
MICHIGAN MEDICINE

CANCER REHAB PROGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE
AND REHABILITATION



INTRODUCTION

The cancer rehabilitation newsletter brings you information on team efforts within our department. Here are the updates on achievements, continuing education, research, publications, and future goals.

Mission Statement

"Michigan Medicine Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Department OT/PT Division strives to provide quality cancer rehabilitation from time of diagnosis to end of life as symptoms develop due to disease process or treatment effects (immediate effects, long term effects, and late effects)"

LEADERSHIP MEMBERS

The Cancer Rehab Program at Michigan Medicine is led by the following clinicians:

Dr. Sean Smith, MD
Dr. Cody Andrews, MD
Christine Magnant, PT, DPT
Carole Dodge, OTRL, CHT
Geeta Peethambaran, PT, CLT
Katie Rogers, OTR, CLT, LANA

Special thanks to Kathy Konosky for her tireless efforts and passion to help get the program started. None of this would be possible without her.

TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

The American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) will be offering board certification in oncology in 2019 and will be available to our staff.

Matt Ban and Heather Smith completed facial re-animation training and are treating patients at Burlington location. Amber Richardson started seeing head and neck lymphedema patients at Burlington.

Christelle David moved to Brighton and is seeing upper extremity, lower extremity, and head and neck lymphedema patients.

Krysten Salla, Kathy Konosky, Wendy Carender, Geeta Peethambaran, and Dr. Sean Smith developed an evaluation and treatment pathway for CIPN (chemo-induced peripheral neuropathy)

Gomati Kanphade from UH Acute Care is a research team member for the MPTA (Michigan Physical Therapy Association) oncology special interest group.

Geeta Peethambaran was selected to participate in a yearlong Integrative Scholars 2018-2019 Program, funded by the National Cancer Institute.

LANA (Lymphedema Association of North America) has been awarded accreditation from the ANSI (American National Standards Institute) meaning anyone with LANA certification has achieved the highest level certification for lymphedema management and represents best practice in the field of lymphedema management. We have 14 Occupational Therapists and 4 Physical Therapists that hold a CLT (certified lymphedema therapist).

We have 4 Occupational Therapists that are LANA certified.

Dr. Sean Smith was part of the AAPMR Cancer Rehabilitation Medicine Think Tank in July 2018.

We welcomed a fellow, Dr. Michael Fediw, into the department and are the fifth fellowship program in the country.

The MCORE team was featured on UofM Health's blog and provides care for inpatients needing extra rehabilitation.

Dr. Sean Smith presented at the state of Michigan's Michigan Cancer Consortium Annual Meeting in November.



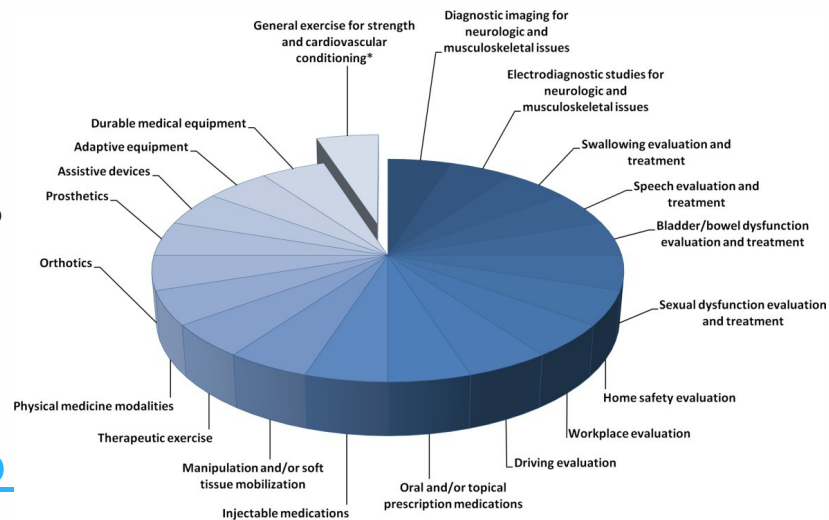
PRESENTATIONS, PUBLICATIONS, AND RESEARCH

- Cody Andrews MD, Sean R Smith MD, Maggi Kennel, Steve Schilling PhD, Claire Kalpakjian PhD: The Association of Performance Status and Disease Severity in Patients with Chronic Graft-versus Host Disease Arch Phys Med Rehabil: 2018. (In Press)
- Heather Smith, Katie Rogers, and Christelle David developed a research pilot study, "The Physiotouch, a novel treatment of radiation fibrosis in breast cancer patients."
- Geeta Peethambaran received a grant from APTA oncology section for her study "fall risk prediction, perceptions, circumstances, and consequences of falls in community dwelling older cancer survivors: A pilot prospective study." This is in collaboration with U of M Flint PT School.
- Geeta coauthored a poster presentation held at Gerontological Society of America, annual scientific meeting: " Fall Risk Screening Questions and Falls in Older Cancer Survivors", a prospective study.
- Annual outpatient lymphedema retreat was held in April.
- Michigan Medicine, in collaboration with The Ohio State University, hosted "Cancer Through the Continuum 2018: Neuro-Oncology, a one day course.
- Amelia Louise-Ferdinand and Krysten Salla presented at the Breast Cancer Center Educational Forum: "Rehabilitation of Breast Cancer Patients."

JOURNAL CLUB

Below is a link to a great article to highlight and is an amazing entry into cancer rehab. The article touches on rehab intervention focused on improving physical health and decreasing disability, common interdisciplinary rehab team strategies, cancer rehab and the care continuum, goals of prehabilitation, rehab after cancer care survivorship, rehab of patients with cancer as a chronic condition, and so forth. With 160 references, this article makes it very meaningful to all readers.

[Click here for the link to the research article!](#)



Rehabilitation interventions focused on improving physical health and decreasing disability. Psychosocial, nutrition, and integrative therapies were not included. *This is the only intervention that is not typically reimbursable by third party payors in the United States.

TEAM GOALS AND FUTURE PLANS

- Collaborating with all teams to streamline patient care.
- Develop oncology rehab training and competency to be used across all teams.
- Construct patient education material for cancer rehab and lymphedema education.
- Partnering and collaborating with The Ohio State University for a one day oncology rehab conference, held in Columbus, Ohio on May 18, 2019, on head and neck cancer. Carole Dodge, Katie Rogers, and Matt Ban will be presenting.



<https://healthblog.uofmhealth.org/cancer-care/mobile-cancer-rehab-program-helps-patients-get-stronger>