Ruby Cancer Widespread, Drugs Called Only Hope

DALLAS, Dec. 13 (AP) — Jack Ruby's only chance to survive the cancer spreading through his body lies in treatment by drugs, a doctor said today.

Dr. Jack Barnett said Ruby cannot be cured by surgery because his cancer is already too widespread. The disclosure considerably darkened Ruby's chances for recovery.

Barnett also said at a news conference that another tumor has been found in Ruby, this one in the Pleura, the lining between the chest and the lung. He said it is the same malignant kind found in a lymph node in Ruby's neck Saturday.

Barnett is associate professor of internal medicine at Southwestern Medical School, adjacent to the Parkland Hospital, where Ruby was transferred from his jail cell Friday.

Ruby, 53-year-old former strip joint operator, was awaiting a second trial for his slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald when he was hospitalized. The Warren Commission named Oswald as the assassin of President Kennedy in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963. Ruby shot Oswald to death two days later in the City Hall basement as Oswald was being transferred to the county jail.

A Dallas jury sentenced Ruby to death, but a State Appellate Court reversed the conviction.