



**2023**

Oncology Annual Report

 HealthPartners®

# Cancer care locations

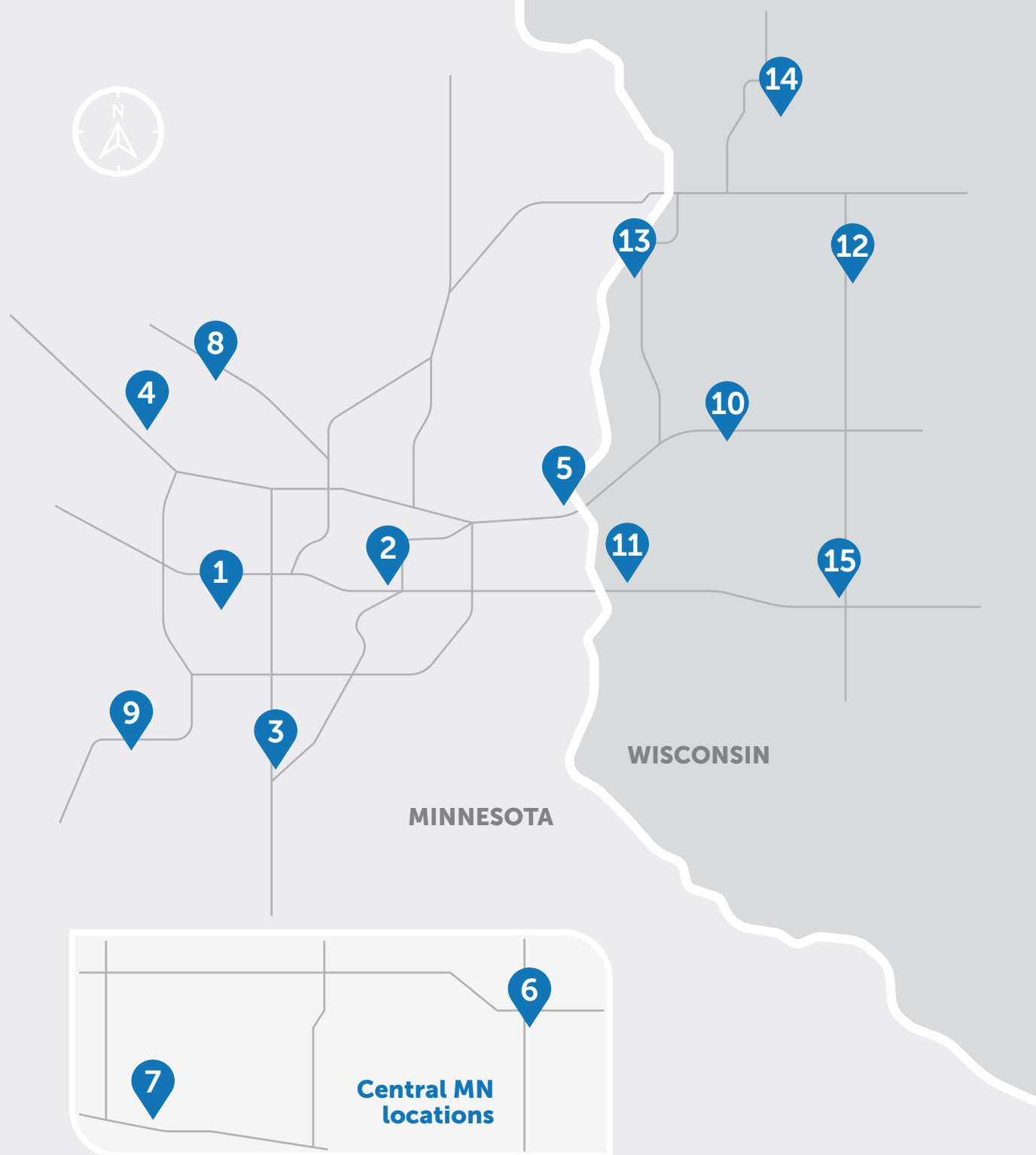
## Minnesota

1. HealthPartners Frauenschuh Cancer Center
2. HealthPartners Cancer Center at Regions Hospital
3. HealthPartners Cancer Care at Park Nicollet Burnsville
4. HealthPartners Cancer Care at Park Nicollet Maple Grove
5. HealthPartners Cancer Care at Lakeview Hospital
6. HealthPartners Cancer Center at Hutchinson Health
7. HealthPartners Cancer Care at Olivia Hospital & Clinic
8. HealthPartners Cancer Care at Coon Rapids – NEW LOCATION
9. St. Francis Cancer Center\*

## Wisconsin

10. HealthPartners Cancer Center at Westfields Hospital & Clinic
11. HealthPartners Cancer Care at Hudson Hospital & Clinic
12. HealthPartners Cancer Care at Amery Hospital & Clinic
13. Osceola Medical Center  
Cancer Center of Western Wisconsin\*
14. St. Croix Regional Medical Center  
Cancer Center of Western Wisconsin\*
15. Western Wisconsin Health  
Cancer Center of Western Wisconsin\*

\*HealthPartners provides physician services in partnership with these locations



## All the care you need, close to home

While everyone's care story is unique, our patients are always at the center of what we do. We partner with them every step of the way. Treatment is tailored to a patient's type of cancer, individual needs and goals.

Our services are convenient with a network of care locations across the metro area and beyond. With one medical record across the organization, care has become increasingly seamless, enhancing the patient experience.

In the last year, we added 10 new clinicians who are building on our strengths of expert, personalized and timely care. We also added clinic space to improve access to care and offer more options closer to where people live.

- **HealthPartners Cancer Care at Coon Rapids** opened at Mercy Specialty Center to support the growing north metro area.
- **HealthPartners Cancer Care at Lakeview Hospital** was remodeled and expanded for an improved patient experience in the St. Croix Valley.
- **Amery Hospital & Clinic** expanded its chemotherapy and infusion center to promote a healing environment in Western Wisconsin.

Proven and newly emerging treatments can significantly impact a patient's treatment options. Through our Cancer Research Center, we conduct new research and participate in clinical trials designed to improve the ways we diagnose and treat cancer, as well as manage side effects. This means our patients have access to the latest research and advanced treatment options in our local community, without having to travel long distances for care. We lead the way in cancer innovations, and our research is shared internationally to help people with cancer live longer and enjoy a better quality of life.

