

Comprehensive Cancer Center

2013-2014 Annual Report





Good health is something we all aspire to achieve. Good health lets us engage more fully with our friends and family, pursue our passions, and enjoy all the experiences of being alive. As a trusted health care organization with a powerful commitment to care, we strive to provide the systems, places and people that help our members and our communities achieve the best health possible. We help people thrive.

Our Mission

Kaiser Permanente exists to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve.

Our Vision

Our vision is to aspire to be the world leader in improving health through high quality, affordable, integrated health care. The Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek Medical Center is committed to ensuring exceptional care and quality for all patients diagnosed and living with cancer.



Excellence in Cancer Care 2013 - 2014

At the Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek Medical Center, we are committed to improving the quality and effectiveness of care provided to patients diagnosed and living with cancer. We want our patients to feel confident that they are receiving the best care possible from well-trained and compassionate physicians, nurses, and staff. That is why we strive every day to improve outcomes through prevention, early detection and state-of-the-art treatment. Our Comprehensive Cancer Center is committed to offering high-quality care and hope for our patients.

Our goal is to provide seamless, coordinated care focused on the specific needs of every patient. Reinforced by our electronic medical record, our integrated model of care is represented by a team of dedicated physicians and staff from various specialties, collaborating closely to ensure streamlined and personalized support from the time of diagnosis to life after treatment. Our patients know their care is truly in the hands of a group of professionals who work as a team to design an individualized plan which will support them from diagnosis through treatment.

A healthy state of being stems from the harmonious balance of body and mind. We believe educating our members is an essential component in preventing cancer, maintaining excellent health and strength through treatment, facilitating recovery after treatment and lowering the risk of cancer recurrence.

This year, the first annual Cancer Survivors Day event was held for our cancer survivors and their families to celebrate life. Our physicians and staff worked tirelessly to provide an experience filled with inspiration and education. It was truly an uplifting event for survivors, physicians, and staff.

At the Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek Medical Center, our work continues to advance; however, our principles remain the same: We will continue to lead in all aspects of cancer care including prevention, screening, early diagnosis, state-of-the-art treatment and survivorship.



Judy Lively, MD
Physician-in-Chief



Kenneth Grullon, MD
Physician-in-Chief



Jeffrey Sobel, MD
Cancer Committee Chair
Associate Physician-in-Chief



Michael Russin, MD
Cancer Liaison Physician
Medical Oncology and Hematology

2014 Recognition

National Cancer Institute Awards \$7.3 million to Kaiser Permanente for Cancer Clinical Trials, Patient Care Research

OAKLAND, Calif., August 1, 2014 – A new 5-year, \$7.3 million award from the [National Cancer Institute](#) (NCI) will allow Kaiser Permanente to expand its [innovative oncology](#) clinical trials program and conduct new research on cancer care delivery.

The Kaiser Permanente Northern California clinical trials program is currently one of the national leaders and is the California leader in enrolling cancer patients into clinical trials sponsored by the National Cancer Institute.

“This award will allow Kaiser Permanente’s cancer care teams to offer an even broader menu of clinical trials at all 21 medical centers in the Northern California region,” said [Louis Fehrenbacher, MD](#), director of Kaiser Permanente Northern California’s Oncology Clinical Trials.

The award, announced by the National Cancer Institute today, is part of the NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP). Being one of the National Cancer Institute’s 34 community-based cancer research sites will help Kaiser Permanente continue its focus on “enrolling patients in the NCI Clinical Trials Network, testing new cutting-edge therapies, and comparing existing cancer treatments on a patient-by-patient basis,” Fehrenbacher said.

The Kaiser Permanente NCORP will serve about one out of every 40 cancer patients in the United States. The award includes clinical trial programs in Kaiser Permanente’s Northern California, Southern California, Northwest, Colorado, and Hawaii regions. Dr. Fehrenbacher, located at the Vallejo Medical Center, will serve as NCORP program director for Kaiser Permanente.

The National Cancer Institute award emphasizes the importance of including minority and other underserved patient populations in clinical research, while posing research questions that address health disparities in many aspects of cancer control and cancer care. The Kaiser Permanente NCORP has been successful in giving access to clinical trials to minority and underserved populations and expects the grant to solidify this achievement.

The NCORP designation also provides new funding and focus for [research into cancer care delivery](#). This includes:

- Evaluating alternative treatment delivery systems.
- Preventing disease.
- Managing pain and symptoms.
- Investigating disparities in cancer outcomes and how to eliminate them.



