

Ready to start planning your care? Call us at [800-525-2225](tel:800-525-2225) to make an appointment.

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Cancer Center

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## Chemotherapy with hepatic Arterial infusion

With this technique, we deliver a high dose of chemotherapy drugs to your hepatic artery (the main source of blood and nutrients for liver tumors) through a small pump that we implant under your skin in the lower abdomen. We can inject more chemotherapy as you may need it through this pump on an outpatient basis.

At MSK, we can use hepatic arterial infusion (HAI) therapy strategically to shrink your tumors before your surgery or afterward to help prevent them from coming back.

Although it's a bit different than primary liver cancer, we've seen that HAI chemotherapy combined with chemotherapy given in the usual way can dramatically increase how long people live with colon cancer that has spread to the liver, for example. And more recent evidence suggests that HAI chemotherapy alone can lengthen survival in people with primary liver cancer.

A benefit of HAI is that the drugs are delivered to just a part of the body (regionally) rather than system-wide, so it's less toxic and causes fewer side effects.

[Kemeny NE, Niedzwiecki D, Hollis DR, et al. Hepatic arterial infusion versus systemic therapy for hepatic metastases from colorectal cancer: a randomized trial of efficacy, quality of life, and molecular markers \(CALGB 9481\). Journal of Clinical Oncology. 2006 Mar; 24\(9\): 1395-403.](#)

[Kemeny NE, Huang Y, Cohen AM, et al. Hepatic arterial infusion of chemotherapy after resection of hepatic metastases from colorectal cancer. New England Journal of Medicine. 1999 Dec; 341\(27\): 2039-48.](#)

[Kemeny NE, Capanu M, D'Angelica MI, et al. Phase I trial of adjuvant hepatic arterial infusion \(HAI\) with floxuridine \(FUDR\) and dexamethasone plus systemic oxaliplatin, 5-fluorouracil and leucovorin in patients with resected liver metastases from colorectal cancer. Annals of Oncology. 2009 Jul; 20\(7\): 1236-41.](#)

[Kemeny NE, Gonen M. Hepatic arterial infusion after liver resection. New England Journal of Medicine. 2005 Feb; 352\(7\): 734-5.](#)

[Jarnagin WR, Schwartz LH, Gultekin DH, et al. Regional chemotherapy for unresectable primary liver cancer: results of a phase II clinical trial and assessment of DCE-MRI as a biomarker of survival. Annals of Oncology. 2009 Sep; 20\(9\): 1589-95.](#)

[Power DG, Healey-Bird BR, Kemeny NE. Regional chemotherapy for liver-limited metastatic colorectal cancer. Clinical Colorectal Cancer. 2008 Jul; 7\(4\): 247-59.](#)

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