



CONNECTING LIFE AND SCIENCE

Neurofibromatosis 2 Clinical Program

Information for patients
and family members.



SITEMAN CANCER CENTER[®]
BARNES-JEWISH HOSPITAL • WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

A National Cancer Institute Comprehensive Cancer Center

This brochure answers common questions patients and their families have about Neurofibromatosis 2. It will give you a brief summary of this condition and explain the services offered at the Siteman Cancer Center.

The Siteman Cancer Center is a partnership between Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine. Our doctors have developed and worked with the most effective procedures available, providing patients with the latest technology, as well as a warm, personalized approach. The Siteman Cancer Center has been recognized by the National Cancer Institute as a Comprehensive Cancer Center. This designation is the most prestigious honor a cancer center can receive and recognizes Siteman's outstanding programs in patient care, community outreach and cancer research.

What is Neurofibromatosis 2?

Neurofibromatosis 2 (NF2) is a genetic condition that leads to the development of multiple tumors of the nervous system. These can lead to blindness, deafness, paralysis and other neurologic problems. NF2 can be fatal if untreated due to tumors pressing on the brainstem, spinal cord or brain.

NF2 affects about one in twenty-five thousand people. Although NF2 is a genetic condition, up to one half of patients have no family history. Individuals with NF2 can pass this condition onto their children, each of whom has a fifty percent chance of developing the disease.



NF2 Clinical Program at Washington University School of Medicine

The NF2 Clinical Program at Washington University School of Medicine has two major goals:

- Care for patients with NF2 and provide counseling for family members
- Coordinate research that will facilitate the development of new treatments for this condition

We are the only program specializing in NF2 in the Midwest. This allows patients to benefit from our experience taking care of a relatively large number of an otherwise uncommon disease. Washington University is a world-renowned medical center with extensive research facilities and experience. These research facilities are directly benefiting our patients. Ongoing work has concentrated on using chemotherapeutic agents to arrest the growth of tumors or reduce their size, and cochlear implantations to preserve or restore hearing.

NF2 is a complicated condition that affects patients in many ways. We believe that a team approach, involving several specialties, is the best way to bring the most effective care to patients with NF2. Our team includes neurosurgeons, otolaryngologists, neurologists, oncologists and others dedicated to the care of individuals with NF2.

All general questions may be directed to the NF2 Clinical Program at Washington University School of Medicine. For those with specific needs, individual members of the Program may be contacted separately. To view NF2 team members' names and contact information, please visit nf2.wustl.edu or call 314-362-8641.



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**Opening 2012
Siteman Cancer Center South County**

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