A National Cancer Institute grant will help KP lead the way in improving the treatment of cancer patients. Louis Fehrenbacher, MD, pictured above, is directing the new national program for KP.

“Kaiser Permanente is ideally situated to be a major force and provide national leadership in cancer care delivery research,” said [Laurel A. Habel, PhD](#), section chief of cancer research with the Kaiser Permanente Northern California [Division of Research](#). Habel will co-lead the new research program for the Kaiser Permanente NCORP.

“The investigators in our research centers are experienced in delivery-care science and multi-institutional studies, have access to cancer registries and research databases, and most importantly, are committed to improving cancer care delivery and outcomes.”

Clinical Trials Program Highlights

- KP Oncology Clinical Trials Program (KPOCT) is one of the leading NCI/NIH clinical trial groups in the nation.
- Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek is part of the KP National Cancer Institute (NCI) designated Community Oncology Research Program (KP NCORP).
- Consistently in top 1-2 national sites for enrolling patients into NCI sponsored National Cooperative Group clinical trials.
- Program offers new, cutting edge cancer therapy to all of our members, including new emerging therapies; 3,600+ patients actively enrolled in cancer treatment studies.
- The studies are offered throughout our region and involve all KPNC oncologists so that all KPNC members have access to these treatments.
- Northern California Kaiser Permanente, including KP Walnut Creek, has 56 open oncology clinical trials, 12 of which are dedicated to breast cancer. In 2013, our KP Walnut Creek enrollment was approximately 6%. Regionally, we enroll approximately 11%.

Currently Open Breast Cancer Trials – KP Walnut Creek

NSABP-B-43

NSABP-B-47

NSABP B-49

NSABP B-50-I

NSABP B-52

SWOG S1007

SWOG S1200

SWOG S1202

SWOG S1207

SWOG 1105

B028407

673-301

A01106

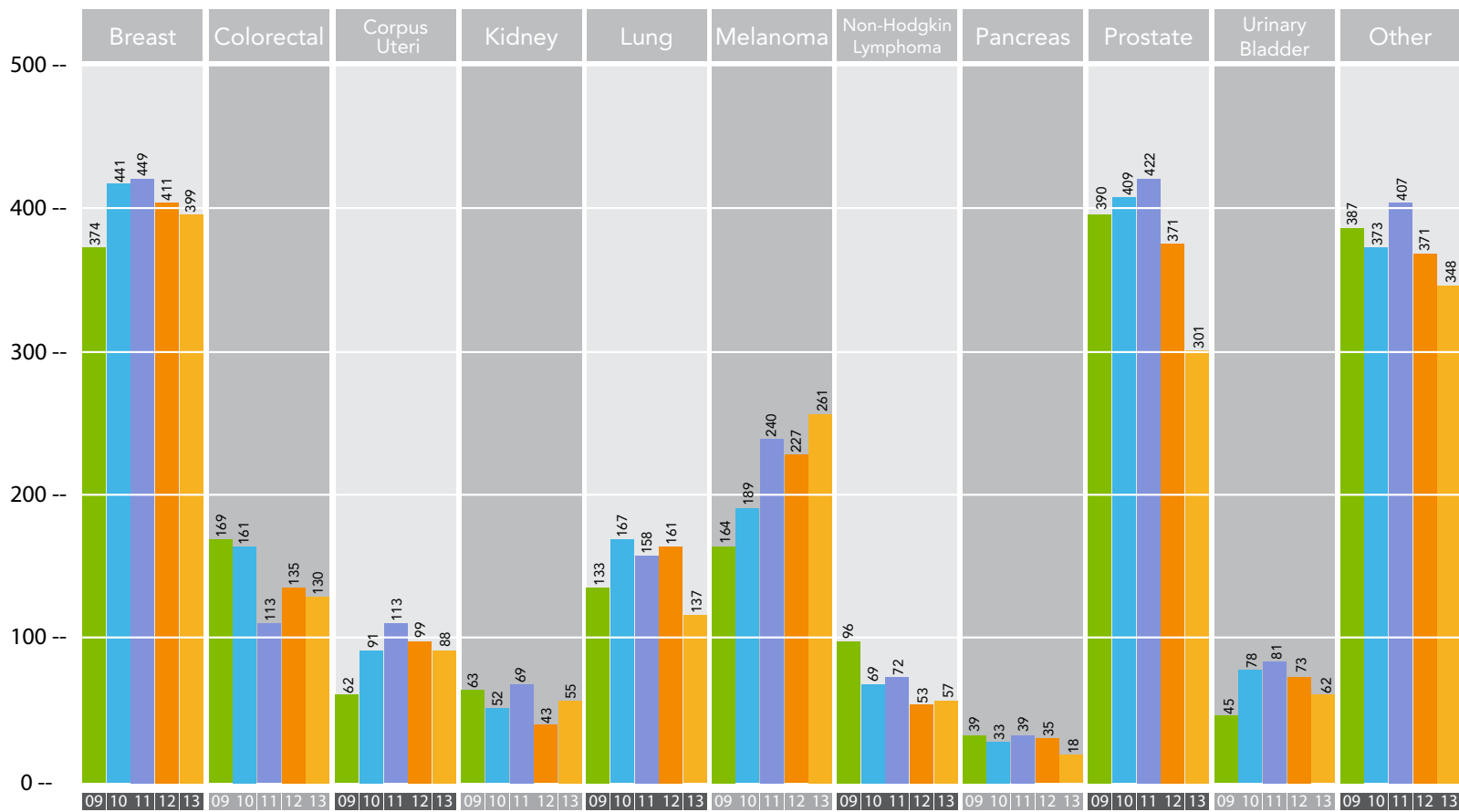
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The screenshot displays the KPStudySearch website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for Home, About, and Contact. The main header features the logo 'KPSTUDYSEARCH Clinical Trials and Research Studies' and 'Kaiser Permanente Research'. Below the header, there is a search bar with the text 'Please type in words, a phrase or specific medical conditions' and a search button. A search result for 'Ex. diabetes AND adults' is shown. The page also includes sections for 'Recently Added Studies' with three entries: 'Oncology (Adult)', 'Oncology (Adult)', and 'Internal Medicine, Oncology (Adult), Ur...'. There are also sections for 'Frequently Asked Questions', 'Sign Up for E-mail Alert', and 'Related Links'. The footer contains 'Regional Research Sites' and 'KAISER PERMANENTE' logo.