HealthPartners offers one place for all our patients' needs with award-winning cancer care, the latest treatment options, and support for patients and families. Our commitment to providing the best care possible is demonstrated through our certification by the American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer and participation in the American Society of Clinical Oncology's Quality Oncology Practice Initiative (QOPI).

Thank you for taking the time to learn about our ongoing work in caring for our patients. Please contact us if you have questions about this report or the care we offer.



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ASCO'S QOPI CERTIFICATION



## Highlights of 2023

### Phillips leads neuro-oncology team

This summer, we welcomed Kester Phillips, MD, to lead our growing neuro-oncology team. He is a board-certified neurologist and fellowship-trained neuro-oncologist specializing in the treatment of adults with central and peripheral nervous system tumors. Described as extremely well trained and personable, Dr. Phillips strives, "to address complex issues honestly yet with optimism." He says his patients can expect a holistic approach to their care that is "rooted in compassion, kindness, respect and humanness."

The neuro-oncology team works closely together to provide comprehensive, coordinated care to our patients. This expert team includes Dr. Phillips,

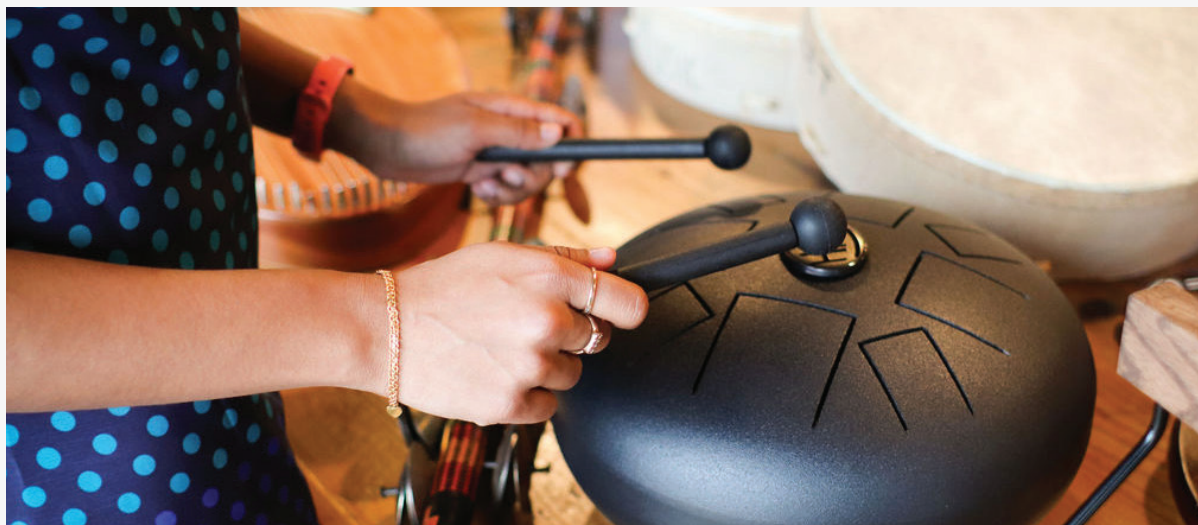
along with board-certified oncologists, radiation oncologists, neurologists, surgeons, radiologists and other advanced practice clinicians. A dedicated nurse navigator coordinates patient care and provides continued support for patients and their families.

Through our Cancer Research Center, we participate in clinical trials designed to improve the ways we diagnose and treat cancer. Access to this level of care is vital in the fight against cancer. According to Dr. Phillips, "My goal is to provide cutting-edge treatment for brain tumor patients and, where possible, offer promising clinical trials outside of conventional therapy."



Kester A. Phillips, MD

Visit [healthpartners.com/cancer](https://healthpartners.com/cancer) to learn more about Dr. Phillips, the neuro-oncology team and how to refer patients.



### Music therapy internship program celebrates 25 years

Music therapy allows patients to breathe, relax and feel supported as they go through treatment. Since 1998, our music therapy program has hosted six-month internships for 170 students, which leads to a board-certification credential in music therapy. This highly acclaimed program is approved by the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA) and available at Methodist Hospital, Regions Hospital, Struthers Parkinson's Center and our home care and hospice programs. In celebration of 25 years, former and current patients and staff gathered in October to recognize the impact of music therapy on the patient journey.

## Larson announced as director of early phase therapeutics program

Timothy Larson, MD, joined our staff in July as an oncologist with a special emphasis in thoracic and gastrointestinal malignancies. In addition to his clinical duties, he's the medical director for our Cancer Research Center's early-phase therapeutics program (EPTP). This innovative program provides our patients with unparalleled access to groundbreaking cancer treatments and therapies through Phase 1 clinical trials.

Dr. Larson is a highly accomplished physician and clinical researcher who has brought a wealth of knowledge and expertise to our team. Described as thoughtful and kind, he says his patients can, "expect honest answers to their questions, and when

I don't know, I will say as much." He also carefully weighs the impact of short- or long-term side effects on a patient's quality of life.

The Cancer Research Center's EPTP will continue to be at the forefront of progress under Dr. Larson's leadership. The program recently expanded Phase 1 trial opportunities and enrolled a record number of patients, many open to patients with any cancer diagnosis. Inspired by the many scientific advances over his career, his goal is, "to develop new therapies for our patients, now and in the future." He believes that through dedicated research, we can hope to "deliver longer lives and potentially even some cures."



Timothy G. Larson, MD

Visit [healthpartners.com/cancer](https://healthpartners.com/cancer) or [healthpartners.com/institute](https://healthpartners.com/institute) to learn more about Dr. Larson and the EPTP program.



Nathan Hoffman, MD, and Jocelyn Rieder, MD

## Pioneering a new treatment for prostate cancer

In June 2023, Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital became the only facility in the Twin Cities area to offer high intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU) for prostate cancer. This is a treatment for low and intermediate grade prostate cancers without significant side effects. HIFU uses ultrasound waves to heat and destroy the cancerous part of the prostate while leaving the normal tissue and surrounding structures unharmed. This outpatient procedure with no incisions allows patients to quickly return to normal life. The urology team, led by Jocelyn Rieder, MD, and Nathan Hoffman, MD, successfully launched this innovative new program. For more information on HIFU, call **952-993-3190**.

