Meetings and conferences

*Tumor Clinic*

The tumor Board members meet to discuss cases that need multidisciplinary approach. Oncologists, surgeons, pathologists, radiologists and other physicians from various departments discuss the cases after reviewing the medical history, pathology slides and X-rays. Different points of views are exchanged to come up with a consensus that is saved in the tumor registry for future reference. Physicians from different Hospitals in Lebanon can attend and present their cases for opinion.

*Time*: Tuesdays from 1:00 till 3:00 pm

*Place*: Pathology conference room

*Moderator*: Dr. Fady Geara

*Breast Clinic*
Due to the increasing number of Breast cancer cases, the tumor board thought of presenting Breast cancer cases on a separate meeting than the tumor clinic. Alike the tumor clinic, the history, pathology and X-Rays of the patients are reviewed and discussed.

**Time:** Every first and third Thursday of the month

**Place:** Pathology conference room from 1:00 till 2:00 pm

**Moderator:** Dr. Nagi el- Saghir

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**Lymphoma/ Leukemia**

The Lymphoma and Leukemia cases are discussed separately as well. Due to the various and interactive related subjects, the committee preferred to dedicate more time for it by separating it from the tumor clinic’s usual meeting. This activity is held in cooperation with the hematology Division at the Makassed General Hospital

**Time:** Every 2nd Thursday of the month

**Place:** Pathology conference room from 1:00 till 2:00 pm

**Coordinator:** Dr. Ali Bazarbachi

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**New assigned meetings**

**Urology- Oncology clinic**

**Time:** Every third Monday of the month at 8:30 am

**Moderator:** Dr. Raja Khauli
Gastro-Enterology Oncology clinic

Started on July 2003, 1 or 2 cases of GI malignancies are presented in depth with an undated literature review

**Time:** Every third Thursday of the month from 9-10 am

**Place:** Internal Medicine Conference Room

**Moderator:** Dr. Alaa Sharara

Hospital Committee on cancer scientific Meetings

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>1st Educational Symposium,</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subject:</strong> “Colorectal Cancer”</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Time:</strong> 14-15 September 2001</td>
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<td><strong>Place:</strong> Faraya- Mzar</td>
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<td><strong>Chairperson:</strong> D.Ali. Shamseddine</td>
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<td><strong>Coordinator:</strong> Dr. Fady Geara</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>2nd Educational Symposium,</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subject:</strong> “Pancreatic Carcinoma”</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Time:</strong> 13-14 April 2002</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Place:</strong> Faraya- Mzar</td>
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<td><strong>Chairperson:</strong> Dr. Ali Shamseddine</td>
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<td><strong>Coordinators:</strong> Dr. Assaad Soweid &amp; Dr. Mohammad Khalifeh</td>
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<td>Symposium</td>
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| 5th | “Gastro Intestinal stromal cell tumors”  
“Hormonal therapy in Breast cancer” | 4-7th September 2003 | Sharm el Sheikh | Dr. Ali Shamseddine | Dr. Fadi Geara |
| 6th | “Cancer research at the American University of Beirut Medical Center” | 15-17th April 2004 | Amman – Jordan | Dr. Fadi Geara |
New facilities

**Comprehensive Gynecologic Oncology care**

- Advanced gynecologic surgical procedures for endometrial, cervical, ovarian and vulvar cancers.
- Advanced gynecologic complicated surgery.
- Management of gestational trophoblastic diseases.
- Chemotherapy for gynecologic cancers.
- Radiotherapy with or without concurrent chemotherapy, including high-dose brachytherapy for cervical, vaginal and endometrial cancer.

**Prostate Cancer Center**

- Is the most active unit managing prostate cancer patients in the Middle East.
- Established in multidisciplinary fashion involving Urology, Radiology, radiation Oncology, and Pathology.
- In 1997 AUBMC pioneered PSA screening.

**Orthopedic Surgery**

- The division of Orthopedic Surgery has established collaboration with St. Jude Children Cancer Center a program of limb salvage surgery that is becoming a referral center nationally and regionally in the Middle East.

**Advanced Breast Surgery Unit**

- This unit provides the various techniques of breast surgery of tumorectomy, quadrectectomy and mastectomy with or without immediate reconstruction.
- It offers stereotactic core biopsy for patients with palpable and impalpable breast lesions using the MIBBS machine and selective lymphadenectomy.
- Since 1999 sentinel lymph node biopsy became the standard of care in treating patients with early breast cancer.
- Both techniques of Lymphoscintigraphy and Blue-dye mapping are utilized for sentinel node identification.

