Hello, I'm Francine Foss. I'm a professor of medicine in hematology and oncology here at the Yale Cancer Center. I specialize in stem cell transplantation and the treatment of lymphomas. In particular, I'm the director of the T Cell lymphoma group here at Yale. I've been doing T cell lymphoma for a very long time. I started back at the National Cancer Institute where I was running their program and then I segued into studying some of the novel biologic therapies.
And how they apply to T cell lymphoma.

We actually have a team of folks here that work with us in our clinic, in the lymphoma clinic, in particular for T cell lymphoma we have a nurse practitioner. We have several practice nurses and we have nurses that are specializing in the skin care for patients with cutaneous lymphoma. We also have social workers, dieticians and other folks that collaborate with our patients and in hope that we actually can optimize care for the whole patient.

For the whole person,
not just for their disease.

T cell lymphomas are rare lymphomas. They’re about 10% of all lymphomas in the United States and their treatment of T cell lymphoma has really undergone evolution based on some of the newer research.

Typically we would give patients chemotherapy, but what we’ve learned is that if we add some of these newer biological therapies and targeted agents, patients are actually doing a lot better, so our treatments now are tailored toward identifying specific.
Factors in the tumor, such as expression of different proteins or pathways that might direct us to use specific drugs as opposed to general chemotherapy.

We are doing a lot of research here at the Yale Cancer Center in T cell lymphoma, and that’s multifaceted, including a number of different departments. Here at the medical school, we’re looking at novel ways of imaging using different types of PET scanning. For instance, we’re also collaborating with our colleagues in pharmacology and in the basic science departments.
To develop new therapies, one of the things that I’m interested in are key McKean directed therapies, and in particular a new car T cell therapy that we are now developing.