

Why Choose Hematology?



A Dynamic Career Path

Students who are interested in pursuing hematology have a variety of career tracks from which to choose. Hematologists can be found in many areas including research, clinical practice, and education. Many hematologists choose to allocate their time between hands-on patient care and scientific research. Hematology and oncology often overlap—specifically, in the study and treatment of blood and bone marrow cancers such as leukemia and lymphoma.

A Wide-Spectrum Specialty

Hematology covers a wide spectrum of diseases and conditions that relate to both malignant and non-malignant diseases. As a hematologist, you will research, diagnose, and treat a variety of conditions including anemia, bleeding disorders such as hemophilia, blood clots, sickle cell disease, and blood cancers such as leukemia, lymphoma, and myeloma.

An Evolving Field

Exciting breakthroughs in diagnosis and treatment of hematologic disorders occur on a regular basis. Hematology is on the forefront of the most dynamic developments in the area of molecular medicine, including development of individualized targeted therapies and technology advancements such as genome editing, gene and cellular therapies, and immune-based treatments.

A Workforce in High Demand

As one of the less common medical subspecialties, there is an increasing need for specialists in benign and malignant hematology. Exciting opportunities exist for hematologists in basic science as well as clinical and translational medicine.

A Chance to Make a Difference

Hematology is deeply rewarding work, with the opportunity to help patients with life-threatening illnesses through both hands-on patient care and practice-changing research. Advances in the field of hematology have increased hematologists' ability to cure patients or help them achieve greater quality of life. Several hematologic disorders have transformed from terminal diagnoses to curable diseases and manageable life-long conditions.

A Strong Support Network

While any medical career will pose challenges and obstacles, you don't have to do it alone in hematology. The American Society of Hematology (ASH) offers resources for graduate students and medical students interested in pursuing hematology, including award scholarships and research funding, mentorship, and education and training programs. ASH also offers a variety of award programs and resources for individuals from backgrounds underrepresented in medicine.

What is hematology?

Hematology is the study of blood in health and disease. It includes disorders of the red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets, blood vessels, bone marrow, lymph nodes, spleen, and proteins involved in bleeding and clotting.

Learn about the programs available to support scientists with an interest in hematology at all stages of their careers.

www.hematology.com/awards

Why They Chose Hematology



"Hematology is an incredibly exciting field where current discoveries at the bench are **offering promise to make a real impact on the survival of patients** with life-threatening hematologic diseases. Hematologic problems are an accompaniment to disease in nearly every realm of medicine, and hematology consultative expertise plays a vital role in the spectrum of clinical care in every specialty in medicine."
- Nancy Berliner, MD

From world-renowned experts to the new generation of hematologists, here's why these doctors chose – and love – the field of hematology.



"Academic hematology provides outstanding opportunities for a fulfilling, lifelong career. I am constantly amazed by the numerous opportunities to learn from patients and colleagues, mentor and teach young scientists and clinicians, and **use new technologies to make biological and clinical discoveries.**"
-Chris Flowers, MD, MS



"I love that hematology is challenging. **Working in hematology is like solving a puzzle.** You interview and examine the patient, then order the pertinent blood work and put all the 'pieces of the puzzle' together to come up with a diagnosis and treatment plan. Almost every field in medicine can say that they help treat and diagnose difficult cases, but I've found out that the most difficult ones almost always end up seeing a hematologist."
- Nicole Cruz, MD



"The future of hematology promises the development of new technologies to solve complex biological questions and innovative strategies to treat complex human diseases. Many of the low hanging fruit may be gone, but **the difficult questions that remain are the ones to be broached for the next generation of scientific advancement.** Solutions to these big questions will require enthusiastic, creative, and talented investigation into basic and translational science."
- Sriram Krishnaswamy, PhD



"Hematology is an exciting field that is at the forefront of important fundamental and clinical discoveries and it is a mature enough field with established guidelines to make meaningful discoveries. It is **a great training ground with outstanding mentors that respect diversity**, and it is also a lot of fun."
- Emmanuelle Passegué, PhD

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