



# ONCC News

The Newsletter of the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation

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## Twenty Years of Success (and Counting)

**Heather Thompson Mackey, RN, MSN, APRN, BC, AOCN®**

What an exciting time for ONCC and oncology certified nurses everywhere! 2006 marks the 20th anniversary of oncology certification, and the *ONCC News* Editorial Board is honored to share some of the accomplishments made throughout the years. For this issue, *ONCC News* sat down with Cynthia Miller Murphy, MSN, RN, CAE, ONCC executive director, to learn more about the successes and challenges faced by ONCC in the past two decades.

Pearl Moore, RN, MN, FAAN, chief executive officer of ONCC, as well as the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), the ONS Foundation, and ONS Edge, was the first executive director of ONCC. Under Moore's leadership, ONCC was established as an organization and began administering the OCN® examination. Murphy joined ONCC having previously served as the director of education for ONS.

(See "ONCC," page 4)

## ONCC to Host Events at Congress

If you attend the Oncology Nursing Society 31st Annual Congress in Boston, MA, be sure to stop by ONCC's Certification Oasis in the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center.

The Oasis will provide a relaxing spot for certified and soon-to-be-certified nurses to escape the rush of Congress activity and enjoy a few moments of relaxation. Certified nurses will enjoy brief chair massages and light refreshments, and not-yet-certified nurses will find answers to their questions about certification. The Oasis also will be the location for ONCC's anniversary prize giveaway, marking 20 years of certification testing. Certified nurses may enter to win one of 20 prizes, including an iPod® (Apple Computer, Inc., Cupertino, CA), a digital camera, a picnic basket for two, a variety of relaxing spa products, and more. The Oasis is supported by Thomson Promet-

ric, the Catevo Group, and Brigham and Women's Hospital.

On Friday, May 5, a thousand oncology certified nurses will gather for ONCC's



**Bobbie Staten, RN, MPH, CSP**

Recognition Breakfast for Oncology Certified Nurses. Awards will be presented to the 2006 OCN® of the Year, Advanced Oncology Certified Nurse of the Year, and to the recipient of ONCC's Employer Recognition

Award. ONCC also will commemorate its 20th anniversary of certification testing by presenting a slideshow of highlights from the past two decades. Bobbie Staten, RN, MPH, CSP, a nationally recognized humorist, will present "Batteries Not Included," a motivational presentation guaranteed to give you the jumpstart you've been missing.

## ONCC Board Seeks Nominees

ONCC is calling for nominations for two positions on the ONCC Board of Directors that will be open for election in November 2006. One is open to nurses who hold OCN® certification, and one is open to nurses who hold AOCN®, AOCNP, or AOCNS certification. Each three-year term of office will begin June 1, 2007. Nomination packets are

due July 21, 2006, and may be obtained at [www.oncc.org](http://www.oncc.org) or by contacting ONCC at 877-769-6622 (toll free in the United States and Canada) or [oncc@ons.org](mailto:oncc@ons.org). A slate of candidates will be determined in late summer or early fall 2006, and electronic voting will open in November 2006 to all nurses who are currently ONCC certified.

## OCN®, CPON®, AOCNP, and AOCNS Test Dates and Deadlines

Test Date(s) (excluding Sundays)	First Application Deadline (Save \$75!)	Final Application Deadline (Full Fee)
October 16-28, 2006	July 12, 2006	July 26, 2006

Apply online or learn more at [www.oncc.org](http://www.oncc.org).

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## Editor's Message

# Small Steps Can Lead to Big Rewards

**Susan Newton, RN, MS, AOCN®,  
AOCNS**



This is my last issue as editor of *ONCC News*. I have been part of the Editorial Board for the past six years. It has been a wonderful opportunity for growth, and I have worked with peers who are also passionate about oncology nursing certification. In addition, I have learned about the workings of ONCC, which is a top-notch certification corporation.

When I started on the Editorial Board, writing was fairly new to me. I did not have the confidence to submit a full manuscript to a

journal but wanted to start small and contribute to the oncology nursing literature in some way. Since that time, I have been a mentee in the *American Journal of Nursing* writing mentorship program, served as a mentor in the *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing* Mentor/Fellow Program, published articles in journals, published a book through the Oncology Nursing Society, and started work on a second book to be published through Elsevier. It is amazing what a person can accomplish by taking small steps one at a time.

You have an opportunity right now to contribute in the same way. If you have a passion for oncology certification and want to publish as well as communicate with other oncology certified nurses, then consider applying to be part of the *ONCC News* Editorial Board. Heather Thompson

Mackey, RN, MSN, APRN, BC, AOCN®, will take over as chair and will be a wonderful mentor for the person who fills the vacant position on the board.

