

Joan O'Hanlon Curry Chosen as the 2007 CPON® of the Year



The Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation (ONCC) has selected Joan O'Hanlon Curry, RN, MS, CPNP, CPON®, as the 2007 CPON® of the Year. Curry won the award for her significant contributions to pediatric oncology nursing and oncology nursing service and for supporting and promoting certification in oncology nursing. She is an administrative nurse manager and pediatric nurse practitioner at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore (CHAM) in the Bronx, NY. Curry was presented with her award at the ONCC Recognition Breakfast for Certified Pediatric Oncology Nurses on October 5, 2007, in Milwaukee, WI.

According to one of her colleagues, in just two years since joining CHAM, Curry has had "a major impact on the quality of care delivered, the research infrastructure, the administrative organization of the division (which has had far reaching impact on the hospital overall), the education of nurses and nurse practitioners, and establishing standards."

Curry is noted for her many accomplishments, including the development of an ambulatory chemotherapy program in which children receive chemotherapy as outpatients via pumps in backpacks, her service as an instructor and trainer for nursing courses, and the introduction of town hall meetings where patients and families can discuss issues related to treatment and services.

The CPON® of the Year Award is supported by Novartis Oncology and is presented annually to an oncology-certified nurse. To win the award, nominees must obtain recommendations from two colleagues in the pediatric oncology profession; prepare an essay describing how he or she has promoted certification; summarize services offered that enhance pediatric oncology care and oncology nursing; and demonstrate

accomplishments in one of three areas of pediatric oncology nursing practice: clinical practice, education, or research. Recipients are presented with \$1,000 and a crystal award at the Recognition Breakfast for Certified Pediatric Oncology Nurses at the Association of Pediatric Oncology Nurses Annual Conference.

ONCC, an affiliated organization of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), administers and evaluates programs for certification in oncology nursing. For more information, visit www.oncc.org.

ONS Member Wins Prestigious Award



At a gala reception in Toronto, Canada, Lesley Degner, RN, BN, MA, PhD, a professor in the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Manitoba, was formally recognized as one of

Canada's 10 leading cancer researchers. Degner, an ONS member and past ONS Distinguished Researcher, received the National Cancer Institute of Canada's (NCIC) Diamond Jubilee Award as part of its 60th anniversary celebration. NCIC created six one-time NCIC Diamond Jubilee Awards to recognize researchers of outstanding achievement who, within the last six decades, have conducted high-impact cancer research.

Degner is one of 12 chairs in the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research in health services and nursing research in Canada. She heads the Development of Evidence-Based Nursing Practice in Cancer Care, Palliative Care, and Cancer Prevention program at the University of Manitoba. She is considered an expert in the psychosocial aspects of cancer care and symptom management.

Degner was awarded the NCIC Diamond Jubilee Award for her research into behaviors and supportive care leading to improved quality-of-life and supportive

tools for patients with cancer. She is a previous recipient of the Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology Award of Excellence for Research.

NCIC is Canada's longest-standing research organization dedicated to supporting excellent cancer research and advancing cancer control. For more information, visit www.umanitoba.ca.

The Great 100 Nurses in North Carolina Recognizes Five ONS Members

The Great 100 Nurses in North Carolina announced its 2007 award recipients, which included five ONS members. Irene Doherty-Carbone, RN, BSN, OCN®, Gail Funk, RN, OCN®, Ann Marie Lee, RN, MPH, CHES, OCN®, Kenneth Miller, RN, BSN, and Patricia Ramsey, RN, BSN, OCN®, were recognized as nurses "who demonstrate excellent nursing care to their patients and also a commitment to their vital profession." Recipients were honored at a gala held on October 6, 2007, at the Joseph S. Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, NC. For more information on the Great 100 Nurses in North Carolina, visit www.great100.org.

ONS Member Receives National Cherokee Inspired Comfort Award

Cherokee Uniforms announced 10 winners of the 2007 Cherokee Inspired Comfort Award, including ONS member Joan Delk, RN, BSN, COHN-S. Winners were selected from more than 1,000 nominations for exceptional service, sacrifice, and innovation.

"This award was created to acknowledge healthcare professionals who often sacrifice their own desires to fulfill the needs of others," said Michael Singer, president and chief executive officer of Cherokee Uniforms. "We hope the winners' stories will inspire all healthcare workers to continue giving



Joan Delk

their best. We also hope they encourage others to consider careers in this rewarding industry.”

Delk was recognized for forming a strong bond with a female patient from Sudan who was being treated for acute leukemia. Discovering the woman had no family in the United States, Delk invited the woman into her own home. In addition, Delk worked with government officials to have the patient’s brother brought to the United States to serve as a bone marrow donor for his sister.

As a grand prize winner, Delk received an all-expense-paid Caribbean cruise for two as well as a trophy, a medical wardrobe of Cherokee scrubs and Rockers footwear, and inclusion in the nationally distributed Cherokee 2008 Inspired Comfort Award calendar.

