rank Ochsner Higher



Dr. George E. Loss, Jr

Ochsner's liver transplantation program has increased its survival rates, exceeding expected outcomes. Ochsner has achieved these outcomes while growing into one of the ten largest programs by volume. With the new data, published in January, the Ochsner Multi-Organ Transplant Institute strengthens its position as a national leader.

"Our one-year liver patient and graft survival rates are significantly better than expected," says George E. Loss, Jr., FACS, MD, PhD, Medical Director at the Ochsner Multi-Organ Transplant Institute. "For liver transplantation, our outcomes are in the top five percent of U.S. centers. We've been working toward this major goal, and these results show we are on target." The Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (STRT), a national database of transplantation statistics, published the data.

For liver transplantation patients, Ochsner has these new survival rates:

- 99.1 percent for one month (compared to 97 percent nationally)
- 94 percent for one year (88.7 percent nationally)
- 85.1 percent (79.2 percent nationally) for three years.

All measures go beyond Ochsner's "expected improvement" rate. Additionally, over recent years, liver transplantation also has been increasing patient volumes and reducing waiting times.

Dr. Loss says Ochsner transplant leaders have created a culture based on efficient communications among all team members that is intensely focused on improving outcomes. We take pride in creating an environment that supports the needs of our patients and their families, before and after a transplant. Long-term care of each patient is a collaborative effort between the Ochsner team and the referring physician.

For example, Ochsner is one of the few programs with dedicated organ procurement coordinators to handle the myriad pre-transplantation details. The common theme amongst the Ochsner team, whether a nurse, a social worker, or a surgeon, is the commitment and enthusiasm these experienced professionals share in contributing to Ochsner's success, particularly in organ viability, in transplanting patients with co-morbidities and in reducing donor wait times.

Within the Transplant Institute model in place at Ochsner, organization is shifted away from traditional specialty departments to a more patient-focused, multi-specialty transplant service line organization. This organization is in place for all solid organ transplants at Ochsner, and each is recording survival rates that are better than expected. "While these differences do not reach statistical significance in all cases," says Loss, "if we keep improving they soon will be."

For more information, call 1-800-643-1635 or visit ochsner.org/transplant



Pain Management: Advanced Interventions, Growing Patient Volumes



Dr. Armin Schubert

Pain Management at Ochsner is growing in expertise and volume, with five locations providing services, fellowship-trained specialists, and more than 5,000 patient visits in 2010.

Pain Management is practiced by an advanced multidisciplinary group of specialists who span the fields of anesthesiology, physical medicine, neurology, and psychiatry. Comprehensive

diagnosis and treatment for all kinds of chronic pain are offered at Ochsner Baptist Medical Center and Ochsner Medical Center – Kenner, as well as Ochsner Health Centers in Covington, Baton Rouge, and Marrero.

Pain Management physician M. Ali Khan, M.D., Medical Director, Ochsner Community Pain Program, says treatment ranges from conservative balanced medication management to the latest interventional procedures. "We offer all advanced interventions, including spinal cord stimulation. A unique treatment is the spinal/peripheral nerve stimulator, which uses minute pulses of electricity delivered directly to nerves to help with pain."

Armin Schubert, M.D., MBA, Chair of the Department of Anesthesiology, says pain medicine at Ochsner has expanded as the specialty and patient needs have grown. Future growth is certain. One of every four persons experiences chronic pain at some point. Seniors are especially vulnerable.

"The starting point is diagnostic – pinpointing the cause, then targeting it with a comprehensive plan that begins with conservative, least-invasive treatments," Dr. Schubert explains. He adds that translational research, in particular work investigating the benefit of stem cells in chronic pain, is underway.

Dr. Khan has these referral guidelines. "If a patient's pain is treated and the therapy doesn't work, or if they are on medication for three months with no change, the physician may want to consider referring to Ochsner Pain Management."

