

## Tiers of Service: Tiers Overview

Note: Changes to these tiers are anticipated in 2025, based on [provincial Tiers of Service](#) work to integrate tiers across all hospital-based clinical services, including cancer-specific care.

T1 is included in the table below to show the continuum of services between T1 and T6, as well as the relationship between Primary Care Homes and Specialized Care Programs. T1 is not included in subsequent tables within this module because T1 is considered to be a “supportive service” for patients with cancer but it is not a “cancer-specific” service.

	Prevention and Primary Care Service	Focused Outpatient Systemic Therapy Service	General Outpatient Medical Oncology Service	Comprehensive Outpatient Medical Oncology Service	Regional Subspecialty Outpatient Medical Oncology Service	Provincial Subspecialty Outpatient Medical Oncology Service
	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6
<b>Service Reach</b>	Local Health Area <sup>14</sup> .	Local Health Areas <sup>14</sup> .	Multiple Health Service Delivery Areas <sup>14</sup> .	Regional Health Authority <sup>14</sup> .	Same as T4.	Province.
<b>Service Description</b>	Provides coordinated, comprehensive and quality cancer care services for adults with a cancer diagnosis to stay healthy, get better, live with cancer and cope with end of life. Includes providing first contact access for each new need and long-term comprehensive coordinated care for most health needs and when it must be sought elsewhere <sup>15</sup> .	Oversight / care is provided by T3-6.  Upon request from T3-6 Clinical Practitioner in Oncology <sup>i</sup> / Medical Oncology Specialist, <b>provides systemic therapy to patients on a case-by-case basis</b> to facilitate care closer to home.  Oncology Clinic staffing includes an onsite <b>chemotherapy - certified Registered Nurse</b> when providing systemic therapy.  Capacity to administer <b>low</b> complexity systemic therapy for <b>low</b> medically complex	<b>Oversight provided by a Clinical Practitioner in Oncology</b> under the direction and support of T4-6 Medical Oncology Specialist.  Clinical Practitioner in Oncology writes orders, monitors and manages care as per the established treatment plan.  Capacity to administer <b>low to moderate</b> complexity systemic therapy for <b>low to moderate</b> medically complex patients. Where appropriate and closer to home, makes arrangements for patients to receive	<b>Specialized interdisciplinary team includes a Medical Oncology Specialist</b> and provides the full range of medical oncology services.  Medical Oncology Specialist develops the treatment plan and prescribes systemic therapy.  Capacity to administer <b>low to relatively common, high</b> complexity systemic therapy for <b>low to high</b> medically complex patients.  Facilitates care closer to home by referring	Same as T4 Plus:  Specialized interdisciplinary team includes a Medical Oncology Specialist <b>assigned to specific tumour sites</b> and provides the full range of medical oncology services.  Provides <b>concurrent</b> outpatient medical oncology services <b>and</b> radiation oncology services Facilitates care closer to home by referring patients to T2-4.	Same as T5 Plus:  Provides outpatient medical oncology services for patients with <b>rare and highly specialized cancers</b> (e.g. gynaecologic malignancies, sarcomas).  Capacity to administer <b>new</b> and / or <b>uncommon, low to high</b> complexity systemic therapy for <b>low to high</b> medically complex patients.
<b>Service Description Continued...</b>						

<sup>i</sup> Formerly known as General Practitioner in Oncology.

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	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6
		patients.	some / all of their systemic therapy at T2.	patients to T2-3.		
<b>Service Setting</b>	Community settings (e.g. family physician offices, walk-in clinics, dental offices, pharmacies, etc.).	Oncology clinic located in / adjacent to a <b>community health centre</b> or <b>small community health care facility</b> <sup>16</sup> .	Oncology clinic located in / adjacent to a small community health care facility or <b>health care facility with limited specialty services</b> <sup>16</sup> .	Oncology clinic located in / adjacent to a <b>health care facility with limited specialty services</b> <sup>16</sup> .	Oncology clinic located in a <b>regional cancer centre</b> and adjacent to a <b>regional health care facility</b> <sup>16</sup> .	Oncology clinic located in a <b>recognized regional cancer centre for rare and / or highly specialized cancers</b> and adjacent to a regional health care facility <sup>16</sup> .