## AI technology supports research excellence

Our Cancer Research Center is the only organization in the Twin Cities area to implement artificial intelligence (AI) technology into its research operations. We recently purchased an AI-powered, patient-matching software platform that quickly identifies patients who are eligible for our clinical trials, giving them more care options. With the new platform, we're enhancing the efficiency, accuracy and consistency of tumor image analysis, which is critical for evaluating the safety and efficacy of experimental treatments. Our patients are the first to benefit from this new knowledge that can expedite the development of new cancer therapies and improve patient care.

## Awards and achievements

### Ji elected to national cancer committee

Yan Ji, MD, was elected to serve as a representative on the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Cancer Control Steering Committee. This group evaluates concepts for clinical trials and studies to improve clinical outcomes and care delivery. They also review innovative ideas for cancer prevention, screening and surveillance. Dr. Ji was nominated for this prestigious position by her peers from around the country and other principal investigators from the NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP).



Yan Ji, MD

### myGenetics celebrates milestone

HealthPartners celebrated a milestone with the one-year anniversary of myGenetics, a DNA testing community research study. In its first year, about 25,000 participants chose to take part in the study, reaching its annual goal and giving a strong start to the multi-year goal of 100,000 participants.

This no-cost research study identifies ancestry, traits and genetic health risks including:

- Hereditary breast and ovarian cancer
- Hereditary non-polyposis colorectal cancer (Lynch syndrome)
- Familial hypercholesterolemia (hereditary high cholesterol)



Finding these genetic markers early helps our team of genetic counselors, doctors and experts provide more personalized care tailored to patients' specific risks and needs. Results are used to develop a secure genetic research database to help researchers learn the cause and best treatments for certain diseases. This program is an example of our commitment to not only treat illness, but prevent it.

Visit [healthpartners.com/mygenetics](https://healthpartners.com/mygenetics) to learn more.



### CCWC winner of Collaboration Award

Cancer Center of Western Wisconsin (CCWW) was awarded the 2023 Wisconsin Cancer Collaborative's Collaboration Award, which honors organizations that have demonstrated effective teamwork while advancing cancer control goals. CCWW accepted the award in November during a ceremony at the Wisconsin Cancer Summit. Prior to 2011, patients with cancer in western Wisconsin were traveling significant distances for treatment. By working cooperatively, six community-based hospitals formed a jointly owned cancer treatment center to serve residents of western Wisconsin. Three CCWW hospitals are part of HealthPartners – Amery Hospital & Clinic, Hudson Hospital & Clinic and Westfields Hospital & Clinic. The other hospitals include Osceola Medical Center, St. Croix Health and Western Wisconsin Health.

## Cancer awareness event

Cindy Olive, RN, was recognized by the Minnesota Vikings at a game in October as part of the NFL and American Cancer Society's Crucial Catch: Intercept Cancer campaign. This initiative promotes cancer awareness and the importance of early detection.



## New clinicians

- Sarah Atkins, MD
- Abigail Brubaker, PA-C
- Ben Eidenschink, MD
- Cassandra Green, MSN, RN, FNP-C
- Tulasi Gummadi, MD
- Timothy Larson, MD
- Aditya Jain, MD
- Kester Philips, MD
- Robert Schneidewend, DO
- Rena Shah, MD



Sarah Essen, RN, BSN, OCN

## Nurse of Excellence award winner

Each year, exceptional nursing practice is recognized at Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital with the annual Nurse of Excellence Awards ceremony. One of this year's recipients is Sarah Essen, RN, BSN, OCN, from HealthPartners Frauenshuh Cancer Center.

## Patient safety award

Brenna Schute, RN, and Kim Thompson, RN, received the Good Catch award from Park Nicollet. This award recognizes employees who demonstrate a positive impact on patient safety and quality of care.

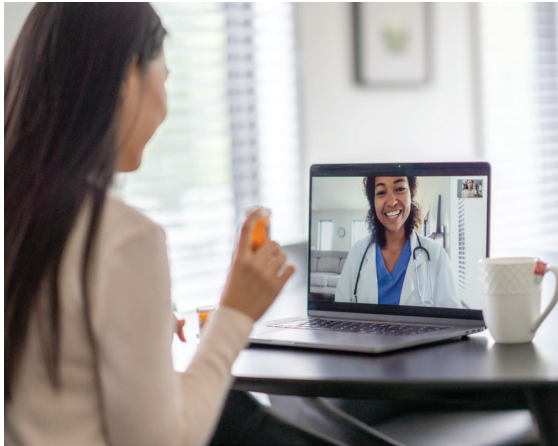
Patient satisfaction

94.4%

94.4% of our patients would recommend our cancer clinics, according to National Research Corporation.

## Community awareness and support

We're actively involved in programs to increase cancer screenings, community awareness and support for patients with cancer.



### Caring for patients by video, phone and in person

We support our patients' health and well-being with in-person, phone and video visits. Care options help patients balance their appointments with other important activities.

### Help with basic needs

Assistance with everyday needs such as transportation, food and gas can be vital to patients and their families during treatment. Strong partnerships with area organizations including A Breath of Hope (ABOH), Angel Foundation, Gilda's Club, Hope Chest, Open Arms of Minnesota, Pathways and the Pay it Forward Fund have made it possible to offer personalized help. We partner with the American Cancer Society on many efforts, such as transportation grants and volunteer drivers with the Road to Recovery program.

### Integrated, healing therapies

Integrated therapies can improve patients' overall well-being before, during and after treatment.

- Massage therapy
- Music therapy program
- Pet therapy
- Spiritual care

### A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation

This organization fights lung cancer by funding innovative research, raising awareness and supporting patients and families. We're fortunate to have A Breath of Hope support our lung cancer support group as well as other educational opportunities for our patients, including an annual walk/run and Lung Cancer Patient Summit.

