

The Thoracic Oncology Program



A Multidisciplinary Approach to Fast Track Patient Care

State-of-the-Art Technology | Leading Physicians | Cutting-Edge Research | Better Outcomes for Patients

The Fast Track to World-Class Cancer Care

If your patient is diagnosed with lung cancer or another cancer of the thorax, you want direct access to leading specialists and the most comprehensive state-of-the-art medical care available.

The Thoracic Oncology Program at Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care offers this and more:

- Individualized attention and comprehensive care from recognized clinical leaders
- State-of-the-art technology
- The latest medical treatments based on pioneering scientific research
- Tumor boards focused on finding the best possible treatment plan for a patient
- Compassionate care focused on enhancing patients' quality of life
- Complementary and palliative care programs to meet the complex medical, emotional and spiritual needs of patients and their families
- Optimized patient outcomes

Our Renowned Multidisciplinary Team

Critical care specialists

Gastroenterologists

Medical oncologists

Nuclear medicine specialists

Nurses

Nutritionists

Pathologists

Psychosocial oncology specialists

Pulmonologists

Radiation oncologists

Radiologists

Social workers

Surgical oncologists

Thoracic cancer care navigators/patient advocates

Conditions We Treat

Chest wall tumors

Esophageal cancer

Lung cancer

Lung metastasis

Lung nodules

Mediastinal tumors

Mesothelioma

Sarcoma

Thymoma and thymic carcinomas

Tracheal cancer

We're committed to streamlining and simplifying the process of bringing world-class cancer care to your patient.

CALL US TODAY: 718-862-8840 www.montefiore.org/cancer/lung



Our Services

Surgical Oncology

Our thoracic surgeons have vast experience conducting a wide range of innovative surgical procedures to treat patients with all cancers of the thorax with minimally invasive approaches, including:

- Endoscopy
- Video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery (VATS)
- Robotics, including the da Vinci® SI robotic surgical system

Working closely with our surgeons, our interventional pulmonologists employ the newest technologies to diagnose, stage and treat many thoracic cancers. As integral members of our multidisciplinary team, our interventional pulmonologists offer endobronchial approaches to treat cancer at all stages.

Medical Oncology

Our medical oncologists work to slow tumor growth and the spread of metastatic cancer, as well as reduce pain and prolong life. We employ a variety of chemotherapeutic drugs, monoclonal antibodies and other small-molecule targeted therapies alone or in combination with other courses of treatment. In addition, we are committed to developing new therapies that are not characterized by the difficult side effects associated with most commonly used chemotherapies.

Radiation Oncology

Our radiation oncology program was one of the first in the nation. Our specialists were instrumental in the development of high-energy irradiation, electron beam irradiation and brachytherapy. Today, we continue our long tradition of bringing patients the very latest in comprehensive radiation oncology services available at our 15,000-square-foot Center for Radiation Therapy.

Our radiation therapy offerings include:

- Adaptive and biological planning (PET/CT fusion)
- Frameless stereotactic radiosurgery
- Image-guided brachytherapy
- Image-guided intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IGRT-IMRT)
- Intraoperative brachytherapy
- Target motion management (4D CT planning)







Research and Innovation

As a result of our partnership with the National Cancer Institute—designated Albert Einstein Cancer Center, we receive funding from the National Cancer Institute to develop innovative approaches for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer. Recognized as a research leader, the Center hosts the Lung Cancer Preceptorship Program allowing national and international leaders to learn about the latest therapies and treatments. Call 718-920-4826 for the schedule of symposia.

Our clinical trials give patients an opportunity to receive the latest treatments long before they are available anywhere else. We are active participants in a wide range of government and investigator-initiated and industry-sponsored clinical research trials, including:

The National Institutes of Health (www.nih.gov)

The American Society of Clinical Oncology (www.asco.org)

The Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (http://ecog.dfci.harvard.edu)

Through ECOG we currently serve as a national principal investigator for an adjuvant therapy trial for patients with lung cancer, and participate in several additional trials to treat and manage advanced thoracic cancers.

Current research topics include:

- Development of novel drug treatments, including orally administered and inhaled drugs
- Novel anti-angiogenic drugs in combination with chemotherapy in adjuvant and advanced lung cancer patients
- Combination of different molecularly targeted therapies in smokers and nonsmokers with lung cancers
- Oncolytic viruses for treatment of small-cell lung cancer
- Supportive care studies, including treatment of cancer-related weight loss (cachexia) and epidermal growth factor receptor induced skin rash

Advanced Diagnostics

Patients have access to a full range of the most advanced diagnostic imaging technologies available:

- State-of-the-art CT, MRI, MR spectroscopy, PET/CT scans and ultrasound imaging
- Seven MRI machines and 11 CT scanners
- Four cutting-edge 64-slice, ultra-high-speed GE LightSpeed VCT® scanners

About Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care

Transforming Health and Enriching Lives

Montefiore Medical Center, the University Hospital for Albert Einstein College of Medicine, is known for excellence in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of all types of cancer. We serve 1.5 million residents of the Bronx, our neighbors in Westchester County and patients referred from across the nation and around the globe.

