USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center

For more than 40 years, **USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center** has gone beyond exceptional medicine to lead the fight to make cancer a disease of the past.

USC Norris is one of the eight original comprehensive cancer centers designated by the National Cancer Institute and has a mission to translate scientific discoveries into innovative therapies for its patients. The cancer center's research breakthroughs have led the way to a greater understanding of the underlying causes of cancer and new methods of prevention, detection and treatment.

Exceptional Capabilities

- A 60-bed hospital, USC Norris focuses on 13 key areas of cancer treatment: breast cancer, colorectal cancer, genetic counseling, gynecological cancers, head and neck cancers, hematology, lung cancer, melanoma, neuro-oncology, radiation oncology, sarcoma, skin cancer and urologic oncology.
- Using a multidisciplinary team approach, the more than 250 dedicated physicians and scientists of USC Norris treat and prevent cancer by developing new therapies, enhancing existing protocols and providing personalized, precision care that is the most advanced available.
- As an integral part of a university-based medical center, USC Norris offers access to hundreds of innovative clinical trials and extensive patient education, empowering patients to take an active role in their health care.

USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center
Keck Medicine of USC

USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center
1441 Eastlake Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90033

(800) USC-CARE **cancer.KeckMedicine.org**

Historic Milestones

1973

USC Comprehensive Cancer Center designated by the National Cancer Institute as one of the nation's original eight comprehensive cancer centers, the first on the West Coast established to bring basic research together with clinical care in an effort to find a cure for cancer.

1976

Charles Heidelberger, PhD, the inventor of 5-Fluorouracil — the most widely used cancer chemotherapy drug, joins USC Norris as the first associate director for basic research.

1978

The Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation makes an extraordinary gift towards the expansion of the cancer center, which is renamed as the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center.

1983

USC Norris Cancer Hospital opens as one of just 11 hospitals in the nation built exclusively for cancer research and patient care.

1986

Professor Emeritus Donald Skinner, MD, leads a team that develops new techniques for orthotopic neobladder reconstruction, dramatically improving quality of life for bladder cancer patients.

1988

Distinguished Professor Brian Henderson, MD, discovers links between steroid hormones and prostate, breast and ovarian cancers. The breakthrough paved the way for new hormonal therapies and revealed the protective benefits of the contraceptive pill against ovarian and endometrial cancer.

1991

USC Norris holds its first Festival of Life to celebrate its patients, researchers and clinicians.

1996

USC Norris expands with the addition of the Norman Topping Tower, which greatly expands patient care capabilities.

1997

Significant donations establish the Harold E. and Henrietta C. Lee Women's Center, a 5,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art research and outpatient treatment facility at USC Norris.

2000

USC Norris researchers first establish the relationship of epigenetic DNA methylation — the process of silencing genes — to cancer. Researchers learn that this silencing can turn off the normal tumor-suppressor function within cells, leading to a cancer's rapid spread.

2001

Joseph Aresty and his wife, Catherine, make a significant gift to name the Catherine and Joseph Aresty Department of Urology at the Keck School of Medicine.

2007

USC Norris opens the Harlyne J. Norris Cancer Research Tower, adding 172,000 square feet of research space.

USC Epigenome Center opens, establishing USC Norris as a key hub of new research on epigenetics — the study of how DNA is packaged and modified in the cell without changing the sequences of the genes. Epigenetic events play a significant role in the development and progression of cancer.

2008

USC Norris's Michael Lieber, MD, PhD, and team define the key mechanisms for DNA changes in lymphoma. Understanding these changes could lead to better targeted cancer therapies.

2012

AYA@USC Norris launches a research, educational and clinical initiative to improve survival rates and outcomes for adolescents and young adults diagnosed with cancer. The program is a collaboration between the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center and Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

2013

USC Norris member Arieh Warshel, PhD, receives the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the development of multiscale models for complex chemical systems. This molecular modeling has potential applications for the development of new cancer chemotherapies.

2018

The new USC Norris Healthcare Center opens. This seven-story building houses outpatient oncology services, among other clinical services.

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