

# Gynecologic Oncology

## at University Medical Center

Gynecologic cancer care is rapidly evolving, and the highest level of care requires a centralized multidisciplinary approach to cancer treatment.

At University Medical Center New Orleans, advanced surgical procedures, perioperative critical care, clinical trial opportunities, and comprehensive symptom management are seamlessly coordinated so our patients can focus on healing.

Patients will have access to the latest approaches to cancer care and a comprehensive team who knows and cares about them to follow them through their gynecologic cancer journey.

We're on a mission is to elevate gynecologic cancer care for all women in Louisiana, the Gulf South, and beyond, through the values of academic excellence, empowerment, leadership, and equity.

## What we treat

University Medical Center offers a full range of outpatient services and provides comprehensive evaluation and management for conditions including:

**Ovarian cancer:** Cancers that start on the ovaries, or the organs that ovulate and make eggs necessary for fertilization and pregnancy.

**Uterine cancer:** Cancer of the lining of the womb, or endometrial cancer, is one of the most common cancers we see and treat. Cancers of the connective tissue or muscular wall of the uterus are less common and are called "sarcomas."

**Cervical cancer:** Cancers of the lower part of the womb, where it meets with the vagina.

**Vaginal cancer:** Cancer of the vaginal canal.

**Vulvar cancer:** Cancer of the tissue just outside of the vagina, otherwise known as the vulva.

**Gestational trophoblastic disease:** This abnormal pregnancy tissue can put you at risk for a cancer or develop into a frank cancer.

**Hereditary predisposition to cancer:** There are a variety of familial syndromes that can be inherited and increase your risk of gynecologic cancers. Sometimes we recommend additional tests to screen you more closely for cancer or certain treatments or surgeries that can reduce your risk of developing cancer.

**Complex gynecologic:** Occasionally a gynecologic condition that is not cancerous but is medically or surgically complex and we are available to help with these conditions as well.

- Ovarian, uterine, or pelvic masses that are surgically complex or represent a potential cancer
- Fibroids
- Endometriosis
- Vulvar conditions
- HPV related diseases
- History of complex pelvic surgery

**"Patients treated for gynecologic cancers at high volume centers have the best outcomes – the best surgical results and the best chance at cure. An academic medical center like University Medical Center New Orleans, has the resources, facilities, and appropriate personnel to support a high-volume gynecologic cancer service. This means that the doctors and teams caring for a patient won't be seeing this condition or doing this surgery for the first time."**

– Amelia Jernigan  
LSUHSC Gynecologic Oncologist



# University Medical Center New Orleans

The resources at an academic center allow us to push the envelope when it comes to all aspects of cancer care. With the support of our talented surgical colleagues and the incredible ICU, we can be more aggressive with our surgical approach to care which translates to longer survivorship and improved chances of cure.

The infrastructure of our medical center supports a rigorous clinical trials program which allows patients to participate in trials and to have access to novel and exciting treatments.

University Medical Center offers a full range of specialized treatments and services, including:

- Minimally invasive surgery
- Chemotherapy and systemic therapies
- Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC)
- Clinical trials program
- Genetics counseling and testing
- Virtual health platform for cancer survivors

## Our team

### **Tara Castellano, MD**

Gynecologic Oncologist  
University Medical Center

Assistant Professor, Gynecologic Oncology  
LSU Health New Orleans

### **Navya Nair, MD, MPH**

Gynecologic Oncologist  
University Medical Center

Assistant Professor, Gynecologic Oncology  
LSU Health New Orleans

### **Amelia Jernigan, MD**

Gynecologic Oncologist,  
University Medical Center

Medical Director, Gynecologic Oncology  
LSU Health New Orleans

### **Augustin Garcia, MD**

Associate Professor of Hematologic Oncology  
LSU Health New Orleans

### **Michelle Loch, MD**

Oncologist  
University Medical Center

Associate Professor of Hematologic  
Oncology LSU Health New Orleans

### **Lorene Yoxheimer, MD, FCAP, FASP**

Pathologist

Director, Gynecologic Pathology  
Tulane University

### **Shawna Morron, PA-C**

Physician's Assistant  
University Medical Center  
Cancer Center

### **Jonquel Williams, RN**

Gynecologic Oncology Nurse Navigator  
University Medical Center  
Cancer Center