Those eligible to be part of the Editorial Board must be certified through ONCC as an OCN®, AOCN®, AOCNS, AOCNP, or CPON® and have a desire to write. No travel is required. The Editorial Board has a quarterly conference call to discuss each issue of the newsletter, and each person writes one or two articles similar to those in this issue. If interested, please download a volunteer application from the ONCC Web site (<http://www.oncc.org/about/committees.shtml>) or contact ONCC to request an application.

All the best to each and every one of you. It has been my pleasure to serve you.

## Nurses Share Ideas About Subspecialty Certification

The winter issue of *ONCC News* asked readers, "What do you think about subspecialty certification?" The following is a sample of the responses received.

The time is NOW for subspecialty certification. I've been a bone marrow transplant (hematopoietic stem cell transplantation [HSCT]) nurse since 1975. My last certification test questions had items on urologic cancer nursing. I pulled old surgical nursing information out of my head, grateful I read journals just to keep up with current non-HSCT nursing.

Perhaps there is a different option. There is much in oncology nursing that is fieldwide, that is general oncology knowledge. Each certification test could be divided into different portions, each nurse having to pass a generalist test on cancer nursing fundamentals. A portion of the test could be devoted to subspecialty, depending on candidates' fields of practice. Candidates could declare their testing areas and take the appropriate tests.

An example would have all candidates test on teaching, assessment, and family

dynamics. A case manager could have a portion on insurance and home care, an infusion nurse on infusions and management of chemotherapy, an HSCT nurse on graft-versus-host disease and donor issues.

Yes, it would take time, money, and effort, but as it stands now, I think my certification is misleading. I have successfully taken the test, but I really don't think the test reflects my knowledge base. I do admit I had to study hard to pass the test because everything I studied for the test was new to me. I'm really glad I can use continuing education to recertify now—it is far more valuable to gain knowledge in my field than to study ovarian cancer and lung cancer, which I never encounter.

*Pat Groff, RN, BSN, OCN®  
Lynnwood, WA*

Yes, I am interested in subspecialty certification. I am a clinical nurse specialist working exclusively in breast cancer diagnosis and treatment (surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation). I would like to certify as

an oncology certified breast cancer nurse. Thanks for the opportunity to make this suggestion.

*Jane Warner, RN, MSc, N  
Kingston, Canada*

Subspecialty certification seems to me an unnecessary addition to the myriad of certifications already established. To be certified in oncology should be sufficient to show that one has gone beyond the basic requirement.

*Sandra Hamamoto, RN, OCN®  
Sun Valley, CA*

## Readers Respond

What do you think of the *ONCC News*' electronic format? Share your opinions. E-mail your response to ONCC at [oncc@ons.org](mailto:oncc@ons.org) or send it to *ONCC News*, 125 Enterprise Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15275-1214.

## Gain Institutional Support for Certification

Janie Platt, BSN, RN, OCN®

In an ever-changing healthcare system, nurses need to possess the knowledge and skills to provide safe and effective care. One way to ensure the highest level of care is through specialty certification. Certification signifies that a nurse has met predetermined specialty practice standards established by the profession (Ropka, Norback, Rosenfeld, Miller, & Nielsen, 1992).

Certification serves as an example of best practice because it provides validation of specialized knowledge and experience required for providing competent care. Moreover, when nurses prepare for certification, they have an opportunity to increase their knowledge of cancer care and current nursing practice.

With this in mind, I approached the chief nursing officer at my institution, the James Graham Brown Cancer Center/University of Louisville Hospital, to discuss ways to help oncology nurses become certified. The current budget would support certification for only a few nurses, so we brainstormed other ways to obtain funding. I partnered with the University of Louisville School of Nursing's Center for Cancer Nursing Education and Research to develop an innovative project that would reflect an interest in the institution, the James Graham Brown Cancer Center/University of Louisville Hospital, in the area of cancer nursing education, practice or research.

Approved proposals would be funded as much as \$3,000. With the assistance of Mary Beth Coty, director of nursing research, my proposal was submitted and accepted, and it received full funding. I also submitted a research proposal to the institutional review board to use the data in other venues. Additionally, the institution's Nursing and Interdisciplinary Research Committee supplemented the funding of the project, allowing 17 nurses to take the OCN® examination.

The funding also supported participant membership in the Oncology Nursing Society and provided a reference library (ref-

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erence books and materials) to aid nurses in their preparation for certification examinations.

The purpose of my proposal was to promote specialty certification for oncology nurses by providing funding for the cost of initial certification. One of the reasons that nurses cite most frequently for not being certified is the cost of the test. The goal of the project was to remove the barrier, thereby increasing the number of nurses certified in oncology nursing.

To make the process fun, I arranged an "application dinner," which served as an informal way to help nurses complete the application forms. Nurses also were encouraged to form study groups and attend oncology educational opportunities available in the facility, such as oncology nursing grand rounds, a hematology conference, a medical oncology multimodality conference, and a tumor conference.

