UTSW Kidney Cancer SPORE
Program Highlights

120+
Physicians and Researchers
Possibly the largest kidney cancer program worldwide.1

3x
Survival Rates
Stage 4 survival rates triple the national average; higher across all stages.2

1 of only 2
Kidney Cancer SPORE programs awarded
Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPORE) award from the National Cancer Institute.3

New Drug Development
Only program to develop a drug going from gene discovery to phase 3 trial seeking FDA approval.4

Nobel Prize - Immunotherapy
One of only two U.S. programs developing immunotherapies with a Nobel Laureate in immunology research.5

The Right Therapy for the Right Patient
Developed first comprehensive, integrated, molecular, genetic, and pathological classification of kidney cancer advancing precision medicine.6

Radiation Expertise
Possibly the broadest, most innovative radiation oncology program for kidney cancer.7

Pioneer in Ablation
Among first to develop kidney tumor ablation in the U.S.8

Leading Surgery Program
#1 Largest in North Texas9
Top 3 Urology departments in U.S.9
Top 10 Robotic kidney surgery programs in U.S.9

National Research Hub
- UTSW ranks No. 1 globally in health care research 10
- Possibly largest live kidney cancer tumor bank in the world
- Leading tumor implantation program in mice 
- First genetically-engineered mouse models of most common type of kidney cancer11
- Pioneering Medical Intelligence Platform

REFERENCES
1. As of January 2020, the Kidney Cancer Program comprised more than 120 dedicated physicians, over 90 collaborating physicians, and more than 100 investigators distributed across 10 research tracks.
2. Analysis of UTSW Quality Improvement Office compared to national SEER data.
3. UTSW SPORE Program, Kidney SPORE | TIP (cancer.gov).
4. Discovered HIF-1α gene and developed drug leading to phase 3 trial seeking FDA approval.
5. Two scientists have been awarded a Nobel Prize for Immunology Research in the United States in the last 20 years, Dr. Bruce Beutler at UTSW Southwestern Medical Center, and Dr. James Allison at University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.
6. UT Southwestern investigators reported (i) discovery that the BAP1 gene is mutated in 90% of clear cell renal cell carcinoma, the most common type of kidney cancer; (ii) mutations in BAP1 tend to be mutually exclusive with mutations in PBRM1; (iii) BAP1-deficient tumors are of high grade, whereas PBRM1-deficient tumors are of low grade; (iv) BAP1-deficient tumors are associated with poor survival whereas survival for patients with PBRM1-deficient tumors is better; and (v) BAP1 and PBRM1 genes control cancer aggressiveness (Pelle-Llope, Nat Genet, 2012; Joseph, J Urol, 2013; Pelle-Llope, Cancer Res, 2013; Ota, Cancer Discov, 2017).
7. Largest reported experience of stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT) beyond the brain (Wang, Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys, 2017) and first to report its deployment for oligoprogression as well as tumor extensions into large vein (Dreisbach et al., J Clin Oncol, 2012; Haman, Cancer Biol Ther, 2013).
8. Acantho, national clinical trials registry (clinicaltrials.gov) with the term “kidney Cancer” and “Stereotactic” (November 1, 2014) shows no other programs with similar breadth and number of active clinical trials.
9. Source: DFW County Hospital District Database, 2016; Solvency Database.
10. Third-party ranking using an Academic Score, see NKSIS, Gur Ural, 2015.
11. UTSW No. 1 worldwide for published research in health care category by Nature Index (2020).