Cherokee Uniforms will be accepting nominations for the 2008 Cherokee Inspired Comfort Award beginning March 1, 2008, through May 31, 2008. For more information on the award, visit www.cherokeeuniforms.com.

New Volunteers Selected to Lead the American Cancer Society

The American Cancer Society, the nation’s largest voluntary health organization, elected 11 new officers to its volunteer 2007–2008 national board of directors during its annual meeting held in Atlanta, GA. Leading the assembly is the newly elected President Elmer E. Huerta, MD, MPH, of Washington, DC, and chairing the board will be ONS member Marion E. Morra, MA, ScD, of Milford, CT. Other officers elected were Elizabeth “Terry” T.H. Fonham, MPH, DrPH, of New Orleans, LA, president-elect; Van Velsor Wolf, JD, of Phoenix, AZ, chair-elect; George W.P. Atkins of Atlanta, GA, vice chair; Nancy S. Brakensiek, CPA(ret), of Albuquerque, NM, treasurer; Pamela K. Meyerhoffer, FAHP, ABC, of Sun Valley, AZ, secretary; Alan G. Thorson, MD, FACS, of Omaha, NE, first vice president; Edward E. Partridge, MD, of Birmingham, AL, second vice president; Richard C. Wender, MD, of Philadelphia, PA, immediate past president; and Anna Johnson-Winegar, PhD, of Middletown, MD, immediate past chair.

The American Cancer Society is dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health prob-

lem by saving lives, diminishing suffering and preventing cancer through research, education, advocacy, and service. For more information, visit www.cancer.org.

American Cancer Society Honors Outstanding Contributions to Fight Against Cancer

Six Americans whose unique talents and dedication have helped reduce the burden of cancer received prestigious awards from the American Cancer Society for their work in cancer control, volunteerism, humanitarianism, and advocacy. Each year, the Society honors individuals whose work is helping to make its mission of eliminating cancer as a major health problem a reality. In gratitude for their inspirational service to humankind, the Society’s national volunteer board of directors presented these awards to the following outstanding leaders in ceremonies during its annual meeting in Atlanta, GA.

Patricia A. Ganz, MD, and David E. Joranson, MSSW, received the Distinguished Service Award in recognition of major contributions and commitment in the field of cancer. Marguerite K. Schlag, RN, MSN, EdD, was awarded the National Volunteer Leadership Award in recognition of long and exemplary volunteer service to the society. Linda Burhansstipanov, MSPH, DrPH, received the Humanitarian Award for contributions to the health of the Native American population. Charles S. Cleeland, PhD, was awarded the Trish Greene Quality of Life Award for his focus on improving the lives for all who have been touched by cancer. Robert T. Brodell, MD, received the Ted Marrs Award in recognition of outstanding and continuous service in the area of public policy and advocacy. For more information, visit www.cancer.org.

Prostate Cancer Foundation Announces David H. Koch Nano-Medicine Gift

One of the largest-ever individual donations for prostate cancer research will unite researchers across institutions and disciplines in the field of nanotechnology. The research team, created by the Prostate Cancer Foundation (PCF), will seek to develop a novel nano-medicine that can be given via IV and delivered directly to targeted prostate tumors. The \$5 million gift by philanthropist and business leader David H. Koch was announced at the foundation’s Annual Scientific Retreat.

Although Koch has supported a wide range of medical research, prostate cancer is a topic of special interest—he is a survivor of the disease, along with his three brothers.

Koch explained why he chose PCF to be the recipient of his gift, “Nanotechnology has the potential to cure men with advanced prostate cancer without exposing them to severe side effects. The scientific team assembled for this work is the best in the business, and if it is possible for any group to be successful in the development of this therapy, it will be this one.”

Partner institutions in the collaboration include Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Weill Cornell Medical College, Brigham and Women’s Hospital at Harvard Medical School, and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Researchers include Omid Farokhzad, MD, Neil Bander, MD, Philip Kantoff, MD, and Robert Langer, ScD.

Nanotechnology is the field of research that involves materials that are extremely small—the size of atoms or molecules. It holds promise for the detection, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer. The ultimate goal of the nano-medicine project is rapid bench-to-bedside translation of the research to patients with cancer.

PCF is the world’s largest philanthropic source of support for prostate cancer research. For more information, visit www.prostatecancerfoundation.org.

Georgetown Names New Director of Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center

Georgetown University Medical Center (GUMC) and GU Hospital announced the appointment of Louis M. Weiner, MD, as director of the Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center. Weiner, who has a long and distinguished career in cancer research and patient care, is an internationally recognized medical oncologist, specializing in the treatment of gastrointestinal cancers. Weiner previously served as the chair of the Department of Medical Oncology at Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia, PA. He replaces Anatoly “Tony” Dritschilo, MD, who served as interim director of the cancer center since November 2005.

