



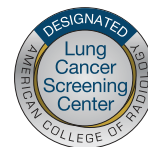
# Northeast Georgia Medical Center

CANCER SERVICES

## *2016 Oncology Annual Report*



A **QUALITY PROGRAM**  
OF THE AMERICAN  
COLLEGE OF SURGEONS



A program of the National Cancer Institute  
of the National Institutes of Health





## Administrative Report

Northeast Georgia Medical Center (NGMC) is pleased to present our 2016 Cancer Annual Report. This report contains information on program activities in 2016 and presents data abstracted by our registry in 2015.

As you explore the information provided here, you'll quickly discover that NGMC's Cancer Services program offers a level of technology and medical expertise that rivals just about any metropolitan cancer center. At NGMC, we offer research-based cancer care, as well as nationally approved treatment planning, allowing our patients the opportunity to stay local for high quality treatment and close to their family and support systems.

But what patients also experience here is a deep-rooted and personal level of commitment and compassion that we challenge any other hospital to match. I believe that's truly what sets us apart – advanced cancer care provided by specialists who are as skilled at treating the person as they are at treating the disease.

In addition, NGMC was also recently recognized by CareChex, an independent healthcare ratings organization, which **ranked NGMC within the top 9% of hospital cancer programs in the nation**. This recognition is just another reason our patients can trust NGMC for their cancer care.

As we continue to make strides in improving patient care, we've shared in some exciting milestones over the last year. Our Radiation Oncology Services celebrated its first anniversary in its new Braselton suite, located in Medical Plaza 1. The suite offers some of the newest technologies to provide the highest quality of radiation planning and treatment, including quieter operation and shorter treatment times, which help create an enhanced patient experience.

In April, we launched our new lung screening program, which utilizes low-dose CT scans for earlier detection, when treatment for lung cancer is most successful. To date, we have screened nearly 280 patients!

We also implemented some new treatment options and technology, including the Varian PerfectPitch 6 Degrees of Freedom Robotic Treatment Couch in Gainesville and Deep Inspiration Breath-Hold (DIBH) Technique in Gainesville and Braselton. We're excited to bring High-Dose Rate (HDR) Remote Afterloader Brachytherapy to Braselton in early 2017.

It's been an exciting year for us, and we look forward to what the future brings for our patients, community and collaborating physicians.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jayme Carrico". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being larger and more prominent.

Jayme Carrico, MBA

Executive Director, Oncology Services at NGMC

## **2016 Cancer Committee Members:**

Cancer Committee Chairman: Andre Kallab, MD

Cancer Liaison Physicians: John Gorecki, MD; Craig Baden, MD

Diagnostic Radiologist: Scott Stephen, MD; Julie Presley, MD (alternate)

Medical Oncologist: Richard LoCicero, MD; Charles Nash, MD (alternate)

Pathologist: Sumi So, MD

Radiation Oncologist: Frank Lake, MD; Jack Griffeth, MD (alternate)

Surgeon: Ken Dixon, MD

Cancer Conference Coordinator: Saloni Tanna, MD

Cancer Registry Quality Coordinator: Sumi So, MD

Clinical Research Coordinator: Andre Kallab, MD

Quality Improvement Coordinator: Andrew Green, MD

Cancer Program Administrator: Jayme Carrico

Community Outreach Coordinator: Angie Caton, BSN, RN, OCN, CHPN

Case Manager Representative: Lynn Bales, RN

Certified Tumor Registrar: Dianne Kosmala, CTR

Clinical Research Representative: Trena Davis, BSN, RN, CCRC, CMS

Oncology Nurse Representative: Lori Allison, BSN, RN; Alicia Harrison, RN (alternate)

Oncology Outpatient Infusion Manager: Kim Tyner-Meeks, RN, OCN, CMS

Palliative Care Team Member: Zameer Gill, MD; Ashley Deringer, ANP-BC, ACHPN (alternate)

Performance Improvement Representative: Carol Ann Gelderman, MS, BSN, RN; Bridget Schultz, JD, BSN, RN (alternate)

Psychosocial Services Coordinator: Trisha Ziem, LCSW

American Cancer Society Representative: Jennifer Roberts, BSW

Hospice: Melissa Summerlin, ANP-C-ACHPN

Nutritional Specialist: Deb Walls, RD; Kelsey Higgins, RD (alternate)

Pastoral Care: Jeff Thompson

Pharmacist: Jason Vanlandingham, PharmD; Jeremy Casper, PharmD (alternate)

