



**NORTHSIDE HOSPITAL
CANCER INSTITUTE**

**BLOOD & MARROW
TRANSPLANT PROGRAM**

PROGRAM *overview*

Compassion Leading to Successful Outcomes





NORTHSIDE HOSPITAL CANCER INSTITUTE

BLOOD & MARROW
TRANSPLANT PROGRAM

Mission Statement

At the Blood and Marrow Transplant Program at Northside Hospital, we strive to be the premier clinical blood and marrow transplant program in the Southeast by achieving outstanding patient outcomes and satisfaction. We are dedicated to providing patient-focused care through research, leading-edge treatments and clinical excellence. Our patients and their families are at the center of our program, and we are committed to treating each individual with respect, dignity and compassion while providing them with the clinical and on-going support they need.

We are here for you.

Physicians Available 24/7 | Phone: 404-255-1930
Fax: 404-255-1939

northside.com/BMTProgram

bmtga.com

The Blood & Marrow
Transplant Group
O F G E O R G I A

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Program Overview

The Blood and Marrow Transplant Program at Northside Hospital (NH-BMT) is ranked as one of the largest and premier clinical transplant programs in the country. Our state-of-the-art comprehensive specialty treatment for patients undergoing bone marrow/stem cell transplant therapy has resulted in the distinction of having among the best survival outcomes in the United States.

A nationally recognized team of physicians with expertise in transplantation and hematological malignancies leads our program. For every patient, we are committed to quality, excellence and compassionate care.

Our patients come first, and that commitment drives our multidisciplinary team to deliver outstanding care and results in excellent patient satisfaction. For this reason, we consistently rank above the 90th percentile for physician care, nursing care and overall hospital experience.





Northside Hospital Cancer Institute


As a nationally recognized leader in cancer diagnosis, treatment and research, the Northside Hospital Cancer Institute (NHCI) is committed to providing compassionate, personalized patient care through a multidisciplinary team approach. Using evidence-based medicine and the latest technology available, NHCI's large network of physicians, nurses, researchers, and support staff throughout Georgia offers patients access to the latest research and treatments available, in a location close to home.

As a statewide leader of the National Cancer Institute Oncology Research Program (NCORP), NHCI's community physicians and their patients have access to groundbreaking clinical trials. Providers are able to collaborate with the National Cancer Institute Clinical Trials Network (NCTN) Lead Academic Participating Sites on the development of research studies that impact patients in their communities.

BUILT TO BEAT CANCER

Exceptional Survival Outcomes

Each year, blood and marrow transplant center survival outcomes throughout the nation are publicly reported through the Be The Match® registry. Center outcomes are reported using statistical analysis to generate a center's actual one-year survival for allogeneic transplants compared to the center's expected one year survival outcomes. NH-BMT has been ranked as an over-performing center for one-year allogeneic transplant outcomes for consecutive years 2009-2017. As of 2017, NH-BMT is one of only two centers in the country and the only center in the Southeast to maintain outcomes in the “above expected” range for nine or more consecutive years.* Each year updated outcomes are published at: bethematch.org/tcdirectory/search. Please check this site for Northside Hospital's most current outcomes report.



“The team was wonderful. My first night, the nurse sat there and made sure we knew everything that was about to happen. It was amazing. Cancer doesn't have to take your happiness. It's just a bump in the road!”

- *Courtney, stem cell transplant survivor*

*For the ninth consecutive year (2009-17) NH-BMT achieved survival outcomes that significantly exceeded the expected range as reported in the 2017 Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research (CIBMTR) Final Transplant Center Specific Report and the Be The Match® data release. There were 174 adult and pediatric transplant centers included in the analysis.^{1,2}

¹ Reported outcome data from bethematch.org. This survival information includes only patients who received their first allogeneic transplant between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2015 using unrelated or related donors and who had reported follow-up.

² Final 2017 Transplant Center Specific Survival Report, December 11, 2017.



Dedication to Quality

Quality is the foundation for excellent clinical practice. Our dedicated quality improvement and assurance staff continuously participates in extensive quality assurance and performance improvement activities. Our national accreditations ensure clinical quality and adherence to best practices.

Our credentials include:

The Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT): Accredited since 2000. FACT is a voluntary accreditation that is based upon compliance with the most comprehensive BMT standards in patient care and laboratory practices.

Center of Excellence (COE): NH-BMT is a COE for all major managed care companies, attesting to the program's quality and clinical outcomes.

National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP): Designated as a transplant center and collection center for volunteer hematopoietic cell donors.

Blood and Marrow Clinical Trials Network (BMT CTN): Patients have access to participate in hematopoietic stem cell transplant clinical trials.

MDS Center of Excellence: Recognized as a COE in the diagnosis and treatment of myelodysplastic syndromes by the Myelodysplastic Syndromes Foundation, Inc.

