

# **COMPREHENSIVE ALS CARE**

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), often referred to as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a rapidly progressive neuro-degenerative disease that affects the nerve cells responsible for controlling voluntary muscles. Symptoms of early detection of ALS may include muscle twitching (fasciculations), stiffness, slurred speech, and swallowing difficulties. The ALS clinic is a model which offers a comprehensive care team who work together to diagnosis and treat patients with ALS. We provide the highest level of care of our multispecialty support from the time of diagnosis to the end stages of the disease.

Our multidisciplinary ALS team of providers includes a Neurologist, Respiratory Therapist, Pulmonologist, Physical Therapist, Palliative Medicine, Occupational Therapist, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Speech Therapist, Registered Dietician, Social Worker, and an ALS Association Representative.

We provide care for patients all over the region. We have two ALS clinics - one at the Kaiser Permanente Steele Street location in Tacoma that meets the first Wednesday of the month, and a clinic at Kaiser Permanente Capitol Hill location that meets on the fourth Thursday of every month. We see 4-5 patients at every clinic. Patients arrive at 12:30pm, and the clinic runs from 1:00-4:30pm, where the patient and the family stay in one exam room while the providers come to the patient. Our primary goal is to manage the ALS patient's symptoms and preserve function and quality of life.

## **What Our Patients Say About Us**

"I was amazed at how much information was available in an afternoon with the ALS multidisciplinary approach. This clinic has helped me be the best I can be. I love the ALS clinic."

"The clinic is timely and the staff is courteous and answers all my questions.

ALS clinic provides beneficial suggestions as my condition progresses."

"The ALS clinic team are all very knowledgeable and caring. I feel I can call anytime and get a timely response. I enjoy coming to the clinic and seeing all the doctors in one visit. The ALS clinic is wonderful."



Neurologist - Dr. Edward Tay, Service Line Medical Director ALS Coordinator- Luci Wilcox, RN

### **Our Seattle ALS Team**

Neurologist - Dr. Edward Tay
Pulmonologists – Dr. Kullatham
Kongpakpaisarn
Respiratory Therapist – Sally Estep
Registered Dietician - Matt Grunewald
Speech Therapist - Sarah Kaplan
Physical Medicine Rehab – Dr. David Kim
Physical Therapist - Brian Gaynor
Occupational Therapist –-Lea Fang
Palliative Medicine - Dr. Ali Mendelson
Sound South Care Services Coordinator at ALS
Association Evergreen Chapter - Caryn Wise

### Our Tacoma ALS Team

Neurologist- Dr. Edward Tay
Pulmonologist- Dr. Peter Chuang
Respiratory Therapist- Patricia Fiske
Registered Dietician - Vladi Ivanova
Speech Therapist - Sarah Herron
Physical Medicine Rehab - Dr. Steve Litsky
Physical Therapy- Sharon Ebelt
Occupational Therapist- Jacqueline Muir
Palliative Medicine – Dr. Ali Mendelson
Sound South Care Services Coordinator at ALS
Association Evergreen Chapter - Caryn Wise

#### **CONTACT US**

For more information about our ALS services, please contact Luci Wilcox, RN, at 253-212-4182