### Brain cancer support group

At our brain tumor support group, patients and families can virtually meet to share their feelings and concerns. The group strives to provide a sense of belonging, safety and courage to those affected by a brain tumor. For more information, email [amy.feist@parknicollet.com](mailto:amy.feist@parknicollet.com)

### Lung cancer support group

This hybrid monthly group at Regions Hospital provides an opportunity for patients with lung cancer to connect. There's a sense of empowerment and belonging when meeting others with a similar cancer diagnosis. This support group is sponsored by A Breath of Hope. For more information, email [kevin.m.collis@healthpartners.com](mailto:kevin.m.collis@healthpartners.com)

### Support for People with Oral Head and Neck Cancer (SPOHNC)

A St. Paul chapter of a national organization, SPOHNC offers a safe and confidential place for patients, their families and caregivers to share their experiences. The group meets monthly with options for in-person or virtual attendance. For more information, email [neurowell@healthpartners.com](mailto:neurowell@healthpartners.com)

For additional support groups, visit [healthpartners.com/blog/cancer-support-groups-mn](https://healthpartners.com/blog/cancer-support-groups-mn)



# Screening and prevention

## Be Pink and breast cancer awareness

Be Pink encourages women in the Twin Cities to be aware, proactive and empowered with their breast health. Across HealthPartners and Park Nicollet, 82.1% of 120,422 eligible women were screened in 2023. That's an increase of 0.5% over the previous year. We also expanded the number of people of color who were screened to 74.6%, an increase of 0.4%.

Mammo a-go-go, our mobile mammography unit, screened over 1,300 women across Minnesota at 73 community outreach events in 2023. Almost 60% of those screened spoke a language other than English. Nearly 43% received their first mammogram, 54% were overdue for their mammogram and a record 10 cancers were found.



Park Nicollet Foundation's annual fundraising campaign supports Park Nicollet Jane Brattain Breast Center's Mammo a-go-go Community Outreach Program. The campaign helped raise over \$245,000 in 2023.



## Lung cancer screening at the state fair

Only 4% of all Minnesotans who qualify for lung cancer screening have been screened. HealthPartners, along with Allina, M Health, VA Minneapolis, Mayo Health System and A Breath of Hope, offered lung cancer screenings at the Minnesota State Fair to help educate people about this important tool. The result was over 12,000 interactions with fairgoers.

## Radon education event

Radon test kit education and giveaway events were held in December at Frauenthuh Cancer Center and Regions Hospital. The sessions were an opportunity to educate patients, visitors and team members about the dangers of high radon levels which are found in higher concentrations in Minnesota than other parts of the country. More than 300 people took kits to test their homes. This event was made possible through a generous grant.

## Colorectal cancer screening

In 2023, our colorectal cancer screening rates continued to improve. Across the organization, we screened 70% of our 289,449 eligible patients, an increase of 1.6% over the previous year. We also increased the screening rates for our patients of color to 59.8%, an increase of 1.4% in a year. A highlight was our partnership with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement to complete an equity action project with the local Somali community that included health fairs with options for screenings.

We also mailed over 10,000 FIT kits to patients in 2023 who have never been screened and met certain qualifications. FIT kits are an in-home, non-invasive tool for screening for colorectal cancer.



In August, we sponsored the 2023 Get Your Rear in Gear – Twin Cities, an event to support colon cancer, colon cancer education, awareness and screenings.

The combination of these efforts resulted in an increase of nearly 2% in screenings for colorectal cancer across our organization of 289,000 patients and members.

## Community well-being initiatives

HealthPartners has a long history of promoting health and well-being in our communities through a variety of initiatives. In 2023, we focused on reducing health care disparities and improving options and access to care.

### Preventive screenings

Health screenings can find and stop health issues before symptoms begin. However, knowing when to schedule an appointment can be challenging. A new online tool helps people quickly see when tests and screens are recommended by age. We've also expanded options for care to fit more people's schedules, including our mobile mammography unit, same-day appointments and at-home screening tests for patients who qualify.

### Promoting health care for men

Data shows that men are less likely than women to visit the doctor or get needed tests. In partnership with a local media station, Real Men Wear Gowns promoted the importance of regular check-ups and screenings for men.

**Everyone welcome,  
included and valued**



### Reducing inequities in care

HealthPartners is one of only two organizations in the nation to receive the Health Equity Award from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The award recognizes areas where HealthPartners implemented new models to increase access to care and reduce health disparities. As an organization, we saw a significant increase in the number of people of color getting tested for colorectal cancer. Another initiative was helping more patients on Medicaid get needed medications for depression.

# Quality measures

These quality measures indicate the portion of breast, colon and rectum cancer patients treated according to recognized standards of care by diagnosis year. The results are reported to the Rapid Cancer Reporting System (RCRS) of the National Cancer Data Base (NCDB), a joint program of American College of Surgeons (ACoS) and American Cancer Society. NCDB is nationwide oncology outcomes database for more than 1,500 commission-accredited cancer programs.

### ESTIMATED PERFORMANCE RATES

#### NCDB Select Breast Measures

		HEALTHPARTNERS REGIONS			HEALTHPARTNERS METHODIST		
		2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020
For patients with AJCC Clinical Stage I-III breast cancer, the first therapeutic surgery in a non-neoadjuvant setting is performed within and including 60 days of diagnosis	PR/EPR	90.27%	95.97%	94.50%	88.76%	88.84%	96.37%
	95% CI	[84.80 – 95.73%]	[92.51 – 99.43%]	[90.21 – 98.78%]	[84.98 – 92.55%]	[84.95 – 92.74%]	[93.74 – 99.01%]
Combination chemotherapy or chemo-immunotherapy (if HER2 positive) is recommended or administered within 4 months (120 days) of diagnosis for women under 70 with AJCC T1cN0M0, or Stage IB – III hormone receptor-negative breast cancer	PR/EPR	92%	100%	100%	100%	100%	97.50%
	95% CI	[81.37 – 100%]	[100 – 100%]	[100 – 100%]	[100 – 100%]	[100 – 100%]	[92.66 – 100%]

#### NCDB Select Colon Measures

		HEALTHPARTNERS REGIONS			HEALTHPARTNERS METHODIST		
		2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020
For patients undergoing a colon resection for colon cancer, at least 12 regional lymph nodes are removed and pathologically examined at time of resection	PR/EPR	97.78%	94.44%	100%	100%	96.61%	98%
	95% CI	[93.47 – 100%]	[86.96 – 100%]	[100 – 100%]	[100% – 100%]	[91.99 – 100%]	[94.12 – 100%]

