

# GI: Liver, Pancreas, and Biliary Cancer

Sukeshi Arora, MD

Danielle Fritze, MD

Fred Poordad, MD

John Walker, MD

Luisa Arellano, MPAS, PA-C

Katherine Crow, MS, PA-C



# Our Panel

Dr. Sukeshi Arora:

medical oncology

Dr. Danielle Fritze:

transplant, liver/pancreas surgery

Dr. Fred Poordad:

transplant hepatology

Dr. John Walker:

interventional radiology

Luisa Arellano, MPAS, PA-C:

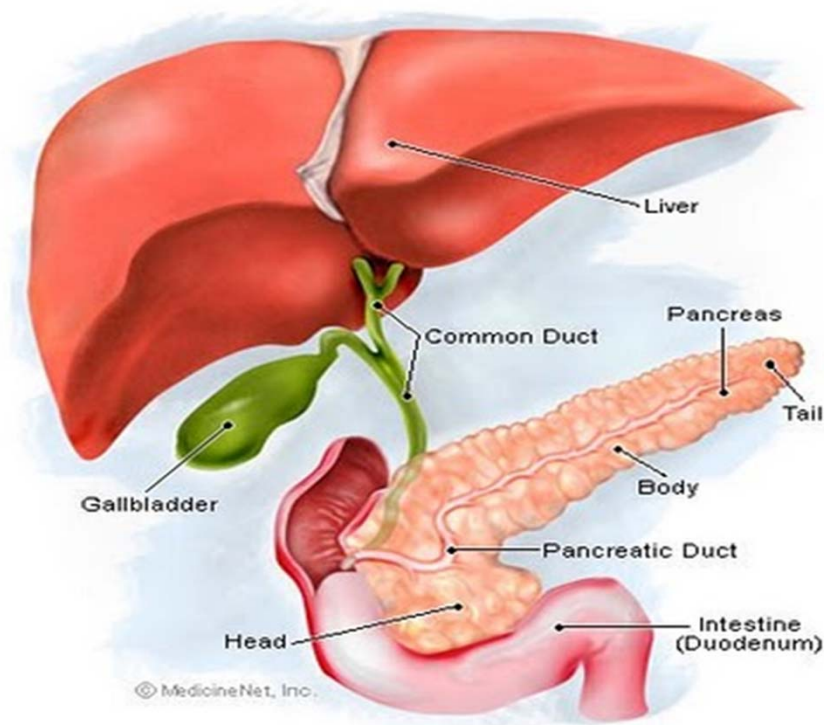
medical oncology, survivorship

Katherine Crow, MS, PA-C:

liver/pancreas surgery

# Anatomy

## Liver, Pancreas, Gallbladder



# What is Cancer?

- The uncontrolled division of abnormal cells within any part of the body. These cells can invade nearby tissues and organs or can travel in the blood or the lymphatic system to other areas of the body.
  - Carcinoma: begins in the tissues that line or cover internal organs or the insides of ducts.
    - Hepatocellular: liver cell
    - Cholangio: bile duct
  - Adenocarcinoma: begins in gland cells of organs. The gland cells release substances into the body like mucus or digestive juices.
    - Pancreatic (pancreas)
    - Gallbladder
    - Gastric (stomach)

# Risk Factors

- Cirrhosis of the liver
- Chronic gallbladder disease
- Chronic pancreatitis
- Smoking
- Older age: 60 to 80 years old
- Obesity
- Diabetes
- Genetics

# Symptoms

- None: a cancer can be found on a CT scan or MRI done for another reason
- Abdominal pain
- Unexplained weight loss
- Decreased appetite or not wanting to eat
- Being very tired or tiring easily
- Turning yellow or having yellow eyes (jaundice)

# Diagnosis

- Imaging
  - CT scan
  - MRI
  - PET scan
- Biopsy
- Tumor markers
  - AFP: alpha-feto protein.
    - Elevated in 70% of patients with liver cancer.
  - CA 19-9: cancer antigen 19-9.
    - Elevated in cancers of the bile duct and pancreas.

# Treatment

- Surgery
- Locoregional therapies
  - Microwave ablation
  - TACE: chemotherapy infused beads
  - Y90: radiation infused beads
- Radiation Therapy
- Medical oncology
  - Chemotherapy
  - Targeted therapy
  - Immunotherapy
- Supportive Care



# Survivorship



# Survivorship

- What does Survivorship mean to you?
  - A survivor is every cancer patient from the time of diagnosis through his or her lifetime
  - Continued close follow ups with your medical oncologist and/or surgeons
  - Getting used to your “normal” after surgery
  - Focusing on diet
  - Managing lasting toxicities from chemotherapy
  - Reviewing surveillance plan during clinic visits

# Survivorship Care Plan

- A survivorship care plan is a treatment summary given during one of your clinic visits by your medical oncologist which outlines your surveillance
  - Labs
  - CT imaging
  - Procedures (i.e. EGDs or ERCPs)
  - Health Maintenance such as colonoscopies, mammograms, etc.
  - Genetics testing if applicable

# Resources

- American Cancer Society
  - [Cancer.org](http://Cancer.org)
  - 1-800-227-2345
- American Society of Clinical Oncology
  - [Cancer.net](http://Cancer.net)
- National Comprehensive Cancer Network
  - [NCCN.org](http://NCCN.org)
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
  - [SuicidePreventionLifeline.org](http://SuicidePreventionLifeline.org)
  - 1-800-273-TALK

# Support Groups

Think about joining a support group for your cancer type

UT Health San Antonio MD Anderson Cancer Center offers multiple wellness sessions such as massages, nutrition classes, and yoga

Learn more at [UTHealthsaMDAnderson.org](http://UTHealthsaMDAnderson.org)