Montefiore has strengthened its commitment to providing the highest caliber of multidisciplinary care through the establishment of the Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care. The full integration of Montefiore medicine and Einstein science gives our patients access to the most current medical expertise, technologies and treatment options, including innovative clinical trials. This unique approach allows us to translate groundbreaking research into discoveries that revolutionize the standard of cancer care.

We're committed to streamlining and simplifying the process of bringing world-class cancer care to your patient.

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Meet Our Thoracic Oncology Leadership Team

Personalized Attention from our Renowned Practitioners



Bilal Piperdi, MDDirector, Thoracic Oncology Program
Associate Director, Clinical Trial Program
Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care
Medical Oncologist
Montefiore Medical Center
Associate Professor, Medicine
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
718-920-4057 | bpiperdi@montefiore.org

Dr. Piperdi specializes in the treatment of thoracic cancers, including lung cancer, mesothelioma and thymomas. He leads the clinical research program in thoracic oncology and is the principal investigator on several clinical trials. His research interests include clinical and translational studies with novel targeted therapies. These studies aim to improve the outcome from targeted therapies by understanding and treating the mechanisms of resistance and the potential side effects from those treatments. He received his medical degree at Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey. Dr. Piperdi completed a residency at SUNY-Upstate Medical University and fellowship training in hematology-oncology at Montefiore and Albert Einstein College of Medicine.



Amit Bhargava, MD
Attending Thoracic Surgeon
Montefiore Medical Center
Assistant Professor, Cardiovascular and
Thoracic Surgery
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
718-920-5732 | abhargav@montefiore.org

Dr. Bhargava offers novel therapies to patients with lung and esophageal cancer. He is experienced in new endobronchial interventions and computed tomography-guided interventions for peripheral lung tumors, including fine-needle aspiration and radiofrequency ablation of lung nodules. Dr. Bhargava provides patients with esophageal cancer new, less-invasive surgical techniques, including Ivor-Lewis esophagectomy with laparoscopy and video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery (VATS). He treats lung cancer patients with VATS procedures, including lobectomy and segmentectomy. Dr. Bhargava completed a fellowship in lung and esophageal cancer at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and a residency in surgery at Weill Cornell Medical Center, and he received his medical degree from the University of Wisconsin Medical School. Dr. Bhargava also pursued a research fellowship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, focusing on translational research in surgical oncology. He is a member of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons and the American College of Surgeons.



Steven M. Keller, MD
Director, Thoracic Surgery, Weiler Hospital
Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery
Montefiore Medical Center
Professor, Cardiothoracic Surgery
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
718-405-8378 | skeller@montefiore.org

Dr. Keller is a nationally recognized

cardiothoracic surgeon with extensive experience in thoracic oncology. He maintains an active clinical and research interest in adjuvant therapy for lung cancer and treatment of hyperhidrosis, and is one of the lead faculty members in Montefiore's Lung Cancer Preceptorship Program. Dr. Keller, a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American College of Chest Physicians, was a Clinical Fellow in the Surgery Branch of the National Cancer Institute and has served on several national committees for the National Cancer Institute, the National Institutes of Health and the College of Chest Physicians. He also is an active member of the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group. Dr. Keller received his medical degree from Albany Medical College of Union University, and he completed his internship at Long Island Jewish Hospital, his residency at Mount Sinai Medical Center, and fellowship training in cardiothoracic surgery at New York Hospital and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.



Madhur Garg, MD Clinical Director, Radiation Oncology Montefiore Medical Center Associate Professor, Radiation Oncology Albert Einstein College of Medicine 718-920-7750 | mgarg@montefiore.org

Dr. Garg specializes in intensity-modulated radiation therapy for prostate cancer, lung cancer and head and neck cancer. He

received his medical degree at King George's Medical College in Lucknow, India, where he completed an internship and residency in radiotherapy. He also completed a residency in radiation oncology at Montefiore and Albert Einstein College of Medicine.