#### NCDB Select Rectum Measures

		HEALTHPARTNERS REGIONS			HEALTHPARTNERS METHODIST		
		2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020
For patients undergoing surgical resection for rectal cancer, the circumferential margin is greater than 1 mm from the tumor to the inked, non-serosalized resection margin	PR/EPR	100%	100%	100%	90.91%	100%	100%
	95% CI	[100 – 100%]	[100 – 100%]	[100 – 100%]	[73.92 – 100%]	[100 – 100%]	[100 – 100%]

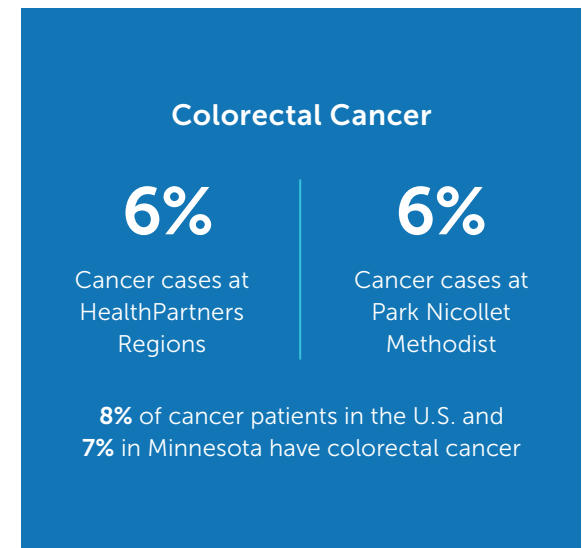
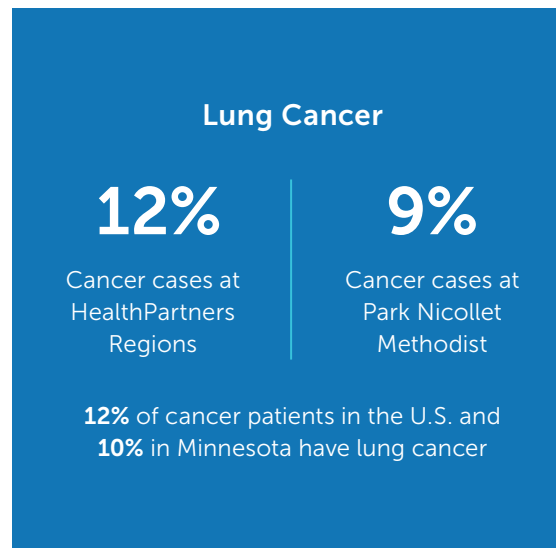
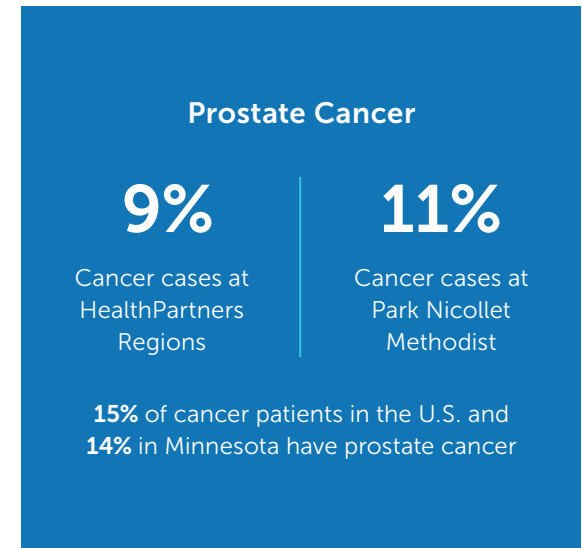
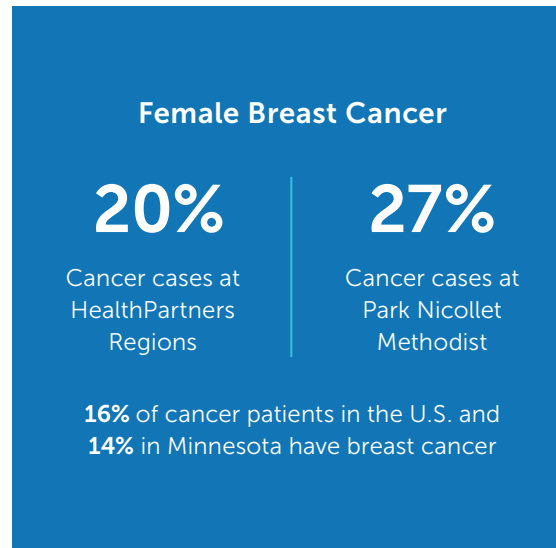
# Oncology registry

## Most common cancer sites

The four most common cancers for HealthPartners and Park Nicollet patients in 2022 (excluding skin cancers) were breast, prostate, lung and colorectal. These four sites account for 50 percent of all cases.

**TABLE 1:  
2022 Four Most Common Cancer Sites**

Table 1 compares, by site and percentage, HealthPartners and Park Nicollet case totals with estimated number of cancer cases in Minnesota and the U.S. according to Cancer Facts & Figures 2024.



**TABLE 2:  
2022 Cancer Registry**

HealthPartners Cancer Center at Regions Hospital and HealthPartners Frauentshuh Cancer Center registries contain a comprehensive profile of all newly diagnosed cancer using standards set by the American College of Surgeons.

	HEALTHPARTNERS REGIONS		HEALTHPARTNERS FRAUENSHUH	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
ANALYTIC CASES (excludes physician office cases)*	1,901	1,751	2,587	2,460
PERCENTAGE OF CASES PRESENTED AT TUMOR CONFERENCES	35.1% (637)	29.6% (519)	16.1% (417)	14.8% (366)

\*Analytic: cases diagnosed and/or having initial therapy at HealthPartners Regions or Frauentshuh

**TABLE 3:  
2022 Leading Sites of Cancer Incidence**

CANCER TYPE – MALES	HEALTHPARTNERS REGIONS		HEALTHPARTNERS FRAUENSHUH	
	MALE (n=798)	%	MALE (n=1,034)	%
PROSTATE GLAND	152	19	263	25
SKIN (includes non-analytic)	32	4	52	5
BRONCHUS & LUNG	84	11	107	10
BLOOD & BONE MARROW	74	9	96	9
URINARY BLADDER	45	6	71	7
COLON & RECTUM	70	9	73	7
KIDNEY	59	7	43	4
LYMPH NODES	48	6	68	7
PANCREAS	23	3	37	4
ESOPHAGUS	18	2	17	2