“The recruitment of Dr. Weiner marks the end of a nationwide search for a Lombardi director whose accomplishments and vision align with GUMC’s mission and goals of providing cutting-edge cancer research, education, and patient care,” said Howard Federoff, MD, PhD, executive vice president for health sciences at GUMC.

Weiner is board-certified in internal medicine and medical oncology by the American Board of Internal Medicine. He has published more than 150 scientific papers and lectures extensively on targeted therapies for cancer. Weiner is chair of the Immunology Task Force of the American Association for Cancer Research, serves on the steering committee of the National Cancer Institute Translational Research Working Group and is a standing member of the Cancer Immunopathology and Immunotherapy Study Section of the National Institutes of Health. Active in many other professional organizations, Weiner is on several journal editorial boards, including *Cancer Research* and *Clinical Cancer Research*, and also reviews manuscripts for numerous peer-reviewed medical journals.

The Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center seeks to improve the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of cancer through innovative basic and clinical research, patient care, community education and outreach, and the training of cancer specialists of the future. For more information, visit www.lombardi.georgetown.edu

West Clinic Continues Expansion Into Asian Market With Opening of Shanghai Cancer Center

West Clinic, a recognized leader in cancer care, announced the opening of West Clinic International Shanghai. The 7,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility is being opened in collaboration with Shanghai Kanglian Hospital and will provide “Western-style” comprehensive cancer care. Shanghai represents the second center opened by Memphis-based West Clinic International. West Clinic International Singapore opened in October, 2006.

Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen and Commissioner of Economic and Community Development Matt Kisber were present at the

official opening. The event coincided with the governor’s nine-day China Trade Mission, which included the opening of the Tennessee-China Development Center in Beijing.

The facility will house full-service laboratory and state-of-the-art imaging technologies, including digital x-ray, ultrasound, echocardiography, and mammography. The center will offer comprehensive oncology services and treatments, including contemporary chemotherapy, novel targeted therapies, biologic therapies, immunotherapy, and anti-angiogenic therapy as well as genetic and nutritional counseling, palliative care, and pain management. Access to the latest research and clinical trials will be available to patients through West Clinic International Shanghai’s collaboration with the Accelerated Community Oncology Research Network.

Steven Tucker, MD, FACP, will serve as medical director for West Clinic International Shanghai. According to Tucker, “The positive response from patients and families in Asia has been overwhelming. West Clinic International is privileged to offer comprehensive cancer care to such a large and expanding community of people. We are striving to work closely with and integrate into this advancing medical community.”

For additional information about West Clinic International Shanghai at Shanghai Kanglian Hospital, visit www.westclinicshanghai.com.

Francis S. Collins Receives the Presidential Medal of Freedom

President George W. Bush awarded Francis S. Collins, MD, PhD, the Presidential Medal of Freedom at a ceremony held at the White House on November 5, 2007. The nation’s highest civil award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom was established by Executive Order 11085 in 1963. The medal may be awarded by the President “to any person who

has made an especially meritorious contribution to (1) the security or national interests of the United States, or (2) world peace, or (3) cultural or other significant public or private endeavors.”



Presidential Medal of Freedom Winner Francis S. Collins, MD, PhD, and President George W. Bush

Collins was recognized for revolutionizing genetic research. Under his leadership, the Human Genome Project mapped and sequenced the full human genome and greatly expanded knowledge of human DNA.

Other recipients include Gary S. Becker, Oscar Elias Biscet, Benjamin L. Hooks, Henry J. Hyde, Brian P. Lamb, Harper Lee, and Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. For more information, visit www.whitehouse.gov.

Oncology Nutrition Connection Seeks Submissions From Oncology Nurses

The *Oncology Nutrition Connection*, a quarterly peer-reviewed publication of the Oncology Nutrition Dietetic Practice Group and the American Dietetic Association, currently is seeking submissions that provide a nursing perspective on nutrition-related issues. For more information, contact Tatyana El-Kour, MS, RD, *Oncology Nutrition Connection* newsletter editor, at tatyana.elkour@gmail.com or visit www.oncologynutrition.org.

Bravo! Job Well Done! Pat Yourself on the Back!

Have you been awarded recently for your dedication and commitment to oncology nursing? Have you been appointed to a new leadership position at your institution? Are you helping to coordinate an event that is particularly relevant to oncology nurses? If so, the *Oncology Nursing Forum (ONF)* wants to share these and other achievements with its readers.

ONF accepts news of member accomplishments for People and Events. Submissions can include a recent photo and should be less than 250 words. For more information, contact Associate Editor Diane M. Otte, RN, MS, OCN®, via e-mail at otte.diane@mayo.edu or ottedm@charter.net.

Correction

In the November 2007 issue, the name of the lead author of “Determining Female Physicians’ and Nurses’ Practices and Attitudes Toward Breast Self-Examination in Istanbul, Turkey” (pp. 1218–1221) was misspelled. The name should have appeared as Ýkbal Çavdar.