American Association of Blood Banks: The global leader in standards development, accreditation and implementation of quality systems in transfusion medicine and cellular therapies.

Meet Our Physicians



H. Kent Holland, MD

BMT Program Director

- **Fellowship:** Hematology-Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplantation, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
- **Board Certified:** Hematology & Oncology



Asad Bashey, MD, PhD

BMT Physician

- **Fellowship:** Bone Marrow Transplant/Leukemia, Hammersmith Hospital, London, England
- **Board Certified:** Hematology & Oncology



Lawrence Morris, MD

BMT Physician

- **Fellowship:** Hematology-Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplantation, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
- **Board Certified:** Oncology



Melham Solh, MD

BMT Physician

- **Fellowship:** Hematology-Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplantation, University of Minnesota Medical Center
- **Board Certified:** Hematology & Oncology



Scott Solomon, MD

BMT Physician

- **Fellowship:** Hematology-Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplantation, University of San Francisco
- **Board Certified:** Hematology & Oncology

For complete physician bios visit: bmtga.com/bios.htm



Your Clinical Team

Core members of our multidisciplinary team have been working together since 1994. Our program's team consists of over 200 dedicated professionals who provide a wide range of clinical, educational, emotional and psychological support. Dedicated, experienced professionals comprise our BMT team, led by a team of internationally recognized physicians in the field of blood and marrow transplant. Excellent clinical care is the driving force to develop programs that result in extraordinary outcomes.

Physicians: Providing overall leadership to the program, our physicians will evaluate and assess you on a daily basis. Our program is unique in that our transplant physicians are available and on call **24 hours a day/seven days a week** to speak to you after hours, if needed.

Nurse Practitioners/Physician Assistants: Work directly with our physicians to provide care for you on the inpatient unit and in the outpatient clinic.


Clinical BMT Pharmacists: Specially trained in overseeing the safe and appropriate utilization, dosing and preparation of chemotherapy, immunosuppressive drugs, investigational agents and other medications.

Transplant Coordinators: Registered nurses that help guide you through the BMT transplant process. This includes educating you and your family regarding the pre and post-transplant process, such as facilitating unrelated donor searches, assisting with insurance coverage and scheduling assessments and evaluations. Transplant coordinators also arrange local accommodations, maintain contact with your referring physician and are responsible for long-term follow-up after your transplant.

Graft-versus-Host Disease (GvHD) Nurse: Educates allogeneic transplant patients about recognizing signs and symptoms of this possible complication to the transplant procedure. Provides ongoing specialized assessments for GvHD.

Physician Specialists: Physicians specializing in intensive care, pulmonary medicine, cardiology, infectious disease, gastroenterology and other specialties collaborate with the transplant team to provide you with the most comprehensive patient care possible. Specialists are trained in assisting in the management of the unique needs of transplant patients.

Specialized Trained Nurses: Provide specialty nursing care to BMT patients. Nurses receive extensive training and demonstrate competency as defined by FACT and Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) standards and are certified in chemotherapy administration.



“We were all treated like family.”
- *Blood cancer survivor*

Continuity of Care

We provide support before, during and after your transplant. Our support services staff regularly collaborates so the team meets your unique needs and delivers high quality continuity of care.

Health Psychologist: Offers you and your family in-depth emotional support by building upon your current coping skills and teaching you relaxation/stress management techniques.

Social Worker: Will support you and your caregiver throughout your transplant care by collaborating with clinicians to identify and overcome treatment barriers and support any psychosocial needs you may have.

Registered Dietitian: Assesses your nutritional status and provides education on neutropenic diets, including meals, supplements and snacks to meet your caloric and protein needs both in the hospital and at home.

Rehabilitation Therapists: Available to help address cancer-related symptoms that may be causing pain, fatigue, balance issues or may limit your ability to perform routine activities.

Palliative Care: Available to help improve your quality of life. Palliative care also can help you and your family deal with complex decisions and cope with the side effects of medical treatments.

Financial Coordinators: Available through both the physician office and Northside Hospital to meet with you at the beginning of the transplant process to assist with financial and insurance-related planning. They are available to you throughout the entire transplant process.

Hematopathology and Flow Cytometry: Pathologists, specifically trained in hematology, support the patients in the program through expert review and rapid reporting. The Flow Cytometry Laboratory provides excellence in diagnostics and restaging utilizing leading-edge technology in the field of molecular testing.

Patient-Focused Care and Support

Since care for the BMT patient does not end with treatment, we provide a full range of support and survivorship resources that can aid in your recovery and improve your quality of life. We are committed to helping improve your experience and outcome by offering a variety of programs and services to guide you and your caregivers through your diagnosis and treatment to your survivorship.