The project had four phases. Phase I included the completion of a needs assessment and a questionnaire related to nurse satisfaction and autonomy by all oncology nurses in the inpatient and outpatient areas. Phase II was selection of participants for testing and preparation for the certification examination. Phase III included the completion of a second questionnaire related to nurse satisfaction and autonomy by the same participants. Phase IV was the evaluation phase, which involved assessing the

success rate. In addition, two instruments were selected to evaluate the project: the Index of Work Satisfaction (Stamps, 1997) and the Nursing Activity Scale (Kelly, 2001). I currently am in the process of analyzing data for the study.

At the time of the proposal, 39% of oncology nurses at the hospital were certified. Of the 17 nurses who took the examination, 12 attained certification, bringing the hospital's population of certified oncology nurses to 65%. By department: 90% of nurses in the bone marrow transplant outpatient unit are certified, 70% of those in the medical oncology outpatient unit, 56% of those in the radiation oncology unit, 80% of those in clinical trials, 33% of those in the bone marrow transplant/oncology intensive care unit, and 17% of those in the new oncology unit.

The project's outcomes have been shared with the facility and community in many ways. The James Graham Brown Cancer Center/University of Louisville Hospital recognized the participants by providing OCN® pins to all certified nurses, and a large plaque is displayed in the newly renovated first-floor lobby of the cancer center, listing the names of all certified oncology nurses. I believe that nurses who are OCN® certified are recognized throughout the institution. Patients are becoming familiar with the importance of the OCN® credential and feel reassured when the nurses caring for them are certified.

### References

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## ONCC

(Continued from page 1)

She has guided the organization through the expansion of certification options from the first 1,607 nurses who took the OCN® examination in 1986 to more than 23,000 nurses who currently hold OCN®, AOCN®, CPON®, AOCNS, or AOCNP certification. Under their direction, ONCC has worked hard to “meet the needs of nurses while maintaining high standards and providing defensible, sound examinations.”

Murphy believes that one of the most significant accomplishments of ONCC is its accreditation by the American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS) and the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). ABNS is specific to nursing specialty certification, whereas NCCA accredits programs in a wide variety of professions. The dual accreditation represents some

of the highest voluntary certification standards among organizations in the United States. Murphy believes that, as ONCC has grown, it has tried “to improve upon customer service and increase the worth of certification.” By offering services such as the Oncology Nursing Certification Points Renewal Option, ONCC recognizes the challenges and stressors of retesting every four years and values oncology nurses’ pursuit of professional development.

Other accomplishments for ONCC include the transition to computer-based testing and ongoing research to ensure that all of the certification examinations are current and reflective of practice. The development of role-specific certification examinations for oncology clinical nurse specialists and oncology nurse practitioners demonstrates ONCC’s commitment to basing content of examinations on empirical data that are reflective of practice. Murphy believes that the acquisition of the pediatric examination and the fostering of

a good collaborative relationship with Association of Pediatric Oncology Nurses have been much needed for the growth of the organization.

One particular challenge that ONCC faces is keeping certification fees low while meeting the rising costs of developing and administering sound examinations. More than 75% of the expenses incurred by ONCC are comprised of primary administration, test development, and administration fees.

In 1986, in addition to Moore, who also

served as the executive director of ONS and the ONS Foundation, ONCC was staffed by a part-time secretary. Fast forward 10 years to 1996, when ONCC had two additional full-time employees and a clerk, with ONS providing marketing services to ONCC. Another 10 years later in 2006,

ONCC has a staff of nine, including eight full-time employees. ONCC still relies on ONS for assistance with human resources and meeting services.

Where is ONCC headed? Murphy believes that better employer support for and recognition of certification is needed. ONCC continues to advocate for such support and for other motivators to encourage nurses to become and remain certified. ONCC also is reviewing the concept of subspecialty examinations for oncology nurses to determine whether a need and a desire exist for it among nurses and employers.

It is an exciting time for ONCC, one that we all are proud to be part of!

Learn more about ONCC’s “20 Years of Making a Difference” throughout the year in *ONCC News* and during the presentation of historical highlights at the Recognition Breakfast for Oncology Certified Nurses at the ONS 31st Annual Congress in Boston, MA, on May 5, 2006.

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## York Wins 2006 Election

Darla York, RN, BSN, CPON®, was elected to the ONCC Board of Directors in the 2006 election. York is employed at Kosair Children’s Hospital in Louisville, KY. Her three-year term on the Board will begin June 1, 2006.

In the 2006 election, 2,766 ballots were cast (12.5% of eligible voters). This represents a 48% increase in voter returns over the 2005 election.