Radiation Physics Chief: Randall P. Miller, MSc, MCCPM, FCCPM, ABMP

Radiation Therapy Manager: Jon Marcklinger

Rehabilitation Representative: Heather Wilsey, PT, DPT, NCS

Regional Network Development: Vicki Miller

Community Health Improvement: Christy Moore

Public Relations: Kristin Grace

### **2016 Meeting Dates:**

January 27

April 27

August 24

November 16



## Tumor Registry Report

**Charles Nash III, MD**

*The Longstreet Clinic, P.C. – Department of Medical Oncology & Hematology*

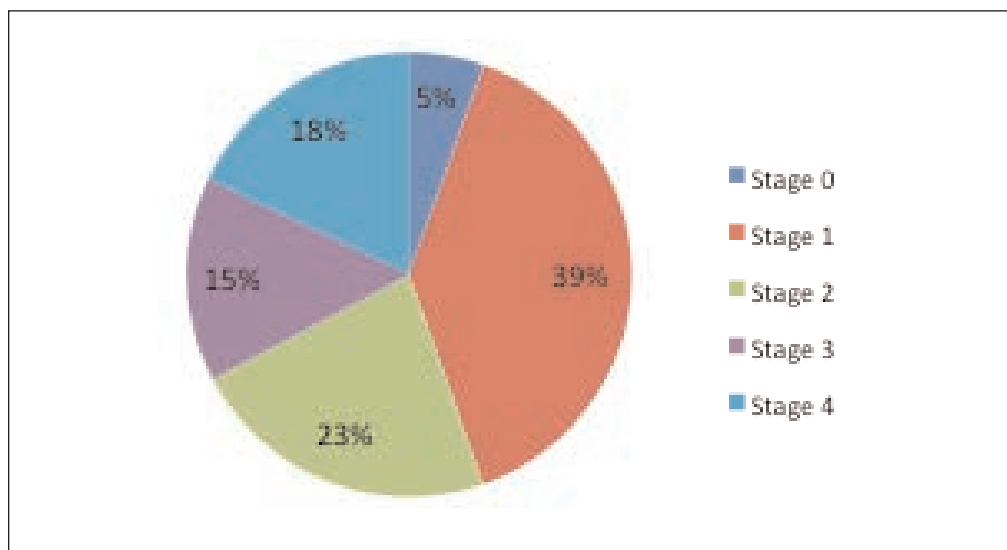
Northeast Georgia Medical Center's (NGMC) Cancer Services continued its multi-year trend of steady and rapid growth in 2016. In all, 2,513 new cancer patients were seen at NGMC; of these, 1,920 were diagnosed or received their first course of treatment within our system.

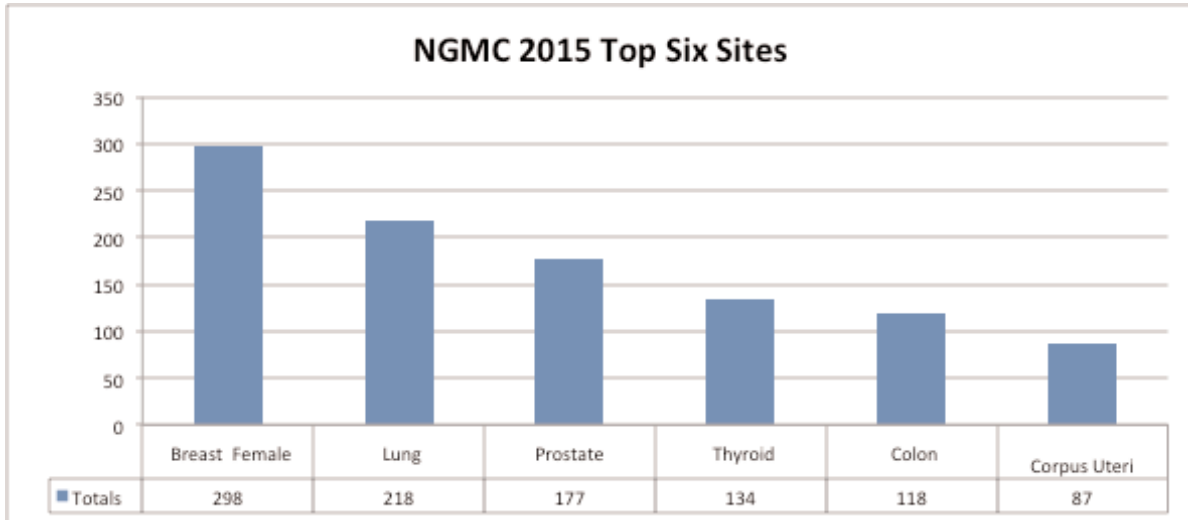
Breast cancer remained the most commonly diagnosed and treated malignancy, followed by lung, prostate and thyroid cancers. It is encouraging to note that, of the cancers presenting at our institution this past year, two-thirds of our patients were diagnosed at an early stage of their disease, when treatment is most successful.