**Children’s Cancer Center of Lebanon (CCCL)**

- CCCL in Beirut is a unique regional center for the comprehensive treatment of pediatric cancer.
- As an affiliate of St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, USA, the center works in close association with AUBMC.
- Most patients are treated on an outpatient basis at CCCL outpatient facilities.
- A floor at AUBMC (consisting of 12 inpatients beds) is reserved for those who
need hospitalization during treatment, which follows the same rules and regulations as ST. Jude and under their supervision.

- The center covers all costs of care beyond those reimbursable by third party payers, and total costs when the latter are not available.

**Radiation Oncology department**

- Since December 1998, the department was the first in the entire Middle East and neighboring Arab countries to initiate Linac-based radiosurgery.
- It was also the first in Lebanon and neighboring countries to introduce high-dose-rate brachytherapy for patients with gynecologic and other types of malignancies.
- The department uses state-of-the-art equipment and offers an array of the latest clinical procedures, including:
  - 3-D conformal radiation
  - Stereotactic brain radiosurgery
  - Fractionated stereotactic radiotherapy
  - Low- and High-dose rate brachytherapy
  - Intravascular brachytherapy for coronary restenosis.

- Future plans include the clinical implementation of the Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT). This sophisticated technique would use advanced radiation physics, medical imaging, and information management algorithms to allow the delivery of high-dose radiation to a particular target tumor while avoiding critical normal tissue with millimetric precision. Tumors of the brain, base of the skull, head and neck, and prostate are suitable candidates for such a treatment.

**The bone marrow transplantation (BMT)**

- The bone marrow transplantation (BMT) activity started at AUB-MC in February 1998 with the implementation of autologous peripheral stem cell transplantation (AP SCT). This procedure was initially performed using non-cryopreserved stem cells. The hematopoietic stem cells processing unit was installed in December 2000. Currently, all the international standard requirements and procedures for APSCT are available and used at AUB-MC: pretransplant work up, mobilization of stem cells, stem cell collection by apheresis, cryopreservation of stem cells, quality control (CD34+ cell count by flow cytometry, stem cell culture, bacteriological cultures, viability tests etc), myeloablative conditioning regimen, stem cell transplantation and follow of transplanted patients. Since February 1998, 65 patients were transplanted.
The construction of an isolation unit for allogenic BMT is ongoing and funded by a grant from the ASHA (American Schools and Hospitals Abroad). The construction of the unit is expected to finish on September 30, 2003. This BMT unit will comprise one laminar flow isolation room and four hepa-filter rooms.

In addition to these clinical services, a BMT database of the AUB transplant activity was established using both Microsoft Excel and SPSS softwares. This database includes all relevant data on all transplanted patients with a yearly follow up. Moreover, AUB-MC is an official member of the European Bone Marrow Transplantation Group (CIC number 369) since 1998. A detailed report of the AUB-MC BMT activity is submitted to the EBMT on yearly basis.

Finally, a BMT research activity was developed and several abstracts were presented in different international meetings (EBMT meeting, American Society of Hematology meeting, Middle East Society for Organ Transplantation meeting).

Pain Management Center

- The focus of this center is to treat patients with acute, malignant and nonmalignant pain.

- The faculty staffing this center is American Board certified in Pain Management.

- This center provides an out-patient service through its Pain Clinic as well as an inpatient service.

- Modalities used for the treatment of pain could range from noninvasive to invasive modalities.
  - Noninvasive modalities, such as combinations of different classes of pain medications.
  - Invasive modalities, such as nerve blocks and implantation of drug delivery systems

Naef Bassile Center

The Naef Bassile Foundation has chosen AUBMC as a site for the Naef Bassile adult cancer center in fulfillment of the late Dr. Bassile's will to create a state-of-the-art cancer facility in his birth land. The donation will be used to create an adult cancer program with all its multi-disciplinary components. Ground breaking ceremony is scheduled for May 24th, 2004.
Fundraising Activities:

- Drug companies contribute on a yearly basis, (98-03)
- The Terry Fox Fund in 1996-1997
- Individual contributions, (98-03)
- Lebanese Society of Medical Oncology (2003)

The total amount raised (1998 – 2003) is 121000 USD