

## Advance Hematology/Oncology Programs

### Oncology



No one ever wants to hear that their child has cancer. But if it happens, you do want to hear that you have one of the leading-edge children's cancer centers nearby—Cook Children's.

Cancer in children, teens and young adults is rare, and some types of childhood cancers are extremely rare. Finding an experienced team that has treated those cancers is literally a life-altering decision.

#### Cook Children's Oncology Program

The oncology program at Cook Children's is one of only a handful of pediatric cancer programs in the southwest, and one of only four in Texas that are a Children's Oncology Group member institute. In addition, our team of physician-researchers is among the most respected in the country. What that means to you and your child is access to tomorrow's treatments and cures, today.

Our doctors are actively pursuing cures for cancer. Because of our participation in ongoing national research studies, we are able to offer many patients the opportunity to participate in studies, giving them access to the most recent medicines and advanced treatments, including genetics, nuclear medicine, stem cell transplants, and more.

Our cancer center includes stem cell transplant rooms, an inpatient and outpatient infusion center, 28 inpatient beds in private rooms, a dedicated pharmacy, Texas' first and only I-131-MIBG suite for advanced targeted treatment of neuroblastoma tumors.

While our specialty is treating and curing cancer in our patients, we also take extra care of their childhood and teen years so that they can have the support and do not pause their lives as they grow into happy, healthy adults.

#### Who we treat

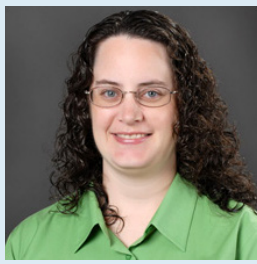
The oncology program at Cook Children's is open to any child from infancy through young adulthood who is suspected of having cancer, has been diagnosed with cancer, or who wants a second opinion. Our patients range in age from newborn to early 20s, and sometimes even older if we are one of the only centers close by that treats the type of cancer they have. We see patients from our local area and those in other states in even other countries. And thanks to the support of our community and our social services team, we never turn away a child who needs care simply because they can't afford it.

#### What we treat

The oncology team at Cook Children's treats all types of cancers and tumors in children, including:

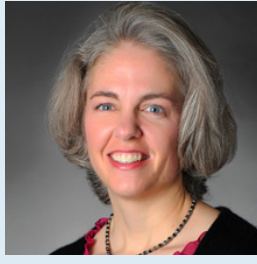
- Leukemia
- Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Neuroblastoma
- Brain tumors
- Spine tumors
- Retinoblastoma
- Cancers and tumors of the bones
- Kidney tumors/Wilms' tumor
- Liver tumors
- Rare cancers and tumors

#### Our specialty care team



**Lauren Akers, DO**  
**Hematology/Oncology**

Education: Nova Southeastern University, College of Osteopathic Medicine, Florida  
Residency: Children's Hospital of Austin  
Fellowship: Children's Cancer Hospital, Houston  
Board Certification: Pediatrics and Pediatric Hematology/Oncology  
Languages: English



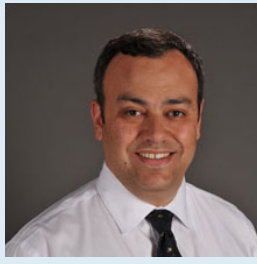
**Karen Halaburt Albritton, MD**  
**Medical Director, Adolescent and Young Adult Program Hematology and Oncology Center**

Education: University of Texas Medical School at San Antonio  
Residency: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Fellowship: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Board Certification: Hematology/Oncology  
Languages: English



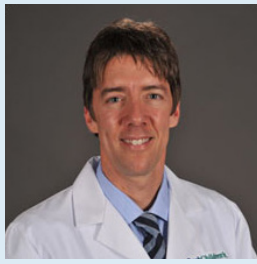
**Paul W. Bowman, MD**  
**Senior Pediatric Hematologist/Oncologist; Chair Leukemia Foundation**

Education: University of Manitoba, Canada  
Residency: University of Manitoba, Canada  
Fellowship: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Tennessee  
Board Certification: Pediatrics and Pediatric Hematology/Oncology  
Languages: English



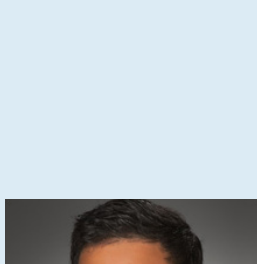
**Kenneth M. Heym, MD**  
**Medical Director, Oncology Program**

Education: Vanderbilt University School of Medicine  
Residency: Babies and Children's Hospital at Columbia University, New York, New York  
Fellowship: Baylor College of Medicine  
Board Certification: Pediatrics and Pediatric Hematology/Oncology  
Languages: English



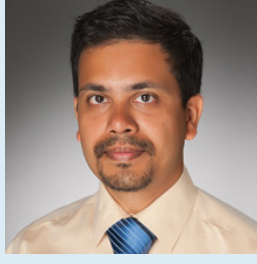
**Jeffrey C. Murray, MD**  
**Medical Director, Neuro-Oncology**

Education: Baylor College of Medicine, Houston  
Residency: Texas Children's Hospital  
Fellowship: Texas Children's Hospital  
Board Certification: Pediatrics and Pediatric Hematology/Oncology  
Languages: English



**Karen L. Nielson, MD**  
**Radiation Oncology**

Education: Baylor College of Medicine  
Residency: Stanford University Medical Center  
Board Certification: American Board of Radiology  
Languages: English



**Anish K. Ray, MD**  
**Hematology/Oncology**

Education: Calcutta National Medical College, India  
Residency: Nassau University Medical Center, NY  
Fellowship: University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Board Certification: Pediatrics  
Languages: English



**Mayme Richie-Gillespie, MD**  
**Hematology/Oncology**

Education: Vanderbilt University  
Residency: University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas  
Fellowship: Children's Orthopedic Hospital and Medical Center in Seattle; University of Texas South  
Board Certification: Orthopedic Surgery  
Languages: English



**Kelly L. Vallance, MD, MPH**  
**Hematology/Oncology**

Education: Tulane University School of Medicine  
Residency: Massachusetts General Hospital  
Fellowship: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital  
Board Certification: Pediatrics and Pediatric Hematology/Oncology  
Languages: English

Need help referring a patient?

Please call the International Patient Services department at +1-682-885-4685, send faxes to +1-682-885-2557, or email [international@cookchildrens.org](mailto:international@cookchildrens.org)