About the Program

The regional Penn Pancreatic Cyst Program is a high volume clinic and manages over 1,000 patients each year. We offer a single point of access to a collaborative, multidisciplinary team of experts in pancreatic cyst management whose goal is to optimize clinical care, propel research and enhance the collective education and expertise of the field.

Currently, most newly identified pancreatic cysts are diagnosed incidentally during the workup of another, unrelated condition. Most lesions are premalignant and many actually harbor cancer at the time of diagnosis. Practitioners faced with a pancreatic lesion are often in need of a resource to evaluate the patient and identify next steps. More importantly, the diagnosis of a pancreatic cyst can be stressful and confusing for patients so it is critical that when appropriate they receive timely assessment, treatment and long-term surveillance for their condition.

Why Penn?

Physicians from gastrointestinal surgery, gastroenterology, radiology and pathology/cytopathology collaborate to ensure patients receive the highest quality care including:

- Timely and thorough evaluation by clinicians
- Efficient diagnostic testing
- Review of history, radiology, cytology and surgical pathology at the regular Pancreatic Cyst Management Conference
- Development of a comprehensive treatment plan
- Patient and family education about pancreatic cyst management
- Regular and prompt communication with referring providers
- Long-term surveillance
- Information about new translational and clinical research studies to discover new avenues for diagnosis and treatment
- Expertise in a variety of surgical options for pancreatic cysts including minimally-invasive approaches for which cysts are often well-suited

Contact

For more information or to refer a patient to the Penn Pancreatic Cyst Program, please call 877.937.PENN (7366).

Contact Information for individual providers is listed on the other side of this sheet.

Referrals

Individuals who may benefit from evaluation at the Penn Pancreatic Cyst Program include patients with newly diagnosed or suspected pancreatic cysts, including:

- Intraductal Papillary Mucinous Neoplasms (IPMN) – both main duct and side branch variants
- Serous cystadenomas (SCA)
- Mucinous cystic neoplasms (MCN)
- Pseudopapillary tumors (AKA Frantz tumor, Hamoudi tumor)
- Cystic neuroendocrine tumors
- Pseudocysts secondary to pancreatitis
- Cysts for which the cause is unknown
- Family history of von-Hippel Landau syndrome

The program also welcomes patients seeking second opinions regarding diagnosis or therapy as well as those interested in participating in clinical research studies for pancreatic cysts.
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