Our efforts toward cancer education, screening and early detection seem to be paying great rewards. We still have an area of concern with lung cancer, where 50% of patients are presenting to us at more advanced stages of their disease. It is our hope that our newly launched lung cancer screening program, which utilizes low-dose CT scans for high-risk patients, will help improve this statistic.

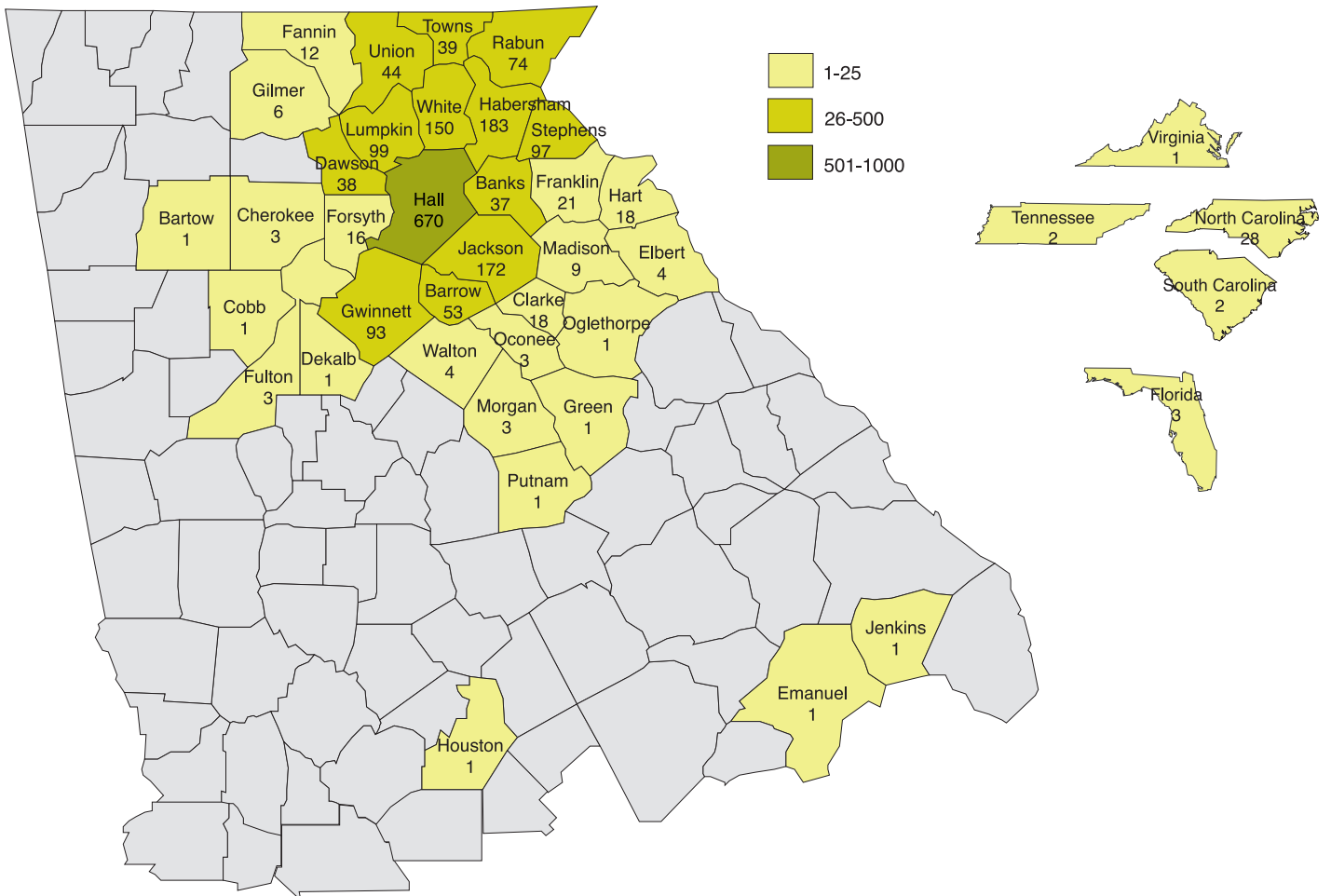
NGMC's Cancer Services continues to serve the north Georgia community and surrounding areas with high quality and compassionate cancer care. We look forward with anticipation to meeting the challenges of the year to come.