CANCER TYPE – FEMALES	HEALTHPARTNERS REGIONS		HEALTHPARTNERS FRAUENSHUH	
	FEMALE (n=953)	%	FEMALE (n=1,422)	%
BREAST	358	38	658	47
SKIN	24	3	59	4
BRONCHUS & LUNG	123	13	108	8
CORPUS UTERI	67	7	84	6
COLON & RECTUM	44	5	69	5
BLOOD & BONE MARROW	49	5	81	6
LYMPH NODES	38	4	50	4
THYROID GLAND	22	2	27	2
PANCREAS	26	3	25	2
OVARY	21	2	14	1
KIDNEY	24	3	21	2
URINARY BLADDER	16	2	33	2



Critical to our mission of helping patients with cancer is our engagement in education and research. Teaching and education ensure our clinicians and care teams keep pace with new discoveries in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. Research, through participation in clinical trials, gives our patients access to new therapies. We're also taking a leading role in local research by developing an early-phase therapeutics program at Regions Hospital. We offer a variety of clinical trials at all our facilities that are designed to not only prevent and treat cancer, but also to manage symptoms and side effects of cancer therapies. The Metro-Minnesota Community Oncology Research Consortium ([mmcorc.org](http://mmcorc.org)) is a nonprofit research consortium of 22 local hospitals and clinics. It provides people in our community access to the newest therapies available for cancer treatment and prevention through national cancer clinical trials. HealthPartners and Park Nicollet are active partners within the research consortium, which is administered by HealthPartners Institute. Dan Anderson, MD, MPH, and Yan Ji, MD, provide consortium leadership as the principal investigator and assistant principal investigator. Visit [healthpartners.com/institute](http://healthpartners.com/institute) to learn more about our Cancer Research Center.

## Select publications

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## Select trials

1150-101 Nimbus Therapeutics: A Phase 1/2, Open-label Study to Investigate the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics, and Preliminary Antitumor Activity of NDI-101150 Administered as Monotherapy or in Combination with Pembrolizumab in Patients with **Solid Tumors**

**18-BI-1206-03**: Phase 1/2a Trial of BI-1206, a Monoclonal Antibody to CD32b (FcγRIIB), in Combo with Pembrolizumab in Subjects with **Advanced Solid Tumors** Previously Treated with Anti-PD1 or Anti-PDL1 Antibodies

**AK112-301**: A Randomized, Double-blind, Multi-center, Phase III Study of AK112 or Placebo Combined with Pemetrexed and Carboplatin in Patients with **EGFR mutant Locally Advanced or Metastatic Non-squamous NSCLC** Who Have Failed to EGFR-TKI Treatment (HARMONI)

**ANV419-101**: A Phase 1/2 Study of ANV419 as Monotherapy or in Combination with Anti-PD-1 or Anti-CTLA-4 Antibody Following Anti-PD-1/Anti-PD-L1 Antibody Treatment in Patients with **Unresectable or Metastatic Cutaneous Melanoma**

**CanAroma**: A Feasibility Study of Topical Cannabinoids for Treatment of Aromatase Inhibitor-Associated Musculoskeletal Syndrome (AIMSS) in Adults with **Hormone Receptor-Positive Breast Cancer**

**Connect Myeloid**: The **Myelodysplastic Syndromes (MDS) and Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)** Disease Registry

**HLX10-005-SCLC301-E**: A Randomized, Open-label Study of HLX10 plus Chemotherapy (Carboplatin-Etoposide) in comparison with Atezolizumab plus Chemotherapy in **Previously Untreated Patients with Extensive Stage Small Cell Lung Cancer (ES-SCLC)**

**J3M-MC-JZQB**: A Global Pivotal Study in Patients with **KRAS G12C-Mutant, Locally Advanced or Metastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer** Comparing First-Line Treatment of Pembrolizumab and LY3537982 vs Pembrolizumab and Placebo in those with PD-L1  $\geq$  50% or Pembrolizumab, Pemetrexed, Platinum Chemotherapy and LY3537982 vs Pembrolizumab, Pemetrexed, Platinum Chemotherapy and Placebo regardless of PD-L1 Expression

**MC17C1**: Double-Blinded, Placebo-Controlled Trial to Explore the Anti-Androgen, Ketoconazole, for Treating Patients with an Ongoing **EGFR Inhibitor Induced Rash**

**MK-5684-004**: A Phase 3, Randomized, Open-label Study of MK-5684 versus Alternative Abiraterone Acetate or Enzalutamide in Participants with **Metastatic Castration-resistant Prostate Cancer (mCRPC)** and Have Progressed On or After Prior Treatment with One Next-generation Hormonal Agent (NHA) for Metastatic Hormone-sensitive Prostate Cancer (mHSPC)

**NeoCOAST-2 (D9077C00001)**: A Phase II Open-Label, Multicenter, Randomized Study of Neoadjuvant and Adjuvant Treatment in **Patients with Resectable, Early-stage (II to IIIA) Non-small Cell Lung Cancer (NeoCOAST-2)**

**Novartis CBYL719A0US16T**: Using Continuous Glucose Monitoring and Diabetes Education Support to Reduce Hyperglycemia in **Patients Prescribed Alpelisib**

**PCORI PRO PM**: Feasibility of Collecting and Adjusting **Patient-Reported Outcomes** for Quality Reporting in Chemotherapy Wave 2

**PRESERVE-003**: Phase 3, Two-stage, Randomized Study of ONC-392 Versus Docetaxel in **Metastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancers that Progressed on PD-1/PD-L1 Inhibitors**

**PT-112-101**: A Phase 1, Open-Label Study Evaluating the Safety, Pharmacokinetics, and Clinical Effect of Intravenously Administered PT-112 Injections in Patients with **Metastatic Castration Resistant Prostate Cancer, Late-Line**

**RGX104-001**: A Ph 1 Study of RGX-104, a Small Molecule LXR Agonist, as a Single Agent and as Combo Therapy in Patients w/ **Advanced Solid Malignancies and Lymphoma** w/an Expansion in Select Malignancies (non-squamous NSCLC & SCLC)

**SMT112-3003**: A Randomized, Controlled, Multiregional Phase 3 Study of Ivonescimab Combined with Chemotherapy Versus Pembrolizumab Combined with Chemotherapy for the First-line Treatment of **Metastatic Squamous Non-small Cell Lung Cancer (HARMONI-3)**

