UCLA’s Division of Pediatric Hematology & Oncology has opened an outpatient office in the Comprehensive Blood & Cancer Center in Bakersfield, California. The UCLA Children’s Oncology Clinic provides care to children, adolescents and young adults with cancer or blood disorders who reside in the Kern County region.

Specialized care for children

Children, adolescents and young adults with cancer or hematologic disorders benefit from care by pediatric experts who can provide curative therapy and address important psychosocial and quality-of-life issues. UCLA is a national leader in the care of adolescents and young adults with cancer, providing expertise on such issues as growth delays, fertility preservation, learning disabilities and second malignancies.

The UCLA physicians who care for patients in Bakersfield are mindful of the specific pain and comfort needs of pediatric patients.

Bringing academic medicine to Bakersfield area patients

“A significant number of children have need for a hematology/oncology consultation in the Bakersfield area. We really wanted to serve that community,” says Noah Federman, MD, associate clinical professor of pediatrics and orthopaedics, clinical director of Pediatric Hematology & Oncology and director of the UCLA Pediatric Bone and Soft Tissue Sarcoma Center. “We provide almost any service there that we do on our Westwood campus at UCLA.”

Children with cancer benefit from treatment by pediatric specialists.

“Many nuances exist in treating children with pediatric cancers and our specialists can provide valuable insight to their care,” he says. “By bringing our subspecialty care to the area and reducing the need to geographically uproot our patients and families, we hope this new clinic will improve their quality of life during a time that is already stressful enough.”
Specialized expertise
UCLA specialists who staff the outpatient clinic have expertise in a broad range of pediatric oncology and hematology disorders, including:

- Blood disorders
- Bone and soft-tissue sarcomas
- Leukemia and lymphomas
- Neurologic and neural tumors

Comprehensive services
Evaluative, diagnostic, testing and treatment services are made available through UCLA's relationship with the Comprehensive Blood & Cancer Center. Services include:

- Imaging (PET, CT, MRI, ultrasound, X-ray, nuclear medicine)
- Chemotherapy infusion
- Radiotherapy (including CT scanning, image fusion, 3D conformal radiation therapy, Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy (IMRT), Image Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT), RapidArc radiotherapy and high-dose-rate brachytherapy (CyberKnife))
- Cancer resection surgery
- Clinical laboratory and pathology (hematology, circulating tumor cells, tumor markers, coagulation testing, special chemistries, bone marrow/genetic testing)
- Social services

Access to clinical trials
Patients attending the clinic also have access to UCLA's network of cancer clinical trials, which is among the most comprehensive in the nation. The Division of Pediatric Hematology & Oncology is an active participant in several large pediatric cooperative groups that develop and coordinate cancer clinical trials at leading research institutions. This includes the Children's Oncology Group and the Pediatric Bone Marrow Transplant Consortium (PBMTC), which is one of 14 Clinical Core Centers in the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute's Blood and Marrow Transplant Clinical Trials Network (CTN).