

Gynecologic Cancers

Gynecologic malignancies include uterine, ovarian, fallopian tube, cervical, vulvar, vaginal, primary peritoneal cancers, and gestational trophoblastic disease. These conditions are typically seen in women over the age of 50 but can occur anytime in a woman's life. Although abnormal vaginal bleeding may be a warning sign for some gynecologic cancers, others (particularly ovarian cancer) have a more vague and non-specific presentation such as abdominal swelling or bloating.

Treatment

The most common treatment for gynecologic malignancies is surgery. This can often be accomplished with minimally invasive or robotic-assisted techniques, while a more traditional approach is needed at other times. Radiation is occasionally necessary in addition to surgery, and some women can be cured with radiation alone. Chemotherapy is also an important treatment modality for many gynecologic cancers. This is usually administered as an adjunct to surgery or radiation. Treatments are personalized for each individual woman to achieve a maximum tumor response with minimal inconvenience and discomfort. Both radiation and chemotherapy are usually administered on an outpatient basis.

Robotic Surgery

One of the most significant advancements in modern medical technology, robotic surgery, has enabled surgeons to perform a host of procedures in a less invasive manner than ever before.

During a robotic procedure, a robot with mechanical arms is positioned at the patient's bedside. Surgical tools are attached to the arms and inserted through very small dime-sized incisions. The surgeon remains in complete control of the procedure every step of the way, directing the robotic arms with specialized hand controls while sitting at a console from which they view the operating field in 3-D with high definition optics. The robotic controls are unrivaled in their precision, resulting in less scarring, less blood loss, and a substantially faster recovery time.

WATSON CLINIC

Gynecologic Oncology

Comprehensive Care for Women with *Gynecologic Cancer*



WATSON CLINIC BELLA VISTA BUILDING
1755 N. Florida Ave. Lakeland | 3rd Floor

Housed in the **Watson Clinic Bella Vista Building**, our practice is designed with your convenience and efficiency of care in mind. We can assure that every necessary resource – including on-site laboratory, radiology and EKG services, and an in-house pharmacy – is well within reach, allowing for a greater continuity of care and eliminating the need for multiple visits. Additional services like valet parking and wheelchair assistance make patient visits even more comfortable and welcoming.

We remain actively involved with a patient's therapy throughout their entire course of treatment, and we promptly and regularly communicate with all referring physicians at initial consultation and throughout the treatment process.

Please call our office to schedule a consultation or visit our website to learn more about our services.

Appointments: 863-680-7578
www.WatsonClinic.com/GynOnc



WATSON CLINIC
Gynecologic Oncology



Your **Central
Florida
Center** for
**Gynecologic
Cancer Care**



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Meet Our Care Team



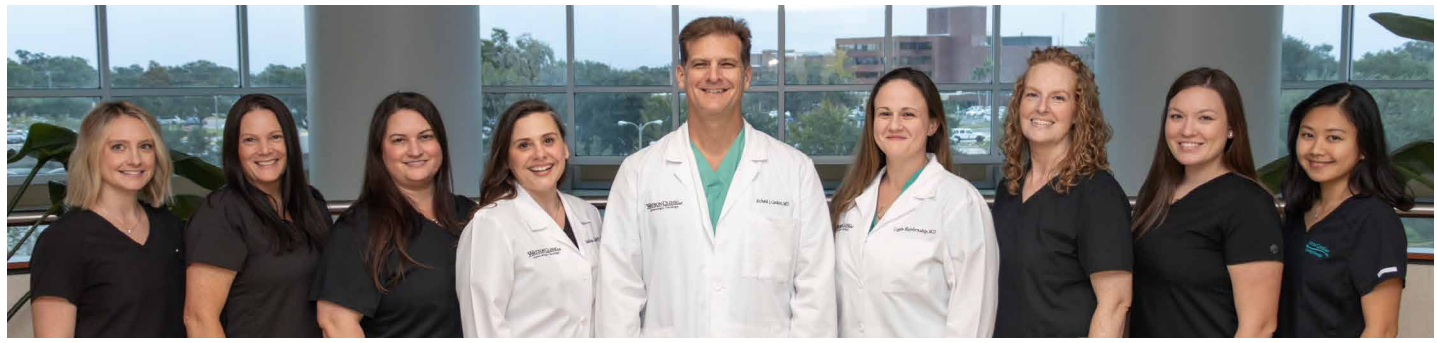
Richard Cardosi,
MD

Dr. Richard Cardosi earned his medical degree from the University of Tennessee College of Medicine with high honors. He received his residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at the University of South Florida, where he also served as Administrative Chief Resident. He went on to complete a subspecialty fellowship in Gynecologic Oncology at H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute in Tampa, while simultaneously acting as an Instructor in the department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of South Florida where he was responsible for resident education and training.

He has authored many publications in peer reviewed medical journals, as well as several review articles and book chapters. He is a National Cancer Institute Clinical Investigator (NCI), and an active participant in clinical trials both for the NCI and the Gynecologic Oncology Group, an international cooperative research group.

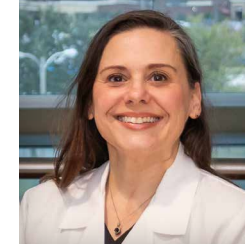
Dr. Cardosi is board certified in OB-GYN and Gynecologic Oncology with a Focused Practice Designation in Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery, from the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Ranked among the nation's top 10 physicians for his Gynecologic Oncology robotic experience, Dr. Cardosi was the first physician in Polk County to successfully complete a hysterectomy utilizing the technology and was among the first in Florida to offer 'single-site' robotic approach where only a single 1-inch incision is required.



Logan Blankenship,
MD

Dr. Blankenship, a Florida native, was born and raised in Naples, FL. She then completed both her Bachelor's and Master's degree at University of South Florida in Tampa, FL. Dr. Blankenship earned her Doctor of Medicine degree at Florida State University and completed her Obstetrics and Gynecology residency at the University of Florida in Jacksonville Florida. She then briefly left Florida to complete her Gynecologic Oncology fellowship at the University of Texas San Antonio. She specializes in the treatment of gynecologic malignancies and has fellowship level robotic surgery training and certification. Dr. Blankenship has multiple scholarly publications in high impact journals and has performed research in multiple areas but most notably in the area of endometrial cancer. She enjoys working to enhance the health of women in our community.



Melissa Good,
DNP, APRN

Melissa is a native Floridian, born and raised in Lakeland. She began her medical career in 1995 as a surgical technologist, she then returned to school to become a registered nurse graduating in 2008. She then worked in many areas of nursing, but loved working in the operating room with Dr. Cardosi as a circulating nurse during gynecologic oncology procedures. In 2018 she earned a master's degree as an advanced practice registered nurse and subsequently finished her education with a doctorate degree in nursing practice. She began working exclusively in gynecologic oncology as an APRN with Dr. Cardosi in March 2020. She has been honored to be a part of their patient's oncology journey.

About Our Department

As specialists in gynecologic cancer, we strive to provide our patients with the latest advancements in modern technology and research, as well as the highest level of expert and compassionate care. Our services include:

- Minimally Invasive Gynecology Surgery
- Robotic Gynecologic Surgery
- Radical Pelvic Surgery
- Colorectal and Genitourinary Surgery
- Management of Women at Increased Risk for Gynecologic Cancers
- Comprehensive Treatment of Gynecologic Cancers
- Mediport Placement
- Chemotherapy Administration
- diVa® Laser Vaginal Therapy
- Forever Bare BBL™ from Sciton®