



THOUSANDS OF PATIENTS ARE TREATED EACH YEAR BY TOP-TIER PHYSICIANS.

The cancer center is located in the heart of Miami's inner city where 68 percent of residents are African American and 30 percent are Hispanic – 42 percent of residents live below the national poverty level. Because of this diverse patient population, Sylvester is one of the most appropriate cancer centers in the country for studying how cancer relates to race and ethnicity.

Sylvester physicians treated 4,318 new cancer patients in University of Miami facilities, and another 2,996 patients at Jackson Memorial Hospital in 2009. Sylvester investigators attracted research funding of more than \$40 million in 2009, including 68 projects funded by the NCI for a total of \$17 million.

Sylvester has more than 250 physicians and scientists engaged in approximately 200 clinical trials. Many of these experts are among the best cancer specialists in the country.

About Us.

ADVANCED TREATMENT

REGIONAL RESOURCE

MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM

NEW TECHNOLOGY

WE TACKLE CANCER.
 **SYLVESTER**
COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI HEALTH SYSTEM

Sylvester's reach is international. Sylvester is a regional resource for nearly six million residents from a five-county area in South Florida as well as from the Caribbean and Central and South America.



ONE OF SYLVESTER'S NEWEST AND MOST SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGIES IS THE NANOKNIFE, THE FIRST IN FLORIDA AND ONE OF ONLY A HANDFUL IN THE WORLD.

CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY AND CLINICAL TRIALS

At Sylvester, patients receive the most current and advanced treatments available. One of Sylvester's newest and most sophisticated technologies is the NanoKnife, the first in Florida and one of only a handful in the world. A minimally invasive cancer treatment, the NanoKnife is used to treat hard-to-reach tumors at the cellular level.

Sylvester also offers the Phase I Clinical Trials Program comprised of a multidisciplinary team working together to provide patients with the highest standard of care available. The cancer center has South Florida's only academic Phase I testing center dedicated to drug development for cancer patients.

Phase I trials are the first studies in humans, and as a result, an important step to transition novel treatments from the bench to the bedside. The Phase I Clinical Trials Program assists physicians and scientists in establishing important collaborative relationships that often translate into more treatment choices for patients.

Recent notable studies initiated by Sylvester scientists include:

- ▶ A team of physicians and scientists at Sylvester were awarded a five-year \$8 million grant from the National Institutes of Health-National Cancer Institute to uncover the mechanisms that suppress the body's natural anti-viral defense mechanism against viral cancers.
- ▶ A prostate cancer physician recently completed a Phase I trial using a drug to reactivate a gene necessary for the action of chemotherapy.
- ▶ An anti-body first developed by a Sylvester researcher has been modified and proven to be effective in treating a rare lymphoma, now in a Phase II study at multiple cancer centers.

RACE, ETHNICITY AND CANCER

Sylvester treats South Florida's most underserved populations. Given its centralized location and patient diversity, the cancer center's scientists are able to closely study how cancer relates to race and ethnicity.

Sylvester's access to this unique population base allows scientists to better understand why certain minority groups face barriers to early detection and have higher rates of developing certain cancers.

Recent notable studies and/or grants initiated by Sylvester scientists include:

- ▶ A study observing the effects of stress and group therapy on African American women with breast cancer is funded by a \$4 million grant from the National Institutes of Health.
- ▶ A Department of Defense Synergistic Idea Award -- one of only 12 in the U.S. -- has led to a \$725,000 grant to fuel research examining the genetic difference found in African American breast cancer patients.
- ▶ A study published in the Journal of the American College of Surgeons found dramatic disparities in breast cancer outcomes continue for African American breast cancer patients.
- ▶ A study reported in the Archives of Dermatology, one of the JAMA/Archives journals, found Hispanic and black patients continue to have advanced skin cancer at time of diagnosis.
- ▶ A Sylvester investigator has been awarded a grant from the NCI to examine feminine hygiene practices performed regularly by Haitian immigrant women that contribute disproportionately to cervical cancer incidence, morbidity and mortality. Study findings may inform future research and intervention to improve cervical cancer outcomes among Haitian women in the United States and abroad, and may also be relevant for other Afro-Caribbean populations, who engage in similar practices.