Shalom Kalnicki, MD, FACRO
Chairman, Radiation Oncology
Montefiore Medical Center
Professor, Radiation Oncology
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
718-920-5280 | skalnick@montefiore.org

Dr. Kalnicki is a nationally and internationally recognized pioneer of radiation therapy technology development. He is currently

investigating innovative methods of radiation planning and delivery, including intensity-modulated radiation therapy, positron emission and computed tomography fusion, 4D treatment planning, target-motion management and frameless body stereotactic radiosurgery, all with the goal to improve the quality of patient life while more precisely targeting and treating tumors. Prior to joining

Montefiore, Dr. Kalnicki served as Vice Chairman and Director of Radiation Oncology at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute and Cancer Centers. He received his medical degree at the University of Sao Paulo Medical School in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and completed his residency and fellowship in radiotherapy at Montefiore and Albert Einstein College of Medicine.



Roman Perez-Soler, MD
Chairman, Oncology
Chief, Medical Oncology
Montefiore Medical Center
Gutman Professor, Medicine
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Associate Director, Clinical Research
Co-Leader, Experimental Therapeutics Program
Albert Einstein Cancer Center
718-920-4001 | rperezso@montefiore.org

Dr. Perez-Soler has received numerous awards for his accomplishments, particularly in lung cancer research, and is considered an international expert in experimental cancer therapy. Dr. Perez-Soler's research interests and groundbreaking accomplishments are in the area of drug delivery of antitumor agents and new therapies for lung cancer, encompassing drug discovery, preclinical trials and early clinical studies. His laboratory has been funded by the National Institutes of Health since 1989 for the development of new tumor-targeted therapies using a variety of drug delivery systems. Dr. Perez-Soler spearheads Montefiore's Lung Cancer Preceptorship Program. Dr. Perez-Soler received his medical degree from Universidad Autónoma in Barcelona, where he also completed a residency in internal medicine. He completed a medical oncology fellowship at the University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Hospital Cancer Center.



Maria D. Cirino-Marcano, MD
Director, Interventional Pulmonology
Medicine
Montefiore Medical Center
Assistant Professor, Medicine
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
866-633-8255 | mcirino@montefiore.org

Dr. Cirino-Marcano's clinical and research interests include methods of diagnosis, staging

and palliation of lung cancer; tracheal stenosis; nonsurgical lung volume reduction in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; and dynamic airway collapse. Prior to joining Montefiore, she served as Director of Interventional Pulmonology at the University of Louisville Health Services Center, where she helped develop the multidisciplinary thoracic oncology team at the James Graham Brown Cancer Center. Dr. Cirino-Marcano completed her residency at the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine and fellowship training in interventional pulmonology and critical care at Tulane University School of Medicine.



Simon Spivack, MD, MPH
Chief, Pulmonary Medicine
Montefiore Medical Center
Associate Professor, Medicine, Epidemiology &
Population Health and Genetics
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
866-633-8255 | sspivack@montefiore.org

Dr. Spivack, a renowned expert in the early detection of lung cancer, has received a

number of molecular genetics patents to better define gene expression and silencing, and he has developed several new, noninvasive molecular epidemiologic approaches to studying the lung epithelia in ambulatory humans. Prior to joining Montefiore, he worked for 12 years in the Human Toxicology and Molecular Epidemiology Laboratory at Wadsworth Center, New York State Department of Health in Albany, New York. Dr. Spivack received his medical degree from State University of New York at Syracuse and a master's in public health from Harvard University. He completed his residency at the University of Massachusetts and fellowship training at the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont.



Linda Broyde Haramati, MD Director, Cardiothoracic Radiology Montefiore Medical Center Professor, Clinical Radiology Albert Einstein College of Medicine 718-920-7458 | lharamat@montefiore.org

Dr. Broyde Haramati leads a clinical team with expertise in adult and pediatric heart disease, pulmonary diseases and thoracic biopsies.

The team is actively involved in multidisciplinary collaborative clinical research in the various aspects of cardiac and pulmonary disease and was recently awarded a grant from the American Heart Association to study the utility of computed tomography coronary angiography versus nuclear stress testing for patients admitted to the hospital with chest pain. Dr. Broyde Haramati received her medical degree as well as a master's degree in clinical research from Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She completed her residency at Montefiore Medical Center and fellowship training at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center.



David M. Milstein, MD
Vice Chairman and Residency Program Director
Radiology
Montefiore Medical Center
Professor, Radiology
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
718-904-4058 | dmilstei@montefiore.org

A leader in diagnostic radiation, Dr. Milstein is a long-standing, active member of a number

of professional organizations, including the American College of Nuclear Physicians, the Greater New York Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and the National Society of Nuclear Medicine. He received his medical degree from Albert Einstein College of Medicine and completed his internship and residency at the Bronx Municipal Hospital Center, where he also completed a National Institutes of Health fellowship in academic diagnostic research.





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Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care

Thoracic Oncology Program 1521 Jarrett Place Bronx. New York 10461

Setting the New Standard in Thoracic Cancer Care

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