## GI Bill Pays Testing Costs

Through a licensing and certification benefit, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will pay for a test for a license or certification for eligible veterans, their spouses, or their children. The ONCC certification examinations recently were approved for this benefit. The benefit covers the cost of the test but not other fees associated with obtaining certification. In addition, an individual’s total months of entitlement to VA education benefits will be reduced each time the benefit is used for certification. For more information, visit [www.gibill.va.gov/GI\\_Bill\\_Infobenefits.htm](http://www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Infobenefits.htm) or call 888-442-4551.

## Promote Your Review Course

As a service to certification candidates, ONCC publishes a list of certification review courses on its Web site at [www.oncc.org](http://www.oncc.org). If you (or your chapter or institution) are hosting a review course, have it listed on the site for free. To view a list of courses currently on the site, go to [www.oncc.org](http://www.oncc.org), click on “Get Certified” from the left navigation bar, and select “Review Courses” from the drop-down menu.

To list a course, send the course date(s), title, location, and contact information to [oncc@ons.org](mailto:oncc@ons.org).

## Write a Better Application: Applying for a 2007 Roberta Scofield Memorial Certification Award

**Heather Thompson Mackey, RN,  
MSN, APRN, BC, AOCN®**

The idea of applying for a certification award can be intimidating for some oncology nurses. Nurses may worry that they are not qualified because of lack of experience or accomplishments in the profession, or they may be concerned that the application process is unclear or time consuming. None of these factors is true with the Roberta Scofield Memorial Certification Award.

The award recognizes commitment to oncology nursing and certification—a quality that all oncology certified nurses exhibit every day. As many as 50 nurses are recognized annually for their dedication by receiving Scofield Awards, which include a free registration for an oncology nursing certification examination or renewal by the Oncology Nursing Certification Points Renewal Option. Applicants must complete a biographical sketch, a release form, and an essay of as many as 250 words describing their professional goals and how oncology certification will help or has helped them meet the goals.

Christine Gatlin, RN, MHA, OCN®, serves as a member of the ONCC Recognition Subcommittee and shared the following tips for nurses considering applying for a Scofield Award. To begin, applicants should know the key criteria against which the reviewers grade applicants and specifically address each of the criteria in their applications.

For example, when reviewers score an applicant's essay or goal statement, they judge how clearly a person states his or her professional goal(s) and how well oncology certification relates to the goal(s). Points are assigned, ranging from 1 (no evidence) to 5 (strong evidence), as to how well an applicant meets the criteria. Applicants also are scored on how well their essays reflect their commitments to professional development.

### Fifty Nurses Receive 2006 Scofield Awards From ONCC

Fifty nurses have been selected by ONCC to receive 2006 Roberta Scofield Memorial Certification Awards, sponsored by ONCC and Novartis Oncology. One hundred seventeen nurses applied for the award, which consists of a free registration for a 2006 certification test or renewal by the Oncology Nursing Certification Points Renewal Option. Congratulations to the following recipients.

Sharon Alfers  
Linda Ankeny  
Anita Axiak  
Jada Beisner  
Mary Ellen Bilenki  
Tami Blasi  
Kathy Burns  
Carolyn Buscemi  
Kim Calabro  
Donna Cherkasky  
Helen Cole  
Catherine Cowan  
Regina DeGennaro  
Lauren Drysdale  
Janet Edrington  
Megan Ernst  
Debra Evans

Jennifer Fournier  
Jill Friedman-Toledo  
Catherine Glennon  
Celestine Gochett  
Colette Greer-Daniel  
Martha Gunter  
Diana Halasz  
Nicole Hammond  
Anastasia Jako  
Sucila Joseph  
Mary Kaney  
Earline Kinloch  
Victoria Lyda  
Pamela Malloy  
Kim Maynard  
Rebecca Monroe  
Lucy Peterson

Scott Poticha  
Ludmila Pusey  
Janis Queen  
Patricia Reilly  
Antoinette Rowan  
Kareen Schwaderer  
Karissa Soto  
Nanci Stott  
Margaret Sturgis-Wagnerowski  
Rada Sunajac  
Frances Surgenor  
Diane Ward  
Mary Ward  
Elizabeth Yoder  
Kelly Young  
Eric Zack

Applicants for the Scofield Awards do not need to be certified but must be members of the Oncology Nursing Society or the Association of Pediatric Oncology Nurses. Applications for the 2007 Scofield Awards will be available on the ONCC Web site ([www.oncc.org](http://www.oncc.org)) in late spring 2006. Applications must be received by **August 1, 2006**.

After all of the criteria are scored, the scores are summed. Those with the highest totals are recommended to the ONCC Board of Directors for the awards. Gatlin acknowledged that the review process is subjective. "It is important to provide specific examples as to how the applicant meets the criteria." Applicants should "convince the reviewer" that they exemplify the criteria to the highest level possible, Gatlin said. For example, rather than stating, "I am dedicated to oncology nursing and certification," an applicant could state, "Through my work as an unit preceptor and instructor for my chapter's OCN® review course, I am

able to share my experiences as an oncology nurse with others new to the profession, as well as those seeking to achieve or renew certification." The more descriptive people are on their applications, the better their chances of increasing their scores.