### 2015 NGMC Stage at Diagnosis





### NGMC County at Diagnosis 2015





## Genomic Testing Provides Advanced Breast Cancer Treatment Options

**Timothy Carey, MD**

*The Longstreet Clinic, P.C. – Department of Medical Oncology & Hematology*

The world of oncology is ever-evolving, especially in regards to new cancer treatment options. One of the more recent developments is the Oncotype DX breast cancer test, which can help stratify breast cancer patients' risk and specific need for chemotherapy.

Utilizing breast tumor tissue from the initial surgery, the Oncotype DX breast cancer test examines the tumor's genes to predict both recurrence of the cancer and how the patient will respond to chemotherapy. Because of this, the test has become standard in treatment recommendations for early stage breast cancer.

Over the past year, Northeast Georgia Medical Center (NGMC) has studied the use of the Oncotype Dx test to monitor our compliance with these evidence-based guidelines, which have been recommended by organizations such as the National Comprehensive Cancer Network and the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

In 2015, NGMC had 82 breast cancer patients who were eligible for the Oncotype Dx test. Of those, 65% utilized the test. Reasons for the remaining patients not having the test included: cost, patient refusal or other significant medical conditions.

Our goal moving forward is to increase the number of patients who utilize this genetic test to help identify best treatment practices for each individual. In efforts to improve this rate, we have individually reviewed the cases where the test was not performed with each provider. We have taken extra steps to educate these providers, as well as all referring providers about the implications of this test and the importance tailoring each patient's care with the most up-to-date technologies.





## Community Outreach Spotlight

**Angie Caton, BSN, RN, OCN, CHPN**

*NGMC – Oncology Clinical Outreach Coordinator*

A number of offerings aimed at community and staff education, early detection, screening and prevention were provided throughout our service area during 2016, including:

- **Cancer patient navigators touched more than 985 patients**, helping address barriers to care such as education, transportation and financial assistance.
- **6% of cancer patients enrolled to clinical trials** (above the national average).
- **More than 200 patients** received a low dose CT screening for lung cancer. Of those, **more than 35 patients** considered high risk are **now being closely monitored** by specialty providers and our onsite lung navigator.
- Our **community awareness** events for colon, lung and gynecologic cancers helped educate **more than 150 patients and caregivers**.
- **More than 100 patients received smoking cessation information** and access to programs and resources.
- **Oncology Certified Nursing certifications** obtained by nursing staff administering direct patient care **increased by 10%** compared to 2015.
- **40 underserved women in Hall County received cervical screenings** through the Good News Clinic.
- **35 women received free clinical breast exams** at The Stand Up for the Cure event, held at Lake Lanier Islands.
- **Lung cancer patients** and their loved ones now **have access to monthly Lung Support Groups** (held in Gainesville and Braselton), which are conducted by our lung cancer patient navigator.
- **8 NGMC oncology staff members received specialty Mammacare training**, allowing them to serve our community by providing free clinical breast exams.
- **Our weekly Clinical Communication Newsletter launched**, providing clinical staff with new information and updates related to patient care and professional practice.
- The **Quality Pain Study provided education to clinical staff**, resulting in even more positive patient outcomes.
- The **Quality Nutrition Study identified the need to utilize the validated Malnutrition Screening Tool (MST)**, helping improve patient outcomes through access to nutrition services.
- **Provided quarterly lectures at nursing schools** within the community regarding common cancers and end-of-life care.
- Our **Clinical Ethics Program offers bi-monthly huddles and education** for bedside clinical oncology staff members.
- **Presentations on end-of-life care and ethics education were provided** at the 2016 Georgia Hospice and Palliative Care Organization Annual Meeting.
- Participated in staff and community outreach activities for **National Healthcare Decision Day**.
- **Local and national cancer resources provided** via the NGMC website.
- **Targeted educational programs offered to oncology bedside clinical staff and providers, including:**
  - Monthly lunchtime ethics programs
  - Colorectal cancer awareness
  - Genetics education
  - Hand massage for pain control
  - Review course for OCN certification
  - MRI safety
  - Prescription opioid therapy
  - Sepsis
  - Updated screening recommendations for breast cancer
  - Lung cancer screening
  - Employee Mammogram Day

