

## **NCI-Designation Fact Sheet**

### **What does a NCI Designated Cancer Center Mean to Georgia?**

- Cancer Centers represent the nation's cancer research infrastructure. They are central to translating laboratory findings into the next generation of therapies and potential cure. Cancer centers have become the model for research and treatment. Almost all present-day curative therapies and key research discoveries have originated in the cancer center setting and have been developed in close partnership with the National Cancer Institute and the American pharmaceutical industry.
- Clinical trials developed and carried out at NCI cancer centers throughout the United States have resulted in cures for many childhood cancers, as well as Hodgkin's disease, testicular cancer and certain forms of leukemia. These well-planned and research-based therapies most recently have resulted in improved treatments for a variety of the most common solid tumors, including colon, lung and breast cancers.
- NCI cancer center researchers and clinicians have successfully worked to decrease the costs of even the most intensive cancer therapies by using new scientific knowledge to refine therapy and reduce treatment toxicity. Patients and their physicians now can choose from a range of outpatient procedures that restore the patient's health with fewer side effects.
- Scientists at cancer centers across the country have made key discoveries, including cancer-related oncogenes, or tumor-promoting genes, and tumor suppresser genes. Today, hundreds of genes have been identified and used in cancer prevention, detection and treatment.