Applications for the 2007 Roberta Scofield Memorial Certification Awards are due August 1, 2006, and those selected will be notified in fall 2006. For more information, go to [www.oncc.org](http://www.oncc.org). If you are planning to seek certification in 2007, or if you are due to renew certification, consider applying for a Roberta Scofield Memorial Certification Award. You can do it!

**Learn more about certification at [www.oncc.org](http://www.oncc.org).**

## Employer Spotlight

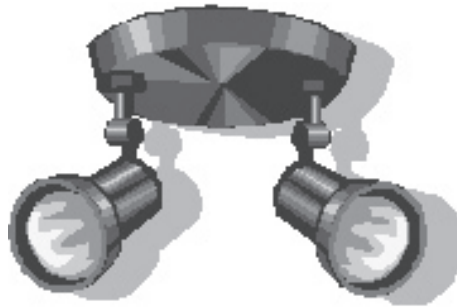
# Employers of All Sizes Support Certified Nurses

**Mark Flitcraft, RN, BSN, OCN®**

Publicly acknowledging the value of oncology nurses is not determined by the size of a patient care facility. Recognition of oncology nurses can occur in settings small and large, such as Elmbrook Cancer Center and South Carolina Oncology Associates.

Elmbrook Cancer Center is a three-physician medical oncology practice in Brookfield, WI. Deanna Dominiak, RN, OCN®, is an oncology certified nurse employed at Elmbrook and recently spoke about the recognition that the organization provides for oncology certified nurses. The facility recognizes certified nurses by providing business cards that reflect OCN® status and nurse educational preparation, paid time and travel for educational events such as the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) annual Congress, chemotherapy and biotherapy training and radiation therapy training courses, and encouragement to participate in ONS chapter activities.

Dominiak also stressed the ancillary support staff that Elmbrook provides as something that certified nurses appreciate and are able to access via nurse-directed referrals: A registered dietician, a full-time licensed clinical social worker, and spiritual care are available in the outpatient setting.



“We have a lot of resources that other facilities do not have, and we are 100% certified oncology nurses!”

Congratulations to the physician and administrative leadership at Elmbrook for recognizing the certified oncology nurses in their workplace.

### South Carolina Oncology Associates

Frances Blizzard, RN, OCN®, is the director of clinical services at South Carolina Oncology Associates, which has 19 physicians: 12 in medical oncology, 2 in gynecology, and 5 in radiation oncology. The institution employs 30 RNs: 19 full-time infusion nurses and 5 telephone triage nurses. The practice is associated with three area hospitals in the community.

As an employer, South Carolina Oncology Associates is committed to recognizing

oncology certified nurses and providing a “family-oriented” environment that has a high degree of professionalism.

At South Carolina Oncology Associates, oncology certification review courses are provided at no expense to employees, the costs associated with taking certification examinations are paid by the practice, and certified nurses receive annual bonuses of \$1,000. The practice provides chemotherapy and radiation training to nurses who are new to oncology, as well as refresher courses for nurses in the practice. Registration and travel expenses also are provided for attendance at ONS continuing education events, and the practice pays for ONS membership dues.

The caring administrative environment adapts work schedules to allow nurses to attend continuing education events without disrupting patient care needs. The administration plans monthly educational services as an additional educational benefit.

The recognition efforts appear to be successful: 11 of the 19 full-time RNs are certified in oncology nursing. Blizzard said that South Carolina Oncology Associates has a goal of 100% certification for the full-time RNs by January 1, 2007. Congratulations to South Carolina Oncology Associates for exemplary oncology nursing recognition.

## ONCC Recognizes Institutions With Certified Nurses

From October 2005 through February 2006, ONCC awarded 151 recognition plaques to oncology patient care settings where a majority (more than 50%) of professional nurses are certified in oncology. ONCC provides a plaque free of charge to any patient care setting that meets the majority requirement. Congratulations to all that received plaques.

To apply for a plaque for your institution or to update the certificate on an existing plaque, visit the ONCC Web site at [www.oncc.org](http://www.oncc.org) or contact ONCC at 877-769-ONCC (toll free in the United States and Canada) or [oncc@ons.org](mailto:oncc@ons.org) (e-mail).

