

# Health Care Team

## **Surgical Oncologist**

A cancer surgeon specializing in the care of patients with pancreatic cancer.

- Will evaluate your tests, x-rays, and scans
- If feasible, will perform surgery to remove your tumor safely
- Will direct any additional procedures or surgeries that may be required

## **Medical Oncologist**

A cancer doctor specializing in the care of patients with pancreatic cancer.

- Will evaluate your tests, x-rays, and scans
- If safe and feasible, will recommend medicines to destroy cancer cells and prevent them from recurring (chemotherapy and systemic treatments)
- Will manage the side effects caused by cancer treatments

## **Radiation Oncologist**

A cancer doctor specialized in the treatment of cancer with radiation.

- Will evaluate your tests, x-rays, and scans
- If indicated, will direct radiation therapy treatment to destroy cancer cells
- Will manage the side effects caused by the radiation therapy treatments

## **Gastroenterologist**

A doctor specializing in care of the gastrointestinal tract.

- Will perform procedures to assist in the diagnosis of pancreatic cancer
- Can perform procedures to relieve blockages and improve symptoms

## **Radiologist**

A doctor specialized in reading x-rays and other scans. These tests are used in the diagnosis and treatment of many diseases, including pancreatic cancer.

- Will evaluate ultrasound, CT scan, and MRI
- Will find and measure tumors that appear in your scans to help in making treatment decisions

## **Pathologist**

A doctor specialized in the examination of tissue samples under the microscope. These results will help the team determine the diagnosis, choose the best treatment, and assess treatment response.

## **Palliative Care Specialist**

A medical provider specialized in the care of patients with serious illness.

- Will recommend therapies to manage symptoms of disease and side effects of treatment
- Will focus on relieving physical and emotional distress and improving quality of life

## **Genetic Counselor**

A counselor specialized in identifying risk factors for diseases caused by inherited genes.

- Will evaluate the need for special testing and counsel you on test results

## **Case Manager**

A nurse or other medical professional who will help to coordinate your care and assist with any problems during your treatment and recovery.

- Will work with you and your team to coordinate treatments, schedule appointments, tests and procedures, and facilitate communication between you and the health care team

## **Dietitian**

A counselor specialized in nutrition to help you deal with complex nutritional problems during your treatment and healing.

- Available before, during, and after your treatments. Can advise how to eat during treatment and how to deal with symptoms such as nausea
- Will help you to adjust eating after surgery