

NCS Welcomes Ian Schnadig, M.D.

Dr. Ian Schnadig, board-certified in medical oncology and hematology, brings his clinical and research expertise of prostate cancer and other genitourinary malignancies to Northwest Cancer Specialists.

Dr. Schnadig received his medical degree from Rush Medical College at Rush University Medical Center in his home town of Chicago. He discovered the Portland area during his internship at Oregon Health & Science University and left briefly to join an oncology and hematology practice in New Mexico.



"I'm thrilled to be back in Oregon, working with Northwest Cancer Specialists, one of the most established practices in the region," said Schnadig. "Our focus on treating the whole patient, not just the disease, along with our world-class clinical trials program, allows us to customize treatment options for patients. This commitment to individual care sets NCS apart."

Dr. Schnadig will be seeing patients at Northwest Cancer Specialists [Meridian Park office](#) in Tualatin.



NCS Physicians Answer Your FAQs

This month's FAQs answered by [Dr. Lucy Langer](#)

Q: I am the first person in my family to get cancer. It's not possible this is related to an inherited mutation is it?

A: If you come from a large family with lots of men and women who have lived well into their 70's and 80's without cancer, it is unlikely that your cancer is due to an inherited mutation. However, if you come from a smaller family, or if your family is predominantly male, then it is possible that there is an inherited mutation causing your cancer. Generally, an inherited mutation is suspected when cancer is diagnosed at a younger age, when an individual has more than one kind of cancer (either simultaneously or sequentially), or when there is a strong family history. In some cases of inherited mutations, none of these 'indicators' will be present. To know for sure if your cancer is caused by an inherited mutation, you should talk to your doctor and consider a Genetic Risk Evaluation appointment with our experts.

Q: I have heard that if I have a BRCA2 mutation that I don't need to worry about ovarian cancer?

A: This is not true. BRCA2 mutations are less commonly associated with ovarian cancer compared with BRCA1 mutations, but the risk is still much higher than the risk of ovarian cancer in the general population. BRCA2 mutation carriers should follow increased surveillance guidelines for ovarian cancer and are also candidates for preventive surgery (removal of the ovaries and fallopian tubes) or preventive medication with oral contraceptives.

Q: My husband, who is 42 years old, has had three polyps removed on colonoscopy. Do I need to worry about his risk of colon cancer?

A: Polyps, and specifically the 'adenomas' or 'adenomatous polyps' can develop into colon cancer if not removed. Even if there may not be an inherited risk for cancer, an individual with adenomatous polyps is at higher risk for cancer. Finding polyps on colonoscopy should trigger another colonoscopy evaluation at a shorter interval than the recommended 10-years for people with no polyps or abnormal findings. Polyps alone are usually not enough to trigger genetic testing, but a full family history should be reviewed and Genetic Risk Evaluation is recommended for individuals with as few as 10 polyps over their lifetime.

Q: My brother had a melanoma removed when he was 45. Do I need to worry about inherited risk for melanoma?

A: If you have a close relative with melanoma, you are most likely at higher risk of getting melanoma yourself. You should take precautions such as using sunscreen whenever you are going to be outdoors, and wearing sun-blocking clothing and hats when you are in direct sunlight. Melanoma does have a genetic component, meaning that there are some families that are more 'prone' to develop this cancer, but testing is more complicated than for the breast/ovarian cancer syndromes, or for colon cancer syndromes. Generally speaking, genetic testing will be considered if you have had multiple melanomas or if you have family members with multiple melanomas.

If you have a question or topic of discussion you would like to submit please send us your request through our online [contact us form](#).

NCS EDUCATIONAL CLASSES

[Food For Life Nutrition and Cooking Classes](#)

September 7, 14, 21, 28
Rose Quarter Cancer Center

[The New Norm](#)

Cancer Survivorship Program
Vancouver Cancer Center &
St. Vincent Office

[Group Yoga, Stretching & Pilates](#)

Every Wednesday
Vancouver Cancer Center

More [educational classes and events](#).

Join NCS at these upcoming local events!

Northwest Cancer Specialists is a proud sponsor of these local community events.

[Get Your Rear In Gear](#)

5K Run/Walk
August 1, 8:00 am
Oaks Park,
7805 SE Oaks Park Way,
Portland



[SHOC Empowerment Day](#)

10K & 5K Run/Walk
August 7, 8:00 am
Team Latus Motors Harley
Davidson, 870 E. Berkeley St.,
Gladstone



[Relay for Life of East Portland](#)

August 14, 10:00 am -
August 15, 10:00 am
Floyd Light Middle School,
10800 SE Washington,
Portland

