BUILT TO MAKE
A DIFFERENCE

Kelsey-Seybold
Cancer Center

healing happens here™
State-of-the-art radiation therapy is now part of the Kelsey-Seybold Cancer Center’s nature-filled home at our flagship Berthelsen Main Campus location.
The expanded Cancer Center at our Spencer R. Berthelsen, M.D., Main Campus was a truly momentous achievement for Kelsey-Seybold and our patients. Our Cancer Center features beautiful décor, lots of natural light, more space, and a welcoming environment – a place where healing happens.

I watched the construction of our Cancer Center after we broke ground in January 2014. It made me realize what makes our Cancer Center stand out is very similar to how our new wing was built.

First, there needs to be a strong foundation. For our patients, the foundation is who delivers care – our physicians and staff. Our patients regularly talk about the phenomenal care they receive at our center. I’m proud of the coordination our entire team delivers to help ensure patients get a level of comprehensive care that is unmatched anywhere else.

All accredited cancer programs, including ours, stay current with best practices and national guidelines when delivering care to our patients. What sets Kelsey-Seybold’s Cancer Center apart is our highly personalized approach to care. This is a key part of our patients’ treatment and healing process. This is because we have the right foundation in place – our Cancer Center team.

In Cancer Center terms, this is the way we approach care. We follow evidence-based medicine and adhere to a coordinated, team-based approach as the best way to care for our patients. Our physicians and staff believe that each patient’s cancer treatment is unique and should be developed collaboratively.

And finally, the bricks and mortar of our center are our patients. You’re why we do what we do. To all of our patients, you are the beauty and strength of our work. Your victories inspire us. Your energy motivates us. Your attitude is infectious. You are the reason we strive every day to deliver the best care possible.

From our entire Kelsey-Seybold Cancer Center team, we want to express our deepest thanks. We feel like part of your family, just as you are part of ours.

Sincerely,

Tejash “TJ” Patel, M.D.
Chief of Hematology/Oncology
A LEGACY of

DR. MAVIS P. KELSEY
Oncology is at the heart of Dr. Mavis Kelsey’s legacy. Working out of a small office in the Texas Medical Center, Dr. Kelsey changed how medical care was delivered. He believed in coordinated care, where doctors and specialists would work together for the benefit of their patients.

While he is known as a visionary in our city for his approach to healthcare coordination and establishing Kelsey-Seybold Clinic, many people may not know that Dr. Kelsey also helped shape the way cancer is treated today. His groundbreaking work in thyroid cancer research while working for MD Anderson Cancer Center back in the 1940s laid the cornerstone for cancer treatments still in practice today.

When Dr. Kelsey began work at MD Anderson, he was asked by then-Director, Dr. R. Lee Clark to do three things for his new hospital: Develop a clinical isotope program since Dr. Kelsey was the first Houston physician to hold a license from the Atomic Energy Commission to administer radioisotopes to humans; edit the hospital’s Cancer Bulletin; and develop an Endocrine Clinic. He did all this and more.

While at MD Anderson, Dr. Kelsey worked on the construction of a Geiger counter to count thyroid uptake of radioiodine. He also helped establish a Cobalt 60 radiation unit that was the first of its kind in the United States. He even gave the first dose of radioiodine to a patient in Houston in 1949.

In 1956, under his leadership, the Kelsey Research Foundation was established to support medical research and education in the Houston area. The Foundation collaborates with Texas Medical Center institutions on multiple studies of cancer prevention.

“Dr. Kelsey was a true visionary and creative thinker who founded and developed a premier medical group that combines Family and Internal Medicine with the highly focused expertise of specialists in all medical fields,” said Spencer Berthelsen, M.D., former chairman of Kelsey-Seybold’s board of directors.
The opening of Kelsey-Seybold’s expanded Cancer Center marked a new era in cancer care for our patients.

Patients now enjoy the latest cancer fighting technology coupled with more services and conveniences, all under the same roof where they already see their doctor.

