

Bone Marrow Transplant and Cellular Therapy Program

Excellence in Bone Marrow Transplant

A leader in quality

RUSH is accredited by the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT) — the highest level of accreditation that recognizes RUSH's compliance with quality standards for cell collection, laboratory processing and transplantation. RUSH is one of 294 institutions around the world to receive this accreditation.



Aetna Institute of Excellence

RUSH is one of six medical centers in Illinois to be named an Aetna Institute of Excellence for Transplant. This designation is given to hospitals that meet exceptional quality outcomes and complete a minimum of 40 adult bone marrow transplants per year.



Exceptional outcomes and clinical research

RUSH is at 100% survival for the first 180 days after autologous transplant and >90% in allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation. Our high survival rates have been confirmed by the Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research registry. Our continuous clinical research activities are helping us work on improving outcomes (e.g., relapse prevention studies in FLT3 AML patients) for our patients.

CAR-T therapy

RUSH offers CAR-T cell therapy for patients who have relapsed refractory lymphoma or acute lymphoblastic leukemia. RUSH was the second center in Chicago to be certified to offer tisagenlecleucel (Kymriah) and is also certified to offer Axicabtagene ciloleucel (Yescarta). We also offer CAR-T clinical trials for other hematologic conditions (e.g., multiple myeloma).

Multidisciplinary care

RUSH has a dedicated team of BMT experts that includes hematologist-oncologists, advanced practice providers, nurses, dietitians, pharmacists, transplant nurse coordinators, financial specialists and social workers. We also have a dedicated BMT psychologist who partners with patients and their loved ones to address the physical, emotional and social challenges associated with these treatments.

Fast-Track Clinic

RUSH's innovative BMT fast-track clinic helps facilitate patients to safely transition from inpatient to outpatient care and return home early. Housed in the inpatient BMT unit at RUSH, the fast-track clinic functions as an outpatient clinic for BMT patients who require frequent follow up, labs and infusions during the first few months after transplant. The clinic is open year-round, including weekends and holidays, to manage acute situations and limit the need for emergency room visits and admissions.

Conditions We Treat

- Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL)
- Acute myeloid leukemia (AML)
- Acute promyelocytic leukemia (APL)
- Advanced systemic mastocytosis
- Anemia
- Aplastic anemia
- Bone cancer (bone sarcoma)
- Chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL)/small lymphocytic lymphoma (SLL)
- Chronic myeloid leukemia (CML)
- Chronic myelomonocytic leukemia (CMML)
- Hairy cell leukemia
- Hodgkin lymphoma
- Multiple myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin lymphoma
- Testicular cancer

We also have active clinical research underway for patients who have autoimmune diseases, such as multiple sclerosis and scleroderma.

Expert Team

Hematologist-Oncologists

Celalettin Ustun, MD, Director
Sunita Nathan, MD, Assistant Director

Advanced Practice Providers

Natasha Ali, PA-C
Jacqueline Baptista, NP
Kara Conroy, NP
Kristy Luke, NP
Debra Marinovic, PA-C
Kathryn McDonnell, PA-C
Anna Ward, PA-C
Mallory Weber, PA-C

BMT Clinic Coordinators

Karla Cavazos, RN
Cory Fronza, RN
Emilee Moeke, RN
Mikayla Ranallo, RN

Apheresis

Rhonda E. Abdullah, RN
Jennifer Huggins, RN
Aurora P. Samar, RN

Cellular Processing Laboratory

Cate Maidlow, Quality Manager
Daniel Luedke, Technologist
Ronald Pierre, Technologist

Clinical Coordinator Nurses

Carri Alldredge, RN
Jennifer A. Margolis, RN

Photopheresis Nurses

Kelly Modugno, RN
Deborah Nalian, RN
Felicia Pautsch, RN
Danica Uzelac, RN

Treatments We Provide

- Allogeneic stem cell transplantations
- Autologous stem cell transplantations
- CAR-T cell therapy
- Cord blood transplantation
- Haploidentical transplantation
- Integrative medicine

Locations

RUSH University Medical Center

Joan and Paul Rubschlager Building
1520 W. Harrison St.
Chicago, IL 60607

RUSH Cancer Care in Lisle

DuPage Medical Group Building
430 Warrenville Road
Suite 200
Lisle, IL 60532

RUSH Cancer Care in Oak Park

RUSH Medical Office Building
RUSH Oak Park Hospital
610 S. Maple Ave.
Suite 5400
Oak Park, IL 60304



U.S. News & World Report
ranked RUSH Cancer Center
among the best in the nation.