American Cancer Care in Evansville, IN  
 Anne Arundel Medical Center, Outpatient Infusion, in Annapolis, MD  
 Anne Arundel Medical Center, Radiation Oncology, in Annapolis, MD  
 Baptist Medical Center, Hederman Cancer Center Support Services, in Jackson, MS  
 Baptist Medical Center, Outpatient Infusion, in Jackson, MS  
 Baptist Medical Center, Radiation Oncology, in Jackson, MS  
 Bay Area Cancer Care Center in Marinette, WI  
 Baystate Health, C'Amour Center for Cancer Care, in Springfield, MA  
 Baystate Health Pediatric Clinic, Pediatric Infusion Center, in Springfield, MA  
 Beachwood Cleveland Clinic, Cancer Center, in Ohio  
 Berks Hematology Oncology Associates in West Reading, PA

Berkshire Hematology Oncology in Pittsfield, MA  
 Blood and Cancer Center of East Texas in Tyler  
 Blue Ridge Medical Specialists, PC, in Bristol, TN  
 Cancer Care Associates, SWMC, in Oklahoma City, OK  
 Cancer Center of Colorado Springs in Colorado  
 Cancer Center of Kansas, PA, in Salinas  
 Cancer Center of the Rockies, Nursing Department, in Ft. Collins, CO  
 Cancer Therapy and Research Center, Clinical Investigations, in San Antonio, TX  
 Capital Region Medical Center, Cancer Center, in Jefferson City, MO  
 Center for Hematology-Oncology in Boca Raton, FL  
 Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center, Richard E. Winter Cancer Treatment Center, in Ogdensburg, NY

(See “Employers,” page 7)



## Employers

*(Continued from page 6)*

Commonwealth Hematology Oncology, PC, Nursing Unit, in South Weymouth, MA  
 Community Regional Medical Center, Cancer Center, in Fresno, CA  
 Connecticut Oncology Group in Middletown  
 Cooper Cancer Institute in Stratford, NJ  
 Corning Hospital, Guthrie Cancer Center, in New York  
 Covenant Health Care, Cancer Care and Infusion Therapy, in Saginaw, MI  
 Crossville Medical Oncology in Tennessee  
 CVPH Medical Center, Fitzpatrick Cancer Center, in Plattsburgh, NY  
 Deke Slayton Cancer Center—Texas Oncology in Webster, TX  
 Delta-Sierra Hematology and Oncology in Lodi, CA  
 Denver Health Medical Center, Infusion Center, in Colorado  
 Duke Health Raleigh Hospital, Duke Hematology Oncology Clinic, in North Carolina  
 Duke University Medical Center, Radiation Oncology, in Raleigh, NC  
 Edward Wagner, MD, in Laguna Beach, CA  
 Ellis Fischel Cancer Center, Cancer Screening Services, in Columbia, MO  
 Elmbrook Memorial Hospital, Elmbrook Cancer Care Center, in Brookfield, WI  
 Enloe Cancer Center, Infusion Therapy, in Chico, CA  
 Ephrata Community Hospital, Ephrata Cancer Center, in Pennsylvania  
 Exeter Hospital Center for Cancer Care, Medical Oncology Clinic, in New Hampshire  
 Exeter Hospital Center for Cancer Care, Radiation Oncology Clinic, in New Hampshire  
 Florida Cancer Specialists in Bonita Springs  
 Forum Health, Northside Medical Center Cancer Care Center, in Youngstown, OH  
 Frankford Hospital, Radiation Oncology, in Philadelphia, PA  
 Frisbie Memorial Hospital, Center for Cancer Care, in Rochester, NH  
 Froedtert Hospital, Hematology Oncology Therapy, in Milwaukee, WI  
 Geisinger Health System—Scenery Park, Hematology/Oncology, in State College, PA  
 Georgetown University Hospital, Bone Marrow Transplant/Hematology, in Washington, DC  
 Glen Morton Medical Center in Chicago, IL  
 Goshen General Hospital, Center for Cancer Care, in Indiana  
 Goshen General Hospital, Oncology, in Indiana  
 Halifax Medical Center/Herbert D. Kerman Regional Medical Oncology Center, Clinical Trials, in Daytona Beach, FL  
 Harris Methodist HEB Hospital, Oncology Care Unit, in Bedford, TX  
 Harrison Medical Center, Radiation Oncology, in Bremerton, WA  
 Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates, Hematology/Oncology Unit, in Boston, MA  
 Hematology and Oncology Associates of Alabama, LLC, in Sylacauga  
 Hematology Oncology Associates of CNY in East Syracuse