“It was important to bring not only services and space to treat cancer – but that we offer it in a way that is right for the patient,” said Dr. Tejash Patel, chief of Hematology and Oncology, Kelsey-Seybold Clinic. “We know there is more that goes into fighting cancer than chemotherapy and radiation – it is also about taking care of our patients in mind, body, and spirit. This is what sets our approach to cancer treatment apart from so many others.”

The nationally certified Cancer Center occupies 30,000-square-feet of space on the first and second floors of a new wing at the Berthelsen Main Campus. With this expansion, Kelsey-Seybold now offers in-house advanced radiation therapy with the Varian TrueBeam™ and Varian Edge™ – the Cadillacs of linear accelerators – and an expanded Infusion Center under one roof. This means that patients are able to see their doctors, get radiation preparation and therapy, chemotherapy, biopsies, scans, and other services in one location.

INFUSION THERAPY
Creating a Comforting Environment

The expanded Infusion Center offers the privacy and amenities that make patients feel right at home. The suites are spacious with large windows that let nature in, as well as conveniences for patients and family members like flat screen TVs, comfortable recliners, individual temperature control panels, and power stations. A state-of-the-art call center connects each suite to the nearby nursing center.

Another feature in the Infusion Center is a patient and family relaxation/meditation room for quiet moments and added privacy. Also for the first time, the Infusion Center has a designated procedures room for bone marrow biopsies and other procedures that previously were done in regular exam rooms.
“This space is just awesome! The colors are so soothing and the rooms are nice and spacious which is great for my family and friends when they are with me during chemotherapy.”

Lori Greak, patient
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY IN RADIATION THERAPY

Three Technological Advances Allow Us to Deliver State-of-the-Art Cancer Treatment

1. Delivering the Latest Technology Before Radiation Treatment Begins

The Kelsey-Seybold Cancer Center is one of only a few healthcare organizations in Houston to offer the GE Discovery IQ PET/CT simulator, which enables radiation oncologists to use information on the tumor’s location to more precisely pinpoint where radiation is needed. It also supports more complex radiation treatment planning when needed.

2. Vision RT – A Precision Technology Tool that Ensures Patient Safety During Radiation Therapy

Kelsey-Seybold is one of only a few healthcare organizations in Houston to offer advanced Vision RT technology. It’s a real-time motion management tool that ensures the patient is set up in the correct position before radiation therapy and tracks any movement during their treatments. It adds to our patients’ safety by making sure our patients are positioned correctly day-in, day-out.

3. Varian TrueBeam™ and Varian Edge™ Advanced Technology Precisely Targets Cancer Cells While Nearby Healthy Cells Are Minimally Exposed

A state-of-the-art approach to cancer treatment, the TrueBeam and Edge advanced technology safely delivers radiation at a faster dose rate than most conventional linear accelerators and minimizes the daily impact on the patient’s personal schedule. The radiation beams precisely target cancerous cells while nearby healthy cells are minimally exposed. It’s ideal for treating tumors of the brain, spine, lung, abdomen, breast, prostate, head, and neck. This advanced system allows us to safely treat patients with even the most complex cancers.
The Varian TrueBeam™ safely delivers precise radiation treatment with incredible control and coordination. The treatment couch, or bed, also moves to reposition the patient as needed. Varian TrueBeam represents a major leap forward in the speed, accuracy, and safety of radiation therapy.

“These technologies bring state-of-the-art advancements to our patients both in treatment planning and delivery, so we can maximize optimal outcomes while minimizing side effects.”

Dr. Snehal Desai, Medical Director of Radiation Oncology
Meet Our **Cancer Doctors**

**Tejash “TJ” Patel, M.D.**  
**Chief of Hematology/Oncology**

Dr. Patel is a board-certified physician specializing in Hematology/Oncology. He completed his residency at the University of California at Irvine and fellowship training in Hematology and Medical Oncology at Olive View UCLA Medical Center. He joined Kelsey-Seybold in 2005 and is Chief of the Hematology and Oncology Department.

