

Advanced cancer care options for Alaskans

Alaska Surgical Oncology includes the expertise of Charles Portera, MD, a fellowship-trained surgical oncologist who trained at the prestigious MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas.

Dr. Portera at Alaska Surgical Oncology specializes in cancer diagnosis and treatment including: esophagus, stomach, small bowel, colon, rectum, abdomen, liver, gallbladder, pancreas, spleen, breast, skin and soft tissue malignancies as well as melanoma.

We collaborate with internal medicine and family practice physicians, dermatologists, oncologists and all those physicians involved in the patient's diagnosis and treatment plan. This can include medical oncologists, radiation oncologists and other clinical specialists.

The Breast Center at Alaska Surgical Oncology specializes in breast cancer and breast tumor removal, with special expertise in preserving the natural appearance of the breast after removal of cancer.

Alaska Surgical Oncology provides and/or coordinates the following for cancer patients:

BIOPSY: Tissue from the area of concern is removed so it can be studied in the pathology lab to determine if the mass is cancer.

RADIATION: Radiation therapy is treatment with high-energy rays or particles that kill



cancer cells. Radiation therapy may be used to kill cancer cells that remain after surgery.

CHEMOTHERAPY: Chemotherapy is the treatment of adding cancer-killing drugs into the bloodstream to help kill any cancer cells that have spread to distant organs.

HORMONE THERAPY: Cancers that have hormone receptors in their cell membranes are called hormone receptor-positive. In breast cancer, estrogen is a hormone that promotes the growth of breast cancer, so drugs are administered to stop estrogen from telling cells to grow and divide. Hormone therapy can be used to help reduce the risk of cancer returning after surgery.

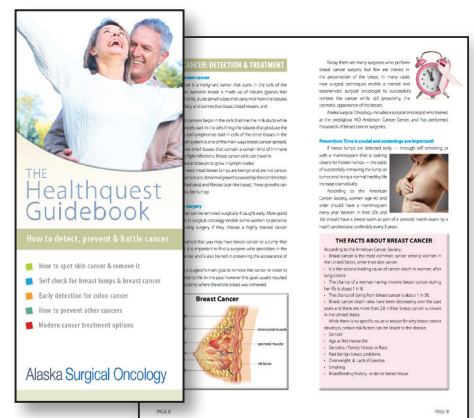
TARGETED THERAPY: Targeted therapy is treatment designed to treat the unique characteristics present in specific cancer cells. Current medications that are targeted treatments include Herceptin, Avastin and Afinitor, among others.

GENOMIC THERAPY

Genomic therapy is a personalized medicine approach based on the mix of certain genes in the tumor tissue that influence how a particular tumor behaves.



We believe strongly in patient education. We have an educational Internet site at AlaskaSurgicalOncology.com. As a community service, Alaska Surgical Oncology distributes a free Healthquest Guidebook for early detection and screening of most cancers. This can be requested online.



ALASKA BREAST CENTER

Alaska Surgical Oncology

We have expertise in the following areas:

- Breast cancer and tumors: We address all types of breast cancer with the goal of preserving the cosmetic appearance of the female breast, while maximizing the patient's overall survival and quality of life.
- Skin cancer removal (melanoma, basal cell & squamous cell).
- Gastrointestinal disorders & removal of cancerous masses in internal organs.
- Colon/Rectal cancers, pancreatic cancer, esophageal cancer.

WE CARE FOR:

- Breast Cancer
- Colon Rectal Cancer
- Esophageal Cancer
- Pancreatic Cancer
- Stomach Cancer
- Liver Cancer
- Skin Cancer

A centers of excellence approach for better healthcare

Recognizing that the best healthcare comes from specialized Centers of Excellence, in 2014 Dr. Portera founded four specialty centers that specialize in different areas:

- Surgical oncology to treat cancers in the pancreas, esophagus, liver, skin and other internal organs. **ALASKA SURGICAL ONCOLOGY**
- Breast cancer surgery including the diagnosis and removal of cancer related to the breast, and breast preservation surgery. **ALASKA BREAST CENTER**
- Hernia surgery that repairs the many different hernias. **ALASKA HERNIA CENTER**
- General surgery related gallbladder and other abdominal and general surgery issues, with the use of Davinci Robotic Surgery and laparoscopic techniques. **ALASKA SURGICAL GROUP**

All of these centers operate under the Alaska Surgical Group umbrella.



Charles Portera, MD is a fellowship-trained surgical oncologist who trained at the prestigious MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. In 2014, Dr. Portera founded Alaska Surgical Oncology, and soon after, Alaska Breast Center, Alaska Hernia Center and Alaska Surgical Group.



ABOUT ALASKA SURGICAL ONCOLOGY

We believe Alaskans deserve access to the best cancer care available. Alaska Surgical Oncology is based on the campus of Providence Hospital in Anchorage, with a satellite office in Palmer in the Mat-Su Valley. We take an aggressive and proactive approach to cancer, helping our patients to regain a normal life through the most advanced, minimally invasive surgical techniques.

ANCHORAGE OFFICE: 3851 Piper Street, Suite U230, Anchorage, AK 99508
Appointments & Referrals: 907-868-2075 • AlaskaSurgicalOncology.com

ALASKA SURGICAL ONCOLOGY

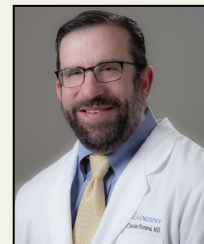
CHARLES PORTERA, MD

Board-Certified in General Surgery

Fellowship-Trained Surgical Oncology & Cancer Biology

Founder, Alaska Breast Center

Charles Portera, MD is a board-certified general surgeon with more than 20 years of experience in the surgical removal of cancer. He is fellowship-trained in surgical oncology and cancer biology — the highest level of medical training in the U.S. Dr. Portera spent most of his medical career in Chattanooga, Tennessee where he founded a very successful surgical oncology practice.



Dr. Portera received his undergraduate degree and medical degree from the University of Tennessee. He completed his fellowship in surgical oncology and cancer biology at the prestigious MD Anderson Cancer Center, which is one of the top cancer referral centers in the world. Dr. Portera has done more than 10,000 successful cancer surgeries over his career.

Despite a busy surgical practice, Dr. Portera had a true calling and desire to live and work in one of his favorite places in the world — Alaska. Dr. Portera relocated to Anchorage, Alaska in 2014 with his wife Melissa and their three children.

Dr. Portera is on staff at Providence Alaska Medical Center and Alaska Regional Hospital in Anchorage.

VICTORIA LEE MURDOCK, MD, FACS

Board-Certified in General Surgery

Certified in Da Vinci Robotic Surgery

Victoria Lee Murdock, MD, is a board-certified general surgeon at Alaska Surgical Group and Alaska Hernia Center. She received her Medical Degree at Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia and completed her general surgery residency and internship at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh. Dr. Murdock is certified in the use of the Da Vinci Robotic Surgery System and proficient in laparoscopic surgery. Prior to joining Alaska Surgical Group and the Alaska Hernia Center in Anchorage, she had an active general surgery practice in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Dr. Murdock is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.



Dr. Murdock relocated to Alaska in 2018 with her husband, a cardio-thoracic surgeon. She is excited to be part of the Alaska medical community and welcomes colleagues to contact her for general surgery issues, minimally invasive surgery, and treatment of hernias.