

CLINICAL PATHWAYS

Your Roswell Park care team uses Clinical Pathways to advise them, and you, about making the best treatment decision for your personal situation.

A clinical pathway is a guide and a software tool that helps identify treatment plans for each cancer. Pathways are developed by teams of cancer experts from around the country, including Roswell Park. These teams review evidence and guidelines to identify the treatments that are the most effective and have the lowest risk of side effects.



We encourage you to ask questions about your treatment, clinical trials, and pathways.

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HOW IT WORKS

- You and your doctor review all of the information about you and your cancer.
- Your doctor enters detailed information into the pathway, including the cancer type, stage, and tumor characteristics.
- The pathway provides your doctor with the best treatment options personalized to your situation and identifies any clinical trials available for you.
- You and your doctor discuss your options and make the best decision for you.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How does my care team use the pathway?

Your doctor and your care team will advise you of your treatment options based on the pathway and her/his expertise based on your personal situation. Using the pathway will help you and your doctor make good decisions. In some situations, there are good reasons for using treatments that are “off pathway”. You and your doctor will decide.

Will using the pathway limit my access to new cancer treatments or my treatment choices?

No. Pathways help personalize your care – and get you the best possible results of treatment. They make sure all doctors are aware of the clinical trials available and then help guide the use of standard treatment options. Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center has ground-breaking clinical trials including immunotherapy studies that may help you.

What are “Standards of Care”?

They are treatments that are accepted by medical experts as proper treatment and in wide use based on ‘evidence’ – results from clinical trials and the best practices learned through decades of treating patients.

Patients scheduled for drug therapy will receive materials about their treatment plan including their drug regimen, and how to minimize risk and stay as healthy as possible during treatment.

