

The Neurosurgical Oncology Program

The UPMC Neurosurgical Oncology Program at the Hillman Cancer Center treats patients with tumors of the nervous system including the brain and spine as well as patients suffering from the neurologic spread of systemic cancer.

Our neurosurgeons collaborate with the Hillman network of medical and radiation oncologists to provide the best treatment available for patients with benign and malignant tumors of the brain and spinal cord. We also conduct research leading to more effective therapies than those currently available. Their specific expertise includes the use of minimally invasive surgical techniques.

Radiosurgery including the CyberKnife is also available for treatment of lesions throughout the spine and brain. These lesions may be either benign or malignant including metastases, meningiomas, neurofibromas, schwannomas, and vascular malformations. Radiosurgery and specialized image-guided radiation therapy using the Trilogy has been used to successfully treat lesions in patients who are otherwise not candidates for surgery or for lesions that are not amenable to open surgical techniques.

Coverage:

All patients will be seen by an attending physician within four hours of the consultation. If more rapid consultation is necessary, please indicate this at the time of the referral and earlier coverage will be provided.

Neurosurgical Oncology at Hillman Cancer Center

Contact Information:

Amin Kassam, MD
Arlan Mintz, MD
Richard Spiro, MD

(412) 647-8312

After-hours referral number:
(412) 647-7000

Hillman Cancer Center
5115 Centre Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15232

Neurosurgical Oncology at Hillman Cancer Center



UPMC | University of Pittsburgh
Medical Center



The Hillman Cancer Center

The Hillman Cancer Center is the flagship treatment and research facility of the UPMC Cancer Center Network. Home to the state-of-the-art clinical services of UPMC Cancer Centers and the nationally and internationally recognized research of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Hillman Cancer Center provides specialized diagnosis, treatment, prevention, and care for patients and their families.

Hillman Cancer Center also has a full range of services to help patients better cope with cancer. Patients and their families have access to a wide array of educational, counseling, nutritional and genetic resources.

The 2002 opening of Hillman Cancer Center was made possible in part through the generosity of Henry L. Hillman and the Hillman Foundation.



Our Physicians:



■ **Amin Kassam, MD, FRCS(C)**

Dr. Kassam is associate professor and interim chairman for the Department of Neurological Surgery at UPMC. He has performed over 3,000 neurosurgical procedures including over 800 minimally invasive endoscopic procedures. His areas of specialization include skull base surgery, minimally invasive surgical techniques for brain and skull base tumors and pituitary tumors.



He is the co-director of the Minimally Invasive Neurosurgical Center and has pioneered the development of the Expanded Endonasal Approach (EEA) designed to remove complex tumors of the skull base and brain using endoscopic techniques. With continued research and experience, he now uses the EEA surgery for most tumors affecting the skull base.

Dr. Kassam lectures extensively nationally and internationally on surgery of the cranial nerves, skull base and on minimally invasive endoscopic techniques.

■ **Arlan Mintz, MD, MSc, FRCS(C)**

Dr. Mintz is director of the Adult Neurosurgical Oncology Program at UPMC. His expertise lies in the minimally invasive treatment of brain tumors. Utilizing the endoport and endoscopic techniques, tumors located deep within the brain can be removed with only a small incision. Often patients are awake during surgery to allow mapping and then avoidance of critical structures. He is also involved in the use of CyberKnife radiosurgery for the treatment of brain and spinal tumors.



■ **Richard Spiro, MD**

Dr. Spiro is director of Spinal Oncology at UPMC. His clinical and research interests focus on surgical disorders of the spine. He has a specific expertise in the surgical management of patients with spinal tumors specializing in complex spinal reconstruction and minimally invasive techniques for spinal disease. He is also involved in the use of CyberKnife radiosurgery for the treatment of brain and spinal tumors.



■ For more information, visit

Department of Neurological Surgery

www.neurosurgery.pitt.edu

Hillman Cancer Center

www.upci.upmc.edu/about/hcc.html