Trends in Cancer Diagnosis

Cancer Caseload: Cases Diagnosed and/or Treated at Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek Medical Center (2009-2013)

Over 2,100 new cases of cancer are diagnosed and/or treated at Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek each year. The Kaiser Permanente Northern California Cancer Registry (KPNCCR) manages a consolidated database of all Northern California cancer patients. The reporting of incidence and outcomes aids in identifying trends and assists in program planning and with the continual evaluation of patient care. The KPNCCR database now includes over 454,000 cases of invasive and in-situ cancer diagnosed from 1947 to the present.



Cancer Screening Measures and Results

Kaiser Permanente Northern California was ranked in the top 10th percentile for cancer screening among health plans in the nation, according to HEDIS performance measurements.

In 2013, Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek Medical Center's breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screenings were significantly above the National 90th Percentile (HEDIS 2013). Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek has implemented processes to help ensure advanced cancer is a rare occurrence. In the end...

It's about screening our members to prevent and catch cancers early.

It's about treating our members' conditions to prevent disease progression.

It's about improving the quality of life of our members.

It's about doing the right thing for our members, every time.

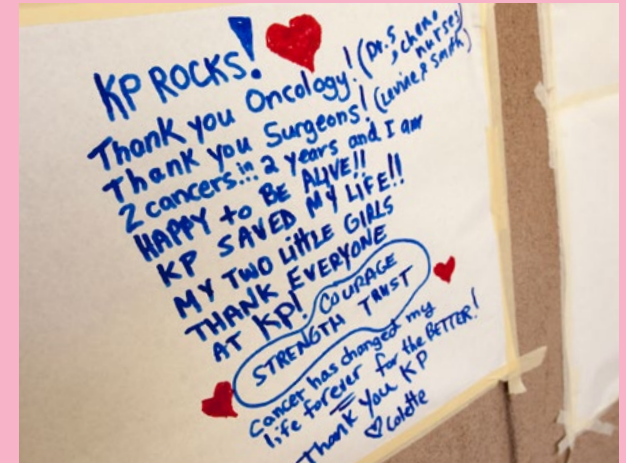


	Breast Cancer Screening	Cervical Cancer Screening	Colorectal Cancer Screening
2013 CQC Performance	86%	87%	81%
HEDIS 90th Percentile	77%	80%	72%

In the Community: First Annual Cancer Survivors Day

On Saturday, May 31, 2014, Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek Medical Center hosted a new event, Cancer Survivors Day. The free event offered a wealth of health information and resources, as well as activities for the whole family to enjoy. It was an opportunity for cancer survivors, along with their families and friends, to come and network and learn new information through various educational lectures, booths, and workshops.