"Pain Management," he adds, "is a societal as well as medical issue. Unrelieved pain is a huge cost to patients, employers, families, and caregivers. We have many ways to provide relief."

Ochsner Pain Management Physicians

New Orleans Region 504-842-4306

Hazem Eissa, M.D.

M. Ali Khan, M.D.

Eric Royster, M.D.

Jeremy Sanders, M.D.

(Kenner: 504-464-8588, West Bank: 504-371-9355)

North Shore Region 985-898-7014

Nathan Harrison, M.D.

Baton Rouge Region 225-761-5484

Andrew Roberts, M.D.

"Comprehensive diagnosis and treatment for all kinds of chronic pain are offered."

Ochsner Baton Rouge Innovates In Gynecological Robotics



Dr. Thomas Payne

About 96 percent of gynecological surgery patients at Ochsner Medical Center – Baton Rouge receive minimally invasive procedures, the majority are robotic-assisted.

This is just one indicator of Ochsner's prominence as a robotic-assisted surgery leader. Since 2006, Ochsner Baton Rouge gynecologists have developed expertise and experience in adapting all traditional gynecological procedures to the robotics platform. In their more than 2,500 robotic-assisted surgeries for benign gynecological conditions, less than two percent of patients had complications.

Ochsner Baton Rouge was one of the first da Vinci® Surgical System GYN Epicenters recognized for outstanding outcomes, teaching, and promotion of robotic-assisted surgery benefits. The staff has trained nearly 500 surgeons, and team members have published their third study, with a fourth study due out this fall. The program strengthens Ochsner's position as a Gulf South robotics leader.

"The greatest benefit to patients is that we've been able to maximize the availability of minimally invasive procedures," says gynecologist Thomas Payne, M.D. "On average, 35 percent of gynecological surgeries are minimally invasive in the United States today. With the utilization of the robotic platform, Ochsner has moved this percentage from 35 to 96 percent. We're able to use the robotics platform with

nearly all our patients, bringing them less pain, shorter recovery, and shorter hospital stay. All of our team are trained in robotics. Only the rare patient with contraindications would be ineligible for the robotics procedure."

In *Obstetrics & Gynecology* (March 2010), Drs. Payne and Ralph Dauterive published results of a study on robotic-assisted hysterectomy in patients with large uteri and comorbidities such as obesity and prior pelvic surgery. Among the findings: only 1.6 percent of 256 patients with complications required open surgery.

"Robotic-assisted surgery is one of the biggest paradigm shifts in surgical sciences in the last 100 years," says Dr. Payne. "It allows us to be successful with minimally invasive surgery nearly 100 percent of the time. In addition, there are better outcomes and faster recovery compared to traditional surgery."

Dr. Payne says that the program continues to innovate. On the horizon are one-incision surgeries, remote mentoring in which surgeons operate together from different locations, and expansion of robotics-assisted procedures to all surgical sub-specialties.

To refer patients to Ochsner Medical Center – Baton Rouge for robotic-assisted gynecological surgery, call 225-761-5223.

Hyperbarics & Wound Care Moves To Larger Center



Dr. Mohammad Suleman

Moving to a more spacious, well-equipped center in early 2011, Hyperbarics & Wound Care at Ochsner Medical Center – Kenner is expanding with more physicians and capabilities to treat a growing number of patients.

Medical Director Mohammad Suleman, M.D. explains the move is necessary to accommodate a 32 percent jump in patient volume during the last half of 2010. The new facility will increase the hyperbaric chambers to four. Six physicians, including a new infectious disease specialist and podiatrist, are now on staff. In addition to the new specialties, the staff represents general and vascular surgery, family practice, and emergency medicine physicians.

"We have a true multispecialty practice," Dr. Suleman says. "We treat the whole patient comprehensively and look at all aspects of the patient's condition while focusing on the wound. We treat underlying problems that may contribute to wound development."

