

NIH CLINICAL CENTER

Address:

NIH Clinical Center
National Institutes of Health
Building 10, Room 2C146
10 Center Drive, MSC 1504
Bethesda, MD 20892-1504
Web site: <http://clinicalcenter.nih.gov>

Director:

John I. Gallin, M.D.
(301) 496-4114 (phone)
(301) 402-0244 (fax)
Email: jgallin@nih.gov

Legislative Contact:

Laura M. Lee
(301) 496-8025 (phone)
(301) 402-0244 (fax)
Email: llee@nih.gov

Mission:

The NIH Clinical Center is the clinical research facility of the National Institutes of Health. It provides patient care, services, training, and the environment in which NIH clinician-scientists creatively translate emerging knowledge into better understanding, detection, treatment, and prevention of human diseases for the health of a diverse nation. The Clinical Center consists of two main facilities. The original facility, the Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center, is a 14-story building, 7 million bricks, more than 5,000 rooms, nine miles of corridor, 2.5 million square feet, 24 inpatient care units, 15 outpatient clinics, 267 beds, and a Clinical Pathology Department housed in a space the size of a football field. The new facility, the Mark O. Hatfield Research Center, is 870,000 square feet, will have 242 Inpatient Beds, and 83 Outpatient Day Hospitals; it is seven stories high; its groundbreaking date was November 1997. Dedication ceremonies were on Sept. 22, 2004. Together, the Magnuson and Hatfield centers form the NIH Clinical Center, the world's largest clinical research complex, serving a dual role: providing humane and healing patient care as well as the environment clinical researchers need to advance clinical science.

As a research facility, only patients with the precise kind or stage of illness under investigation are admitted for treatment. There are no labor and delivery services and no other services common to community hospitals. All patients must be referred by their physicians. Areas of clinical study include aging; alcohol abuse and alcoholism; allergy, arthritis, musculoskeletal and skin diseases; cancer; child health; chronic pain; deafness and other communication disorders; dental and orofacial disorders; diabetes; digestive and kidney diseases; eye disorders; heart, lung, and blood diseases; infectious diseases; medical genetics; mental health; neurological disorders; and stroke.

Selected Accomplishments and Initiatives:

Research advances that have taken place in the Clinical Center include:

- First cure of a solid tumor with chemotherapy.
- First chemotherapeutic cures for childhood leukemia and Hodgkin's disease.
- First use of immunotherapy to treat cancer.
- Evidence of a genetic component in schizophrenia.
- First successful replacement of a mitral valve.
- Use of nitroglycerin for acute myocardial infarction.
- First controlled trials of lithium's effect on depression.
- Analysis of the disorders of lipid metabolism and the pathogenesis of arteriosclerosis.
- Immunosuppressive therapy for nonmalignant diseases (lupus, Wegener's granulomatosis, midline granuloma).
- Use of interferon gamma to reduce bacterial infections in chronic granulomatous disease.

NIH CLINICAL CENTER

- Enzyme replacement to treat Gaucher's disease.
- Use of hydroxyurea to treat sickle cell anemia.
- First computerized hospital information system designed to facilitate clinical research.
- Description of the pathogenesis of AIDS.
- Blood tests for AIDS, hepatitis.
- Use of AZT as the first treatment for AIDS.
- Reduction of transfusion-transmitted hepatitis from 30 percent to near zero.
- First gene therapy (for adenosine deaminase deficiency).
- Use of magnetic resonance imaging to rapidly diagnose coronary artery disease in emergency room settings.
- Immunosuppressive therapy for aplastic anemia.