## Northeast Georgia Medical Center 2015 Cancer Site Table

Site Table 2015					AJCC Staging					
Site	Analytic	NonAnalytic	Male	Female	0	I	II	III	IV	Totals
<b>ORAL CAVITY, PHARYNX</b>	38	11	39	10	0	10	1	5	18	49
Tongue	13	2	12	3	0	2	1	1	8	15
Salivary Gland	6	1	5	2	0	3	0	0	1	7
Gum, Other Mouth	5	3	6	2	0	3	0	0	2	8
Tonsil	7	1	7	1	0	1	0	2	4	8
<b>DIGESTIVE SYSTEM</b>	313	89	207	194	7	59	64	63	72	402
Esophagus	28	9	26	11	1	0	6	8	7	37
Stomach	24	2	12	14	0	3	4	1	6	26
Small Intestine	10	0	5	5	0	2	1	3	2	10
<b>Colon Excluding Rectum</b>	<b>119</b>	32	68	83	3	36	30	26	17	151
Rectosigmoid Junction	8	1	5	4	0	1	1	4	2	9
Rectum	39	8	24	23	2	11	6	10	6	47
Anus, Anal Canal, Anorectum	10	0	2	8	0	3	4	2	0	10
Liver, Gallbladder, Intrahep Bile Duct	20	10	20	10	0	2	1	1	6	30
Liver	12	8	15	5	0	2	0	1	3	20
Other Biliary	6	2	5	3	0	0	1	0	1	8
Pancreas	51	27	46	32	1	1	11	7	25	78
<b>RESPIRATORY SYSTEM</b>	307	64	198	173	1	79	25	58	125	371
Larynx	16	3	17	2	1	2	4	5	4	19
<b>Lung and Bronchus</b>	<b>290</b>	59	178	171	0	77	21	53	121	349
<b>SOFT TISSUE INCLUDING HEART</b>	6	3	3	6	0	2	1	1	0	9
SKIN	39	26	42	23	4	21	4	3	3	65
<b>Skin: Melanoma</b>	37	25	40	22	4	21	4	3	3	62
<b>BREAST</b>	<b>326</b>	78	6	398	48	143	91	18	11	404
<b>FEMALE GENITAL SYSTEM</b>	165	18	0	183	1	95	5	43	12	183
Cervix Uteri	27	2	0	29	0	13	3	8	1	29
Corpus, Uterus: NOS	88	4	0	92	0	66	1	10	7	92
Ovary	36	7	0	43	0	9	1	21	4	43
Vulva	10	5	0	15	1	7	0	2	0	15
<b>MALE GENITAL SYSTEM</b>	203	86	289	0	0	46	118	23	11	289
<b>Prostate</b>	<b>189</b>	84	273	0	0	36	116	22	11	273
Testis	10	1	11	0	0	8	0	1	0	11
<b>URINARY SYSTEM</b>	133	34	113	53	27	46	21	9	8	167
Urinary Bladder	60	21	64	17	25	11	10	1	3	81
Kidney	66	12	47	31	0	34	11	7	5	78
<b>BRAIN, OTHER NERVOUS SYSTEM</b>	65	18	42	41	0	0	0	0	0	83
Brain: Malignant	22	6	21	7	0	0	0	0	0	28
Brain-CNS: Benign, Borderline	41	12	20	32	0	0	0	0	0	53
<b>ENDOCRINE SYSTEM</b>	150	7	28	129	0	111	15	7	3	157
<b>Thyroid</b>	<b>137</b>	1	22	116	0	111	14	7	3	138
Endocrine: Benign, Borderline	9	6	4	11	0	0	0	0	0	15
<b>LYMPHOMA</b>	83	51	79	55	0	15	18	10	24	134
Hodgkin Lymphoma	9	4	6	7	0	0	5	1	2	13
Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	74	47	73	48	0	15	13	9	22	121
<b>MYELOMA</b>	15	17	21	11	0	0	0	0	0	32
<b>LEUKEMIA</b>	20	44	34	30	0	0	0	0	0	64
Lymphocytic Leukemia	6	26	15	17	0	0	0	0	0	32
Non-Lymphocytic Leukemia	14	18	19	13	0	0	0	0	0	32
Acute Myeloid Leukemia	8	9	9	8	0	0	0	0	0	17
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	53	45	58	40	0	0	0	0	0	98
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1920</b>	596	1164	1349	88	628	363	239	288	2513