State-of-the-art treatments include:

- specialized dressings
- bio-engineered tissue products
- hyperbaric oxygen therapy
- surgical debridements
- compression therapy
- complex off-loading techniques for diabetic ulcers including contact casting

Patients with a wide range of wounds, such as pressure ulcers, surgical wounds, venous and arterial wounds, infected wounds, and, of course, diabetic ulcers, are treated. Late effects of radiation therapy such as Soft Tissue Radionecrosis and Osteoradionecrosis are also treated with hyperbaric therapy. Hyperbaric therapy is an adjunct for the treatment of radiation cystitis and has helped many patients get relief from the debilitating symptoms associated with this condition.

Hyperbarics Director Brian Leslie, BS, CHT, says, "Because our patients can be apprehensive and make multiple visits, we ease anxieties and develop relationships; this is important to their healing." The program's experienced staff of RNs includes a Certified Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurse, several Certified Woundcare Specialists, and a Clinical Woundcare Associate. The majority

of staff members are also Certified Hyperbaric Technicians or Certified Hyperbaric Registered Nurses. Hyperbarics & Wound Care physicians generally see new patients within 24 - 72 hours after receiving a referral and make it a priority to inform referring physicians about their patient's progress through written progress reports and photographs. Adds Dr. Suleman, "Our effective therapies and treatments can bring excellent results, and we have a center where patients feel comfortable and supported." Ochsner Kenner Hyperbaric & Wound Care overall healing rates average 88 percent to 92 percent, well above the national average of about 85 percent.

To contact the Hyperbarics & Wound Care Unit at Ochsner Medical Center – Kenner, call 504-464-8686.

Hyperbarics & Wound Care Physicians

Mohammad Suleman, M.D. *General & Vascular Surgery*

James Campbell Jr., M.D. *Family Medicine*

Eric Ehrensing, M.D. *Infectious Disease*

Chantal Lorio, DPM *Podiatry*

Wagih Mando, M.D. *General & Vascular Surgery*

Steven Mehaffey, M.D. *Hyperbaric Medicine*

OchsnerView: 24/7 Access to Patient Information Is NOW HERE!

OchsnerView is a secure, web-based portal that allows you to view detailed clinical and hospital information for your patients at Ochsner.

Effective communication is essential to the continuum of care for patients. You will have the option to be notified of various patient activity, by email or fax, including information such as lab results, medications, vital signs, and radiology images.

Note that the implementation of OchsnerView will occur in phases, and all patient information will not be available in phase one; therefore, other currently used systems will remain accessible.

For further information regarding this new portal, please email ISPhysicianLiaisons@ochsner.org, call 1-877-379-5309, or visit ochsner.org/ochsnerview.

Continuing Medical Education 2011 Upcoming Events

Piedmont Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons

March 24-26, 2011

Charleston Place, Charleston, SC

Gulf Coast Anesthesia Symposium and 3rd Annual Ultrasound Regional Workshop

April 8-10, 2011

Brent House Conference Center, New Orleans, LA

Edgar Burns Visiting Professorship of Urology

June 2-4, 2011

The Ritz-Carlton, New Orleans, LA

The New Orleans Conference: Practices in Cardiac Surgery and Extracorporeal Technologies, 5th Annual

June 14-18, 2011

The Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, LA

9th Annual New Orleans Aeroallergen Course

June 3-6, 2011

Brent House Conference Center, New Orleans, LA

Gulf States Hospital Society Meeting

July 7-10, 2011

Grand Marriott, Point Clear, AL

7th Annual Update in Pediatrics

July 22-23, 2011

Brent House Conference Center, New Orleans, LA

12th Annual Southern Hospital Medicine Conference

October 19-22, 2011

InterContinental New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

For further information, please call the Ochsner CME Department at 504-842-3702.



1514 Jefferson Highway, New Orleans, LA 70121
1-866-OCHSNER (624-7637), ochsner.org

**For more information about services offered
at Ochsner Health System:**

Main Business Development Line: 504-842-5279

Regional Referral Center: 1-888-551-4662