

Medical Oncology Department -

1. Why to choose DM Medical Oncology at KMC Manipal?

DM (Doctor of Medicine) in Medical oncology is a Doctoral three-year residential course after MD. It aims at training residents to become skilled oncologists, arming them with the comprehensive practical knowledge necessary for the same.

Our medical oncology department is part of the Manipal Comprehensive Cancer Care Centre(MCCCC) with surgical, pediatric hemato oncology, radiation oncology, nuclear medicine and palliative care physicians who are involved in site specific tumor board discussions under one roof. Ours is the only comprehensive cancer care centre in this part of the state; and provides vast exposure to a variety of oncological cases. We have a full-fledged department which has been giving oncology services to patients over the last 12 years. Since the department has always focused on providing quality patient care, this department's training will enable residents to imbibe this value in their practice. We provide OP/daycare and inpatient treatment for solid tumors and haematological malignancies, including autologous bone marrow transplantations. Residents will thus get good exposure and develop a well-rounded approach to a systematic evaluation of patients and their management. We also perform several procedures like lumbar puncture and intrathecal chemotherapy, access of chemo-port devices, ascitic/pleural tapping, bone marrow aspiration/biopsy and insertion of central lines.

Oncology is a rapidly expanding field with path-breaking research avenues opening up in every subspecialty. Our centre is an ESMO accredited comprehensive cancer care centre with multiple ongoing national and international collaborative research projects. We also have an allied Lifesciences section and basic sciences centre within our University, allowing interdepartmental cooperation for applied clinical research projects in a wide variety of topics.

2. Core competencies pursued during postgraduate training at Manipal

- Daily inpatient rounds, with focus on training in stepwise evaluation and management of routine patient problems and issues
- Daily OPD/chemotherapy daycare facilities for training in day-to-day handling of standard chemotherapy toxicities and doses

- Communication skills are critical to oncologists. Daily counseling sessions for patients and bystanders, with close association with our palliative medicine department will help in training and refining these skills with a particular focus on ethics, compassion and empathy
- Regular site specific tumor board discussions
 - Academics: Short reviews, Seminars, Journal clubs, regular tumor board discussions, exam-based clinical case presentations, interdepartmental meetings with pathology, radiology
- Comprehensive training in diagnostic and therapeutic procedures
- Participation in all research activities in the department

3. Career opportunities after completion of the course

- Medical oncologists passing out of the institute can choose to associate themselves with academic centres to pursue further research activities or private/government hospitals to provide oncologic services to patients.
- There is a critical need for trained oncologists in India due to a rapidly increasing incidence of cancer and a shortage of qualified medical oncologists.

Also Visit: <https://manipal.edu/kmc-manipal/department-faculty/department-list/medical-oncology.html>