Lodging Options

For patients who live greater than 50 miles from the clinic and hospital, your care team will work with you to identify appropriate lodging options available including:

- Local discounted hotel suites
- The American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge

Network of Hope (NoH): When patients are facing cancer, they need a special kind of support that can only come from someone who knows what they are going through, someone who has been through it themselves. Network of Hope connects patients with specially trained survivor volunteers, who have faced cancer and embraced life afterward. The program helps foster an open environment so patients and their families feel supported and not alone. For information, please speak to your transplant coordinator.

The Blood & Marrow Transplant Information Network: An organization dedicated to providing stem cell transplant patients, survivors, and their loved ones emotional support and access to quality information about stem cell, bone marrow and cord blood transplants. For more information visit bmtinfonet.org.

Be The Match®: Supports patients with blood disorders through managing a registry of potential lifesaving donors. Supports clinical research and provides patient education and support through the transplant process. For more information, please visit bethematch.org.

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society®: The world's largest voluntary health agency dedicated to curing blood cancers and improving the quality of life of patients and their families. Provides free information and support services. For more information, please visit lls.org.

'Believing in the Miracle of Transplant' Survivor Reunion: A celebration of our NH-BMT patients and their caregivers. This event honors the strength of all the patients, their families and friends who have been through the journey of transplant through a celebratory dinner and guest speakers at an amazing venue.

NHCI Cancer Survivor Celebrations: These are free events held biannually to celebrate our cancer survivors, honor caregivers and remember lost loved ones. Past events have included Braves games, theater productions, survivor receptions and more.





Treatment Services

The Blood and Marrow Transplant Program at Northside Hospital offers a full range of transplant services including:

Autologous stem cell transplants

Allogeneic stem cell transplants:

- Matched related donor
- Matched unrelated donor
- Cord blood transplant
- Haploidentical stem cell transplants
- Ablative and reduced intensity preparatory treatment regimens

Extracorporeal photopheresis (ECP):

- Treatment of graft-versus-host disease (GvHD)

Immune therapy:

- Access to latest research offering immune therapy for adoptive T cell therapy (such as CART), cancer vaccines, targeted therapies and checkpoint inhibitors
- Compliance with FACT Immune Effector Cell Standards



Clinical Research

Committed to advancing the treatment of hematological malignancies through clinical research, our program conducts all phases of clinical trials and partners with prestigious research centers and collaborative groups across the country.

Our clinical research team works collaboratively with the Central Research Office at Northside Hospital to maintain compliance with regulatory agencies that oversee the practice of clinical research. Additionally, they work directly with other national transplant centers and clinical trial networks in order to bring promising investigational therapies to our patients.

Designated as a Core Center for the Blood and Marrow Clinical Trials Network in 2010-2016 and 2017-2023, this distinction allows patients at Northside Hospital access to the leading national clinical trials in bone marrow transplantation. Some of the individualized treatment approaches that are being investigated for hematological malignancies include novel agents, targeted therapies and immunotherapy.

We are steadfast in ensuring that our patients have access to clinical trials and reporting outcomes of the research to make substantial forward progress in treating and supporting patients with hematological malignancies.

For a current listing of available clinical trials, please visit: bmtga.com/clinicaltrials2.htm



Facilities

Our state-of-the-art facilities were designed to ensure we provide you with the best care possible while also keeping you comfortable while undergoing treatment. We are continuously expanding our capabilities to meet the needs of our patients, while remaining focused on delivering individualized quality care.

Inpatient Unit

In 2018 the inpatient bone marrow unit expanded its bed count and is one of the largest dedicated units in the Southeast. It was the first transplant isolation unit in Georgia that provides strict respiratory and contact precautions to reduce the risk of developing airborne infections and hospital-acquired transmitted infections.

- Restricted access HEPA-filtered unit
- Dedicated family room and exercise room
- Enhanced infection prevention practices
- Specialty-trained clinical and support staff
- Specialized therapy gym

Outpatient Clinic

- Open 7 days a week
- HEPA-filtered infusion clinic
- Family waiting area
- Privacy rooms
- Procedure rooms and appropriate protective rooms (isolation)
- On-site pharmacy, parking and laboratory services

Blood Donor Center and Collection Facility

Specialty apheresis nurses perform peripheral blood stem cell collections, extracorporeal photopheresis and therapeutic apheresis procedures. In addition, collection of platelets and red blood cells are performed to support the transfusion needs of BMT and leukemia patients.

- FDA licensed blood, platelet and donor collection facility
- Experienced apheresis staff performs blood stem cell collections, therapeutic apheresis and collection of blood components
- Only program in Georgia with a dedicated freestanding blood center to support the acute needs of transplant patients



Stem Cell Processing Laboratory

- Highly specialized and trained staff with 50-year combined experience
- 8000 square foot HEPA-filtered processing facility
- 24 hours/7 days a week environmental monitoring system
- On-site processing and storage of cellular therapy products
- Laboratory specialists perform processing and storage of human marrow/stem cells

*“The competence and caring shown
by all the staff, all the time,
exceeded my expectations.”*

- Blood cancer survivor



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