**STAR-221**: A Randomized, Open-Label, Multicenter Phase 3 Trial of Domvanlimab, Zimberelimab, and Chemotherapy Versus Nivolumab and Chemotherapy in Participants with Previously Untreated **Locally Advanced Unresectable or Metastatic Gastric, Gastroesophageal Junction, and Esophageal Adenocarcinoma**

**XTX202-01/02-001**: A First-in-Human Multicenter Phase 1/2, Open Label Study of XTX202 in Patients with **Advanced Solid Tumors**

**XTX301-01/02-001**: A First-in-Human, Multicenter, Phase 1/2, Open-Label Study of XTX301 in Patients with **Advanced Solid Tumors**

## Network cancer committee members 2023

In 2023, we combined the HealthPartners and Park Nicollet cancer committees into a unified group to oversee standards, activities and services across the organization. As one group, we're able to provide a consistent, high level of care for all patients. In 2024, we will jointly pursue certification by the American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer.

**Daniel Anderson, MD, MPH**  
Medical Oncology

**Kathryn Baxstrom, MD**  
Medical Oncology

**E. Belzer, MD**  
Colon and Rectal Surgery,  
Medical Director, NAPRC

**Michael Blazar, MD**  
Medical Oncology  
Hospital Service Liaison Physician

**Sue Braaten, CTR**  
Cancer Registry Supervisor

**Benjamin Brasseur, MD**  
Colorectal Surgeon

**E. J. Buckley, MD**  
Breast Surgeon  
(Cancer Liaison Physician,  
American College of Surgeons)

**Ryan Carlson, MD**  
Colorectal Surgeon

**Linda Christensen-Rengel, NP**  
Breast Health Center

**Christopher Chow, MD**  
Colon and Rectal Surgery

**Michael Clark, MD**  
Diagnostic Radiology

**Christine Colbach, MD**  
Pathology

**Kevin Collis, RN, OCN**  
Nurse Navigator

**Levi Downs, MD**  
Gynecology Oncology

**Jenn Faris**  
Hospice and Palliative Care

**Amy Feist, RN, OCN**  
Nurse Navigator

**Grace Gilmore**  
Research

**Holly Guida, RN-BSN, MBA**  
Oncology Program Manager

**Lauren Gunderson, MS, LGC**  
Genetic Counselor

**Howard Haines, MD**  
Emergency Medicine

**Kristin Hanrahan**  
Quality Improvement

**Megan Hanson, MS, CGC**  
Genetics

**Keith Heaton, MD**  
General Surgery, Surgical Oncology  
(Cancer Liaison Physician,  
American College of Surgeons)

**Joanna Hill, MBA, CCRP**  
Research Manager

**Laura Holasek**  
Director, Oncology

**Anne Hopkins, RN, OCN**  
Oncology Program Manager

**Peter Hurley, MD**  
Medical Oncology,  
Hospital Service Liaison Physician

**Maggie Jaehne, MSW, LGSW**  
Social Worker

**Balkrishna Jahagirdar, MBBS**  
Medical Oncology

**Sarah Jax, NP**  
Survivorship Program

**Michele Lacy, RN, BSN, OCN**  
Director, Research

**Jessica Lane**  
Mammo A Go-Go Coordinator,  
Jane Brattain Breast Center

**Amber Larson**  
Quality Improvement

**Pam Mason, MS**  
American Cancer Society

**Sheila Mayo, RTR(M)**  
Breast Health Center

**Matt McCoy, MD**  
Pathology

**Theresa Menke, MS, RDN, LD**  
Food and Nutrition Services

**Angela Nelson**  
Radiology

**Michelle Nettesheim**  
Manager, Hospice and Palliative Care

**Sandra Nevinski, BSN, RN**  
Home Care, Hospice  
and Palliative Medicine

**Gretchen Niemioja, MD**  
Rehabilitation Services

**Rachel O'Keefe, MSW, LGSW**  
Social Worker

**Douglas Olson, MD**  
Pathology

**Pam Pawloski, Pharm.D., BCOP, FCCP**  
Sr. Research Investigator

**Jocelyn Rieder, MD**  
Urology

**Rob Ruff, M-Div, BCC**  
Pastoral Care

**Emily Schoh, RN, MSN, OCN**  
Nursing

**Bryan Schuler, PharmD, BCOP**  
Pharmacy

**Caitlyn Squire, MSW, LICSW**  
Patient Support and Education

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**Paul Spilde, PT**  
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**Somu Suppiah, MD**  
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Medical Director Palliative Care

**Mark Wilkowske, MD**  
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**Emily Wright, M-Div**  
Chaplain

**Alexandra Zimmerman, RD**  
Food and Nutrition Services



## Oncology clinician team

Gilberto Almanza, NP-A	Tulasi Gummadi, MD	Steven McCormack, MD
Daniel Anderson, MD, MPH	Michael Haley, DO	Cierra McDougall, PA-C
Sarah Atkins, MD	Keith Heaton, MD	Mark Menge, MD
Claudia Bauman, MD	Jason Hoiness, PharmD	Craig Mescher, MD
Kathryn Baxstrom, MD	Kathryn Houselog, NP-A	Kathryn Moore, MD
Turang Behbahani, MD	Anna Hughes, PA-C	Gretchen Niemioja, MD
Kacy Berquist, MSN, APRN, NP-C	Peter Hurley, MD	Kester Philips, MD
Michael Blazer, MD	Randy Hurley, MD	Becky Philipsek, PA-C
Abigail Brubaker, PA-C	Annie Jacobsen, MD	Laura Pillsbury, PA-C
Nicole Buuck, PharmD, BCPS	Jeffrry Jaffe, MD	Karen Rabenau, MD
Cathleen Chen, MD	Balkrishna Jahagirdar, MBBS	Brian Rank, MD
Kurt Demel, MD	Aditya Jain, MD	Anne Reiber, ANP, GNP
Christine Ding, MD	Sarah Jax, NP-AGPC	Robert Schneidewend, DO
Levi Downs, MD	Kathryn Jelle, PA-C	Rena Shah, MD
Arkadiusz Dudek, MD, PhD	Yan Ji, MD	Melissa Sherman, MD
Kaitlin Durkin, DNP-AGAC	Brittney Marie Joachim, NP-F	Charles Shideman, MD
Mary Ehresman, FNP, ADCN	Elana Knack, MD	Amy Spomer, MD
Ben Eidenschink, MD	Bhaskar Kolla, MD	Somu Suppiah, MD
Kristen Engstrom, NP-AGPC	Stephanie Kroon, PA-C	Wael Toama, MD
Kelsa Evans, PA-C	Kendra Kubiak, MD	Kandice Tolic, NP-WH
Brad Farrell, PharmD	Priya Kumar, MBBS	Jayanthi Vijayakumar, MBBS, MS
Lori Fewer, CFNP	Lisa Lafranchi, PA-C	Punit Wadhwa, MBBS
Chitra Ganesan, MBBS	Brenda Larson, MD	Kimberly Walsh, APRN, CNP
Colton Gits, MD	Timothy Larson, MD	Mark Wilkowske, MD
Warren Goodman, MD	Rachel Lerner, MD	Kelly Young, DNP-F
Cassandra Green, MSN, RN, FNP-C	Sarah Manuels, MPAS, PA-C, MPH	Dylan Zylla, MD, MS