Over 200 cancer survivors and their guests attended the hugely successful event. Planning for the 2015 Cancer Survivors Day is underway and is scheduled to be held on Saturday, June 6, 2015.



One Patient's Story: A Member's Experience Fighting Cancer

Mindi Cummins wasn't even 40. She had never had a mammogram. Cancer didn't run in her large family. So, when her nurse practitioner at the Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek Medical Center suggested a mammogram in late October of 2010 to "just check out" a lump she felt during an annual exam, the petite and vibrant Mindi wasn't overly worried.

"They sent me to the Breast Center in Martinez for an ultrasound and it was amazing," Cummins remembered. "It was like a spa, with soft robes, tea, natural light, and cozy locker rooms. It made a potentially scary visit into something less intimidating."

And when that ultrasound required a same-day biopsy, Cummins took it all in stride. "Everyone was so kind. The kindness is what I remember most."

It was a few days before Halloween—just two weeks after that initial exam—when Cummins received a call from her nurse practitioner who had initially felt the lump. "She said it was cancer. She was very supportive and let me know that a breast care coordinator would be calling me about next steps."

That was when Cummins made a decision. "I shed some tears and bought a notebook, since I knew I needed to get organized and be practical. You never realize how fast the hamster wheel is spinning until you get knocked off. Your priorities shift. It was now all about family, counting blessings, and having gratitude for the people in my life."

Soon, Cummins was meeting with the breast care coordinators and sitting with a large group of experts, including breast imaging radiologists, breast surgeons, oncologists, radiation oncologists, pathologists, and nurses, to discuss her personal treatment plans.

"I walked in with my team: my parents, husband, and a friend. I put a picture of my then 5-year-old son and 7-year-old daughter on the table and told them, 'I have future grandkids to meet someday, so give me your A Team.' And Kaiser Permanente delivered on that and more."

Cummins opted for an aggressive approach to treat her breast cancer. She had a double mastectomy with nearly 8 months of chemotherapy and radiation.

"I never wanted to know the odds," she said.

"Mindi has a tremendous spirit," said [Michael Russin, MD](#), chief of Medical Oncology/Hematology for the Diablo Service Area. "Each of our patients receive advanced personalized care, unique to their circumstances. Our compassionate patient-centered approach is key, and we are proud that Mindi is doing so well."

During her illness, Cummins walked from her Walnut Creek home to her medical appointments, taking in the world around her.

"My body works, so I figured I should use it," she said. "That first walk to chemo was hard."



2014 National Cancer Survivors Day on June 1 honored all people with cancer—including KP member Mindi Cummins (pictured).

But then I knew I had to change my thoughts. This medicine would save my life, not take it. That first day of chemo, I met Barbara, who was my nurse. She handed me a pin that said 'Cancer Sucks' and I wore it every day on my purse. Only recently did I gift it to another who is fighting cancer."

Looking back now, Cummins can easily name everyone on her care team. "I could contact almost everyone, at any time of day—which, believe me, I did—and never was I made to feel like a bother. They all truly cared."

Now Cummins is focusing on the future. "I am determined to be well," she said with a smile. "I don't want to just survive. I want to live, and cherish every day. That is the gift that cancer gave me. To stay in balance and appreciate every moment."

By Deniene Erickson, Regional Media Relations Specialist

About Kaiser Permanente

Kaiser Permanente is recognized as one of America's leading health care providers and not-for-profit health plans. We currently serve approximately 9.5 million members in eight states and the District of Columbia.

Founded in 1945, our mission is to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve. Care for members and patients is focused on their total health and guided by their personal physicians, specialists and team of caregivers. Our expert medical teams are supported by industry-leading technology advances and tools for health promotion, disease prevention, care delivery and chronic disease management.

Quality Care

We strive to achieve clinical excellence by giving our patients the best possible care and service from top doctors, nurses and other care providers. With compassion and expertise, our care teams push the boundaries in technology and in improving care practices – all with the hope of making lives better.

Total Health

We stand for Total Health and know that achieving optimal health and well-being requires more than excellent medical care. We strive to support the full continuum of health, and to help make the healthy choice the easy choice for our members and others in the communities we serve.