Hematology Oncology Associates of the Treasure Coast in Port St. Lucie, FL  
 Hematology Oncology Associates of Western Suffolk, PC, in Bay Shore, NY  
 Hematology Oncology Consultants in Greenbelt, MD  
 Hendricks Regional Health Cancer Center in Avon, IN  
 H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute, Clinical Nurse Specialists, in Tampa, FL  
 Immanuel St. Joseph Hospital—Mayo Health System, Cancer Center, in Makato, MN  
 Internal Medicine Associates Oncology, Infusion Center/Oncology Hematology Clinic, in Bloomington, IN  
 James Graham Brown Cancer Center, Blood and Marrow Transplant Outpatient Program, in Louisville, KY  
 James Graham Brown Cancer Center, Clinical Trials Office, in Louisville, KY  
 James Graham Brown Cancer Center, Medical Oncology, in Louisville, KY  
 James Graham Brown Cancer Center, Radiation Oncology, in Louisville, KY  
 Johnson Memorial Hospital Cancer Care Center in Franklin, IN  
 Jupiter Medical Center—Foshay Cancer Center, Radiation Oncology, in Florida  
 Kansas City Cancer Center—North in Missouri  
 K.E.M. Specialty Nursing, Inc., in Dayton, OH  
 Lakeland Regional Cancer Center in Florida  
 Lowell General Hospital, Cancer Center, in Massachusetts  
 Marion L. Shephard Cancer Center in Washington, NC  
 Martin Memorial Health Systems, Cancer Center Resource Center, in Stuart, FL  
 Martin Memorial Health Systems, Infusion Suite, in Stuart, FL  
 Martin Memorial Health Systems, PICC Program, in Stuart, FL  
 McLeod Cancer and Blood Center in Johnson City, TN  
 Meadville Medical Center, Comprehensive Cancer Center, in Pennsylvania  
 Medical Oncology and Hematology, PC, in Brockton, MA  
 Medical Oncology, LLC, in Baton Rouge, LA  
 Mercy Medical Center, Sr. Caritas Cancer Center, in Springfield, MA  
 Michigan State University, Breslin Cancer Center, in Lansing  
 Midwest Center for Cancer and Blood in Sandwich, IL  
 Midwest Physician Group of Orland Park, Oncology/Hematology Department, in Illinois  
 Montana Cancer Specialists, Chemotherapy Treatment Center, in Missoula  
 Morristown Memorial Hospital, Valerie Center, in New Jersey  
 Multicare Health Systems TGH, Medical/Oncology Outpatient Clinic 3L, in Tacoma, WA  
 North Shore—Long Island Jewish Health System, Long Island Medical Center ACT/Hematology-Oncology in New Hyde Park, NY  
 North Shore University Hospital at Glen Cove, Don Monti Cancer Center, in New York  
 Northeast Medical Center, Northeast Oncology Associates, in Albemarle, NC

Northwest Georgia Oncology Centers in Douglasville  
 Northwestern Connecticut Oncology and Hematology Associates in Sharon  
 Northwestern Connecticut Oncology and Hematology Associates in Torrington  
 New York University Hospitals Center, Stephen D. Hassenfeld Children's Center, in New York City  
 Overton Brooks Veterans Administration Medical Center, Hematology/Oncology Clinic, in Shreveport, LA  
 Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, 7 East Hematology/Oncology, in Hershey, PA  
 Pennsylvania Oncology Hematology Associates, Chemotherapy Unit, in Philadelphia  
 Perry County Memorial Hospital, Cancer Treatment Center, in Tell City, IN  
 Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, 7A/B Oncology, in Albany, GA  
 Rex Hospital, Five East-Oncology, in Raleigh, NC  
 Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers—Parker in Colorado  
 Saint Anthony Medical Center, Center for Cancer Care, in Rockford, IL  
 Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, 8-I, in Hartford, CT  
 San Juan Oncology Associates in Farmington, NM  
 Schneider Regional Medical Center, Charlotte Kimmelman Cancer Institute, in St. Thomas, VI  
 Scotland Cancer Treatment Center in Laurinburg, NC  
 Scranton Hematology-Oncology, Martin Hyzinski, MD, in Pennsylvania  
 Southwest Oncology in Durango, CO  
 Space Coast Medical Associates, Titusville Office, in Florida  
 Sparta Cancer Treatment Center in New Jersey  
 Springfield Clinic, Hematology/Oncology, in Illinois  
 St. Francis Hospital, Cancer Center, Federal Way, WA  
 St. Joseph Medical Center, Cancer Center, in Tacoma, WA  
 St. Joseph's Healthcare, Cancer Care Center, in Clinton Township, MI  
 St. Mary's Health Center, Cancer Services, in Jefferson City, MO  
 St. Mary's Hospital, Oncology/Hematology Clinic, in Grand Junction, CO  
 St. Michaels Hospital, Medical Oncology, in Stevens Point, WI  
 Sturdy Memorial Hospital, Outpatient Oncology, in Attleboro, MA  
 Summit Medical Center, Sarah Cannon Cancer Center, Radiation Oncology, in Hermitage, TN  
 Susquehanna Health System, Susquehanna Cancer Center, in Williamsport, PA  
 Thompson Cancer Survival Center, Thompson Oncology Group, in Knoxville, TN  
 Toledo Clinic, Hematology/Oncology at Bayview Oncology Associates, in Oregon, OH  
 Toledo Clinic, Hematology/Oncology at Community Cancer Center, of Monroe in Ohio  
 Toledo Clinic, Hematology/Oncology at Hickman Cancer Center, in Adrian, MI  
 Toledo Clinic, Hematology/Oncology at Northwest Ohio Oncology Center, in Maumee

*(See "Employers," page 8)*

## Welcome New Advocates

Sixteen nurses have joined ONCC's Oncology Nursing Certification Advocates Program, bringing the total number of advocates to 471. Advocates are certified nurses who volunteer to promote the benefits of certification in their workplaces, chapters, and communities.