### Training the next generation of oncologists

One of the core missions of our organization is to train the next generation of physicians and scientists to be leaders in the field of oncology. Regions Hospital is proud to host a clinical training site for the University of Minnesota Hematology and Oncology Fellowship Program. For more than 25 years, this training has included direct supervision of patient care, didactic lectures and informational teaching sessions. Each year, more than 50 hours of didactic lectures are provided to University of Minnesota medical students, internal medicine residents, hematology-oncology fellows, primary care and emergency room physicians, oncology nurses and pharmacists.

## Leadership in professional organizations

### Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology

**Daniel Anderson, MD, MPH**, Executive Committee Member, Principal Investigator, Board Member and Past Co-Chair, Community Oncology Committee, Trustee of Alliance Foundation

**Balkrishna Jahagirdar, MD**, Member of Experimental Therapeutics and Rare Tumor Committee

**Dylan Zylla, MD, MS**, Member of Symptom Intervention, Community Oncology, and Cancer in Older Adult Committee

**Yan Ji, MD**, Respiratory Committee, Community Oncology Committee

### American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM)

**Kurt Demel, MD**, Board exam writer for hematology

### American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)

**Kurt Demel, MD**, Member, Selection Committee for Leadership Development Program and small group mentor

### American Society of Colposcopy and Clinical Pathology (ASCCP)

**Levi Downs, MD**, President

### Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC)

**Sarah Jax, APRN, AOCNP**, Editorial Board

### Metro-Minnesota Community Oncology Research Consortium (MMCORC)

**Yan Ji, MD**, Principal investigator

**Dan Andersen, MD, MPH**, Assistant principal investigator

### Minnesota Society of Clinical Oncology

**Yan Ji, MD**, Secretary/Treasurer

**Balkrishna Jahagirdar, MD**, Chair, Education Programs and Past President

**Lisa Lafranchi, MPAS, PA-C**, Member-at-Large

**Sarah Jax, APRN, AOCNP**, Membership Liaison

### National Cancer Institute (NCI) Cancer Control Steering Committee

**Yan Ji, MD**, Representative

## Other leadership roles

### A Breath of Hope (ABOH) Lung Foundation

ABOH funds lung cancer research, raises awareness and supports patients and their families.

**Yan Ji, MD**, Board Member

### Cancer Legal Care

This nonprofit engages the law to resolve complex challenges facing those affected by cancer.

**Amy Spomer, MD**, Board Member

### Chinese American Hematologist and Oncologists Network

This network bridges cancer care, education and research between China and the U.S.

**Yan Ji, MD**, Lifetime Member

### HealthPartners Institute graduate medical education

We partner with medical schools to offer clinical courses and specialized fellowship training.

**Balkrishna Jahagirdar, MD**, Site Director, Hematology-Oncology Fellowship Program and Internal Medicine Hematology-Oncology rotation at Regions Hospital

### Methodist Hospital Medical Executive Council

This council represents the medical staff.

**Dylan Zylla, MD, MS**, Member

### Regions Hospital Foundation

We partner with our members, patients and community to improve health and well-being.

**Balkrishna Jahagirdar, MD**, Board Member and Chair, Cancer Subcommittee

### State of Minnesota, Cannabis Advisory Council

This council advises policy makers and regulates professionals in Minnesota.

**Dylan Zylla, MD, MS**, Appointee, Expert in Adult Medicine

# Give hope. Give possibility.

Through Regions Hospital Foundation and Park Nicollet Foundation, 1,025 donors gave just over \$4.3 million in 2023 to support those affected by cancer at HealthPartners Cancer Center at Regions Hospital and HealthPartners Frauenshuh Cancer Center.

## Your generous gifts support:

- Basic needs assistance
- Care navigation assistance
- Classes and support groups
- Clinical cancer research
- Integrative therapies including music and massage therapy
- Non-moving patient care model
- Survivorship programming

## Be a part of our mission in action



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Contact us at [foundation@parknicollet.com](mailto:foundation@parknicollet.com)



Donate at [regionshospital.com/donate](https://regionshospital.com/donate)  
Contact us at [rhf@healthpartners.com](mailto:rhf@healthpartners.com)



"I participated in oncology therapy, aroma therapy, massage, healing touch, and music therapy as part of my treatment plan. The care I received was superb, including nurses who were wonderful throughout my entire journey. My care team valued my insight and genuinely respected and cared about me and my family"

**Daniella**

# HealthPartners Institute

**Advancing health and well-being through research and education**

We are research and education together at HealthPartners. We conduct hundreds of research studies each year to improve lives. We also support clinical learning at HealthPartners through the training of many health professionals. We're a member of the national Cancer Research Network and offer unique and novel therapies through an early-phase therapeutics program using the newest investigational drugs available for research. Through clinical trials, we support patients with cancer in our community and contribute to life-changing science around the globe.

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To make an appointment in the metro area, call **612-341-4800**.

To make an appointment in greater Minnesota, call **320-484-4695**.

For more information or to make a referral, contact Laura Holasek at [laura.holasek@parknicollet.com](mailto:laura.holasek@parknicollet.com) or **651-254-4656**.

[healthpartners.com/cancer](https://healthpartners.com/cancer)