**Snehal Desai, M.D.**  
**Medical Director of Radiation Oncology**

Dr. Desai is a board-certified physician specializing in Radiation Oncology. Dr. Desai completed his residency at Baylor College of Medicine and a fellowship with the American Society of Brachytherapy. He’s currently affiliated with the Houston Methodist Radiology Oncology Group and serves as the Medical Director of Radiation Oncology at Kelsey-Seybold.

**Kanza Abbas, M.D.**  
**Hematology/Oncology**

Dr. Abbas is a board-certified physician specializing in Hematology/Oncology. She completed her residency and fellowship training in Hematology/Oncology at Baylor College of Medicine.

**Hima Reddy Boppidi, M.D.**  
**Hematology/Oncology**

Dr. Boppidi is a board-certified physician specializing in Hematology/Oncology. She completed her residency at the University of Mississippi Medical Center and fellowship training at Medical College of Georgia Augusta University.

**Niravkumar Naik, M.D.**  
**Hematology/Oncology**

Dr. Naik is a board-certified physician specializing in Hematology/Oncology. He completed his residency in Internal Medicine and fellowship training in Hematology and Oncology at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

**Guiying Hu, M.D.**  
**Hematology/Oncology**

Dr. Hu is a board-certified physician specializing in Hematology/Oncology. She completed her residency at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and her fellowship in Hematology and Oncology at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

**Selvarani Nallusamy, M.D.**  
**Hematology/Oncology**

Dr. Nallusamy is a board-certified physician specializing in Hematology/Oncology. She completed her residency at Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York and her fellowship in Hematology and Oncology at the State University of New York Medical Center.

**Tri Vu, M.D.**  
**Hematology/Oncology**

Dr. Vu is a board-certified physician specializing in Hematology/Oncology. He completed his residency and fellowship training in Hematology and Oncology at Baylor College of Medicine. He completed a year of subspecialty rotations and clinical research at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and the Smith Breast Center at Baylor College of Medicine.

To view video profiles and expanded bios for these physicians, go to [kelsey-seybold.com/CancerCenter](http://kelsey-seybold.com/CancerCenter).
1949  Dr. Mavis P. Kelsey begins working part-time at MD Anderson with a focus on thyroid
disease. He stays in collaboration with the Hospital, helping it grow, for the next 20 years.

1983  The Kelsey-Seybold Cancer Center is established. Its mission: Improve the quality of
cancer care and health outcomes of patients with cancer at Kelsey-Seybold.

2005  Kelsey Research Foundation hosts the first Cancer Survivor’s Day Celebration, which is
now held annually.

2006  The Kelsey-Seybold Cancer Center is the first freestanding center in the nation to receive
accreditation from the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer.

2007  The Kelsey Research Foundation formed the Kelsey-Seybold Breast Cancer Support Group,
which quickly grows into one of largest local support groups by monthly attendance.

2009  The Dr. Eli Root Distinguished Lectureship, an annual series of lectures featuring
prominent leaders in the fields of bioethics and oncology, was created by the Kelsey
Research Foundation. The late Dr. Root was a distinguished member of the Kelsey-Seybold
Cancer Center and the chief of the Hematology/Oncology Department.

2014  Construction begins on the first major expansion of the Kelsey-Seybold Cancer Center
since its creation.

2015  The Kelsey-Seybold Cancer Center moves into the new, 30,000-square-foot, $21.3 million
wing. The Cancer Center now offers state-of-the-art radiation therapy services at the
Berthelsen Main Campus location adding more conveniences and greater levels of care
coordination for patients.

2016  The Kelsey-Seybold Cancer Center is the first in Houston to offer the Varian Edge™
Radiosurgery System – cancer surgery without a knife.

2018  The Kelsey-Seybold Cancer Center received the prestigious QCP national certification
from the American Society of Clinical Oncology’s Quality Oncology Practice Initiative
(QOPI®) Certification Program – the gold standard for oncology care.
“It’s a beautiful and calming atmosphere that gives me confidence.”
Pamela Hines, patient