

## **LIVER UNIT VISION**

The vision of the University of Calgary Liver Unit is to be the premier liver unit in Canada, and to be recognized internationally for excellence in patient care and research.

## **Calgary Liver Unit Research Team Mission Statement**

To advance the understanding and management of liver disease by conducting research and providing interdisciplinary care in Southern Alberta.



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For more information regarding **research**, contact the Research Manager, Pam Crotty  
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**UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY  
LIVER UNIT**



**INFORMATION  
REGARDING RESEARCH  
PARTICIPATION**

## Overview

The Liver Unit is made up of hepatologists (Doctors specializing in liver diseases) and researchers who are committed to excellence in patient care and performing high quality research that could someday be useful in the clinic. This group of hepatologists have created a large and well-developed General Hepatology Clinic that examines the areas of viral hepatitis, fatty liver disease, primary sclerosing cholangitis, liver transplantation and liver cancer. The Liver Unit serves a referral base of over 2 million people. It is a well-organized clinic with a streamlined approach to the care of patients with various forms of liver disease. This allows the Hepatology Group to attract a large number of clinical trials to Calgary, thereby providing our patients with the latest and most advanced therapeutic options for the treatment of liver disease.



The University of Calgary Liver Unit conducts research in both clinical trials and investigator-initiated projects.

Clinical trials are sponsored by drug companies and are used to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of investigational medications for treatment of various diseases. Investigational medications are those that are still in the testing phases and not yet approved for use. Current sponsored clinical trials with the Liver Unit include those involving patients with hepatitis B and C, liver cancer, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, and autoimmune liver diseases. All research visits occur in the Heritage Medical Research Clinic at the Foothills Hospital site.

Investigator-initiated projects are developed and conducted locally by individual doctors at the Liver Unit and are useful for the advancement of understanding a disease and its outcome. These projects examine the general characteristics and trends of various liver diseases, and may include collection of biological samples and health information.

## Eligibility

There are certain criteria that must be met in order for you to be eligible to participate in research, and not everyone will fit. This means that even though you are referred by your doctor to participate in research, you may not be able to participate in a certain project.

If your doctor informs you about a research project and you are interested, your information will be given to a study coordinator to determine if you may fit a certain project. If you are found to possibly fit a project, you will be contacted by the study coordinator to explain the trial, obtain consent and possibly undergo further testing to confirm eligibility. **You are not automatically guaranteed a spot in a clinical trial. If it is determined that you do not fit a certain project, you will not be contacted.** Please ensure that you maintain regular clinic follow up as directed by your doctor.

The logo for the Calgary Liver Unit features a stylized, flowing shape in shades of red and yellow, resembling a flame or a ribbon. The text 'Calgary Liver Unit' is centered within this shape.

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