Innovation And Research

Our use of technology and commitment to research and innovation are transforming the future of health. By leveraging the full potential of our integrated model, we ask and answer the questions that are changing how care is delivered and improving health outcomes.

Community

We believe healthy communities and healthy environments are foundational to improving the health of our members and the people in the communities we operate. In 2013, we continued to expand access to care and coverage, create healthy environments and shape health knowledge.

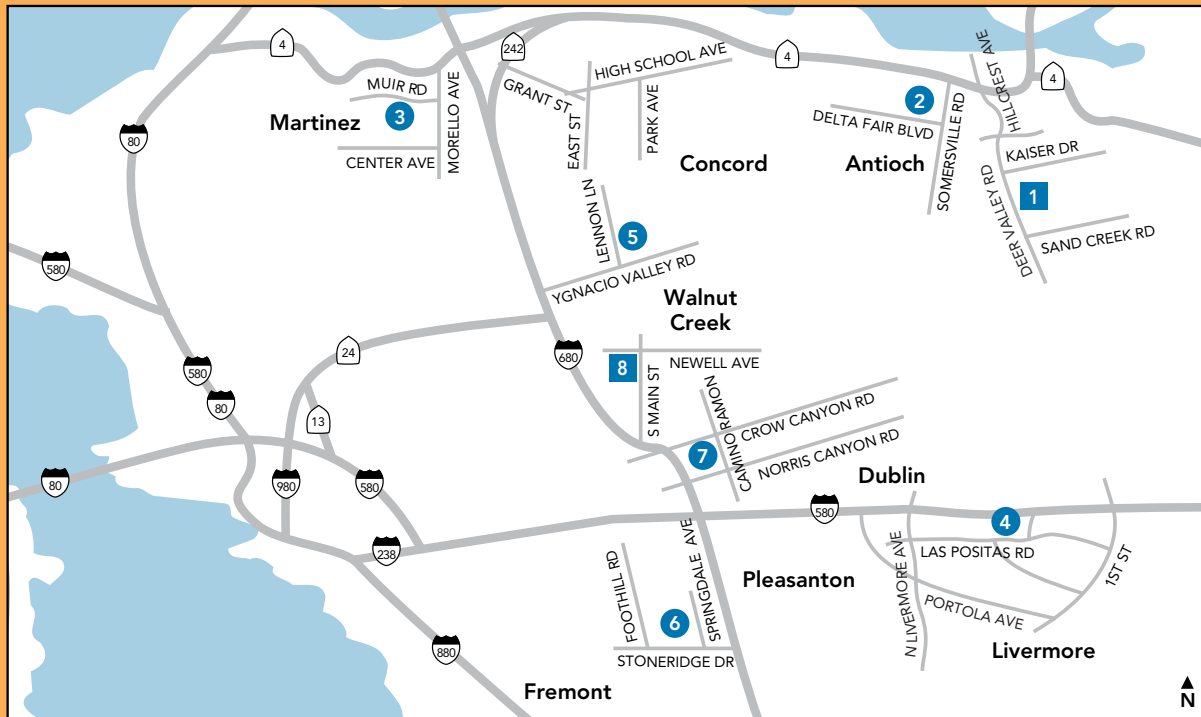
Our People

At Kaiser Permanente, we are 17,425 physicians and 174,415 employees who give our best – and have your best interest in mind.

Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek: Our Numbers at a Glance

- Serves over 393,000 Members
- Over 2,100 new cancer diagnosis per year
- Care delivered by over 800 physicians, 3,000 support staff
- Supported by an additional 7,000 physicians in the medical group

About Kaiser Permanente



Map not to scale

Kaiser Permanente
Walnut Creek Medical Center

1425 South Main Street
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

kp.org/diablo

1 **Antioch Medical Center**
5601 Deer Valley Road, Antioch, CA 94531

2 **Delta Fair Medical Offices**
3400 Delta Fair Blvd., Antioch, CA 94509

3 **Martinez Medical Offices**
200 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553

4 **Livermore Medical Offices**
3000 Las Positas Road, Livermore, CA 94551

5 **Park Shadelands Medical Offices**
320 Lennon Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

6 **Pleasanton Medical Offices**
7601 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94588

7 **San Ramon Medical Offices**
2300 Camino Ramon, San Ramon, CA 94583

8 **Walnut Creek Medical Center**
1425 S. Main St., Walnut Creek, CA 94596