### Arizona

Susan Cassie, Tucson

### California

Elaine Macneilly, San Francisco

### Connecticut

Charlene Copeland, Norwich  
Kathleen Culliton, Glastonbury

### Delaware

Kristen Otlowski, Wilmington

### Florida

Ann C. Balcom, Naples

### Georgia

Rhonda Pickett, Norcross

### Massachusetts

Margaret M. Bailey, Haverhill

### Michigan

Karen Berlincourt, Petersburg

### New Jersey

Wendy Luca, Princeton

### New York

Maria Emiluth Ramos, New York City

### North Carolina

Andrea Hendrickson, Winston-Salem

### Pennsylvania

Judith A. Collings, Pittsburgh

### Tennessee

Donna Morgan, Nashville  
Cathy Ollom, Clarksville

### Washington

Della Durr, Lacey

For a complete list of advocates or to download an application to join the program, please visit the ONCC Web site and select "Support ONCC" and "Advocates Program" from the left navigation bar.

## Employers

(Continued from page 7)

United General Hospital, North Puget Oncology, in Sedro Woolley, WA

University Hospitals of Cleveland, Ireland Cancer Center Ambulatory Unit, in Ohio

University Hospitals of Cleveland, Ireland Cancer Center-Chagrin/Highlands, in Orange Village, OH

University of Chicago, Section of Hematology/Oncology, in Illinois  
University of Mississippi Medical Center, Mississippi Children's Cancer Clinic in Jackson

University of North Carolina Hospitals, Hematology/Oncology Clinic, in Chapel Hill

University Medical Center at Princeton, B-2 Oncology Unit, in New Jersey

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Cancer Center, John P. Murtha Pavilion, in Johnstown, PA

USMD Hospital at Arlington, Infusion Center, in Texas

Victory Memorial Hospital, Infusion Therapy, in Waukegan, IL

Virginia Oncology Associates in Gloucester

Warren General Hospital, Cancer Care Center, in Pennsylvania

Washington County Hospital, John R. Marsh Cancer Center, in Hagerstown, MD

Wasser Regional Cancer Center in Bourbonnais, IL

Wentworth Douglass Hospital, Seacoast Cancer Center, in Dover, NH

Western Maryland Health System, Regional Cancer Center, in Cumberland

Western Washington Oncology, Outpatient Chemotherapy Unit, in Aberdeen, WA

Western Washington Oncology, Outpatient Chemotherapy Unit, in Centralia, WA

Western Washington Oncology, Outpatient Chemotherapy Unit, in Lacey, WA

West Penn Allegheny Health System, Somerset Oncology Center, in Pennsylvania

West Penn Allegheny Oncology Network, Medical Center Clinic, in New Castle, PA

Wheeling Hospital, Schiffler Cancer Center, in West Virginia

Wilshire Oncology Medical Group in Rancho Cucamonga, CA

## Discover the Writer in You!

ONCC is looking for oncology certified nurses to fill an opening on the *ONCC News* Editorial Board. The term will be June 1, 2006, to May 31, 2007, with reappointment up to three years. Editorial Board members are responsible for writing articles for *ONCC News*, which is published quarterly.

The Editorial Board completes all work via conference calls and e-mails; no travel is required. Candidates should have an interest in writing about topics related to certification; however, previous publishing experience is not required.

Interested candidates should submit a volunteer application, which is available on the ONCC Web site at [www.oncc.org/about/volunteer.shtml](http://www.oncc.org/about/volunteer.shtml) or by contacting ONCC at 877-769-6622 (toll free) or [oncc@ons.org](mailto:oncc@ons.org) (e-mail).



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#### OCN® Test Development

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### ONCC Mission Statement

The mission of the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation is to promote and provide oncology nursing certification for the enhancement of patient care and professional practice.

The Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation was established for the development, administration, and evaluation of a program for certification in oncology nursing. Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation, 125 Enterprise Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15275-1214 (877-769-ONCC or 412-859-6104, phone; 412-859-6168, fax; [oncc@ons.org](mailto:oncc@ons.org), e-mail; [www.oncc.org](http://www.oncc.org), Web site)

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