

## Specialty Care

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**Dermatology** is dedicated to provide the highest level of care to veterans. Our goal is to deliver comprehensive and cutting edge dermatologic care, including:

- General Dermatology Clinics
- Dermatological Surgery Clinics
- Melanoma Screening Clinics
- Chronic Skin Disease Clinics
- Photo Therapy



**Lipid Clinic** provides outpatient consult services for the treatment and management of patients with dyslipidemic disorders. The clinic staff consists of attending physicians with expertise in lipid disorders, physician assistants and registered dietitians. The clinic is involved in the training and education of medical students, internal medicine residents and Endocrine fellows. The Lipid Clinic is also participates in a number of research protocols

**Diabetes Clinic** provides outpatient consult services for diagnosis, treatment and management of patients with diabetes who present a challenge for the PCP, and meet criteria as stated on the service agreement. The clinic consists of attending physician staff, physician assistants and nurse practitioners. The clinic is also involved in the training and education of medical students, residents, fellows in the outpatient setting. The diabetes clinic collaborates with a team of certified diabetes educators, registered dietitians and pharmacists to optimize clinical outcomes, health status, and quality of life for patients with diabetes.

**Diabetes Self-Management Education (DSME)** coordinates knowledge, skill, and abilities assessment for diabetes self-care. This process incorporates the needs, goals, and life experiences of the person with diabetes and is guided by evidence-based standards. The overall objectives of DSME are to support informed decision-making, self-care behaviors, problem-solving and active collaboration with the health care team and to improve clinical outcomes, health status, and quality of life. Diabetes education requires a consult to assess the patient's educational needs.

**General Internal Medicine** involves patient care, medical education and research. The physician staff coordinates training and education of medical students and residents, both in the inpatient and outpatient setting. The section oversees the Prime Clinic (Residents' Primary Care Clinic), Protime Clinic, Pre-op Clinic and the Medicine Consultation Service. Prime Colors Clinic is responsible for the education and training of medical students and residents in outpatient primary care that is comprehensive, effective, efficient and patient-centered, emphasizing health promotion and disease prevention. Protime Clinic provides long-term outpatient monitoring of all patients receiving anticoagulation treatment.

**Infectious Diseases** provides consultation for diagnosis, treatment and management of infections and HIV-related conditions. The Infection Control Program is administratively located under the Chief of Staff and establishes standards for infection prevention and control.

**Nephrology** has been part of acute and chronic dialysis at Dallas VA Medical Center since 1970. Acute services include hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis and continuous veno venous hemodialysis/CVVHD. Chronic in-center services for dialysis include hemodialysis, in-center nocturnal hemodialysis, home hemodialysis, and peritoneal dialysis.

**Renal Dialysis** models state-of-the-art techniques, providing:

- continuous renal replacement therapy via CVVHD for critically ill patients with acute renal failure and multi-organ dysfunction who otherwise are too unstable to tolerate conventional hemodialysis
- automated peritoneal dialysis (via computerized cyclers) for patients with impaired visual function or reduced manual dexterity or acute PD for hospitalized patients
- nine hour per night, four nights per week, nocturnal dialysis to patients with difficult to control blood pressure, volume overload, secondary hyperparathyroidism
- prospective vascular access using ultrasonic graphic monitoring of accesses with diagnostic fistulograms angioplasty, and surgical revision, as required, to provide our patients the most efficient in-center dialysis possible
- dynamic on-line hematocrit monitoring to minimize hemodynamic instability during dialysis
- on-line urea clearance monitoring to improve the dialysis treatment session

**Sleep Lab** provides comprehensive care through access to specialists and sub-specialists with expertise in all areas of Sleep Medicine. Disorders and problems with sleep can greatly influence not only the health and well-being of an individual but those close to them. Using a rational approach and diagnosis, many sleep disorders that were once difficult to treat can now be managed. A consultation to the Sleep Clinic may benefit a patient who needs help to sleep or staying awake. Through extensive research, clinical help is available for those afflicted with sleep disorders.

**Pulmonary** staff physicians and fellows evaluate, diagnose and treat breathing disorders and lung disease using a variety of sophisticated imaging and diagnostic equipment. From routine assessments of chronic cough and shortness of breath to evaluating patients for lung cancer, Pulmonary staff offer a multi-specialty but very personalized approach to care.

**Respiratory Therapy** is part of the treatment plan for patients who may have pulmonary problems, lung infections or pre-existing respiratory disease. A variety of therapies may be used to help patients recover lung function, including incentive spirometry, nebulized medications, chest percussion therapy, oxygen administration, suctioning, IPPB, and mechanical ventilation as ordered by a physician. A Respiratory Therapist is available 24/7 including holidays by paging 214 759-1421.

**Other Specialty Care Areas** include Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Hematology, Neurology, Oncology and Rheumatology.