

Paul Morris, M.D.

Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeon
MD Anderson Cancer Network® Certified Member, Medical Director at Queen's Medical Center
Honolulu, Hawaii



Paul Morris, M.D.

Imitation is the greatest form of flattery

Paul Morris, M.D., touts his decision to participate in MD Anderson Cancer Center's Graduate Medical Education fellowship program as the second-best decision of his life. His all-time life's best decision was to propose and marry Cathy, his wife of 31 years.

Paul and Cathy moved to Honolulu, Hawaii to be closer to Cathy's family while raising their two children. From the beginning, Dr. Morris had but one focus for his thoracic and cardiovascular surgical oncology practice. He wanted to shape the cancer program at Queen's Medical Center in Honolulu in the image and likeness of MD Anderson Cancer Center in

Houston. He knew that doing so would support the mission of Queen's Medical Center – where Paul has practiced medicine for almost 30 years – of providing quality care with cultural competency for the Native Hawaiian and multi-ethnic communities of the state.

Dr. Morris has always been a pioneer. Born into a family of educators, his passion for science eclipsed his desire to become a high school or college teacher. He also has the distinction of being the first fellow to be admitted to the MD Anderson Graduate Medical Education Thoracic and Cardiovascular Fellowship program when it began in 1992. MD Anderson was first in the country to offer a program for those interested in specialization in non-cardiac thoracic surgery. And although he was one of the first in his family to not become a career educator, he became a life-long student wanting to ensure the people he serves have the advantages of the latest cancer treatment practices. In addition, Dr. Morris has received teaching awards from the medical students and surgery residents at Queen's Medical Center.

In 2015, Dr. Morris' efforts to bring MD Anderson level cancer treatment to Hawaii intensified when Queen's Medical Center became a certified member of [MD Anderson Cancer Network®](#). MD Anderson Cancer Network® is a program of MD Anderson Cancer Center which helps advance MD Anderson's mission of working with hospitals, health systems and institutions across the world to end cancer.

As medical director of the MD Anderson Cancer Network® affiliation at Queen's Medical Center, Dr. Morris serves as liaison between MD Anderson in Houston and the medical staff at Queen's. He breaks down the benefits of being a part of MD Anderson Cancer Network® into two buckets: The first bucket of benefits relates to clinical delivery of quality care. Queens Medical Center staff in Honolulu use best-practice clinical pathways, guidelines and models developed at MD Anderson. The second bucket is patient access to MD Anderson clinical trials and research.

Dr. Morris says the physicians he works with love being able to obtain timely second opinions from MD Anderson faculty in Houston. MD Anderson faculty review scans and documents provided by the Honolulu physicians and provide feedback regarding treatment options. Honolulu physicians also can

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participate in live-streamed tumor boards originating from MD Anderson in Houston. The MD Anderson faculty also participate in Breast Cancer and GI tumor boards hosted at Queen’s Medical Center.

As powerful as it is to have the knowledge and strength of MD Anderson Cancer Network® supporting you, Dr. Morris believes the personal bond created with his patients is priceless. The opportunity to shepherd the patient through the cancer treatment journey is rewarding. You grieve for those who do not overcome their cancer, yet the appreciation and elation felt from those patients who respond to treatment is indescribable.

When Dr. Morris left Houston to begin his medical practice in Honolulu, he wanted to bring the foundation of good cancer care from MD Anderson in Houston and build a like program in Honolulu. Many people are living happy, healthy, productive lives today because one man, who grew up in New York City and made his way to Honolulu, Hawaii by way of Texas, wanted to ensure those he served had the advantage of the knowledge and expertise of the leading provider of cancer care in the world – MD Anderson Cancer Center.

A Quick Q&A with Dr. Paul Morris

<i>MD Anderson School(s) from which I graduated</i>	MD Anderson Cancer Center Graduate Medical Education Program 1994
<i>Focus</i>	Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery
<i>Graduation Year</i>	1994
<i>Current Employer</i>	The Queen's Medical Center Queen's Cancer Center
<i>Current City</i>	Honolulu, Hawaii
<i>Professional Credentials</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• American Board of Surgery• American Board of Thoracic Surgery
<i>Current Position</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery• Associate Professor of Surgery, University of Hawaii• Adjunct Full Clinical Professor, University of Hawaii Cancer Center• MD Anderson Cancer Network® Certified Member Medical Director
<i>Academic area of specialization</i>	Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery
<i>Who are your mentors?</i>	I’ve had several mentors through the years, most of which I met while studying at MD Anderson. Drs. Reza Mehran, Jack Roth, Garrett Walsh, and Frank Fossella have had an impact on my career and my current

	<p>practice that is difficult to describe in a few words. I believe I received the world’s best education from MD Anderson and the educational process has never stopped. I am a phone call away from a collaborative discussion with any of these mentors or any other MD Anderson expert about the best treatment approach for difficult diagnoses, which is what we did during my MD Anderson fellowship many years ago. Being able to connect with experts at MD Anderson makes me a better clinician and gives my patients personalized treatment options for maximizing their outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reza J. Mehran, CD, MDCM, MSc, FRCSC, FACS, is a professor, Department of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Division of Surgery, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX. He is also Medical Co-Director - Thoracic Surgery & Thoracic Medical Oncology Outpatient Clinic, Department of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Division of Surgery, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas. • Jack A. Roth, M.D., F.A.C.S., is a professor in the Department of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Division of Surgery, at MD Anderson Cancer Center. • Garret L. Walsh, M.D., is a professor in the Department of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Division of Surgery, at MD Anderson Cancer Center. • Frank V. Fossella, M.D., is a professor in the Department of Thoracic-Head & Neck Med Oncology, Division of Cancer Medicine, at MD Anderson Cancer Center
<p>Works of interest</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes of Anatomic Lung Resection for Cancer Are Better When Performed by Cardiothoracic Surgeons – 2021 • BAP1 regulates IP3R3-mediated Ca 2+ flux to mitochondria suppressing cell transformation – 2017 • Assessing the Development of Multidisciplinary Care: Experience of the National Cancer Institute Community Cancer Centers Program – 2015 • Cancer patient perceptions about biobanking and preferred timing of consent – 2014 • Malignant mesothelioma: facts, myths, and hypotheses – 2012
<p>Grants Awarded & Completed</p>	<p>Grants Awarded & Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal Investigator, National Cancer Institute Grant, Community Cancer Center Program (NCCCP) Minority and Underserved, Institutional Grant to The Queen’s Medical Center – 2010-2014 • NCI Grant UM1 Multi-Component Research Project Cooperative Agreement. Project #: 5UG1CA189804-03. National Cancer Institute Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP), Institutional grant. Co-PI for Cancer Care Delivery Research, 2014-2019

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<i>Family</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Married with 2 children
<i>Graduate school(s) from which I received a degree(s).</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MD Anderson Cancer Center – 1994 Graduate Medical Education Program – Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery Houston, Texas• The Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai – 1992 MD Degree Program in General Surgery New York, New York• Georgetown University School of Medicine– 1987 Doctor of Medicine (MD) Washington D.C.
<i>Undergraduate school(s) from which I received a degree(s)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fordham University – 1983 New York City, New York Bachelor of Science – Biology
<i>High school from which I received a degree.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monsignor Farrell High School – 1979 Staten Island, New York

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