Established in 1976, the Arizona Cancer Center is one of 49 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers in the nation and the only one headquartered in and serving the entire state of Arizona. The NCI’s highest designation is reserved for centers focusing on patient care as well as basic and clinical research, prevention, education, outreach and training.

- The Cancer Center is a leader in research on women’s cancers (breast, ovarian), men’s cancers (prostate), gastrointestinal cancers (colon, pancreas, liver), lymphoma and skin cancers.
- The Cancer Center is home to one of the largest Cancer Prevention and Control Programs among the nation’s comprehensive cancer centers, with leading prevention research in breast, colon, lung, prostate and skin cancers.
- More than $35 million research expenditures including support from the National Cancer Institute (NCI), NIH, NSF, DOD, ACS and corporate sponsors.
- The Cancer Center’s 75 research labs work to bring the power of research to cancer prevention and treatment by providing a direct link between the latest research discoveries and patient care.
- Banner – University Medicine is the Cancer Center’s clinical affiliate in Tucson. BUM operates two outpatient clinics, and radiation oncology and surgery services are performed at Banner – University Medical Center Tucson.
- The Cancer Center’s affiliate network includes St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix.
- The University of Arizona Cancer Center at Dignity St. Joseph’s Hospital’s new 220,000-square-foot outpatient facility in Downton Phoenix opened its doors to patients in August 2015.
- The Cancer Center addresses health disparities in the region with its Cancer Health Disparities Program, uniting all Center efforts to address the unequal burden of cancer through research, training and community outreach, specifically targeting the Native American and Latino/Hispanic populations in the American Southwest and northern Mexico. The Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention is a collaboration between the Cancer Center and Northern Arizona University.