

THE SPECIALIST

EDITION HIGHLIGHTS

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Clinical Education Conference

The 5th annual conference was held at the Garden City Hotel

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Nurses Month

We celebrate our beloved oncology nurses who go above and beyond

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Conquering Cancer in Forest Hills

Another NYCBS cancer-conquering location has opened

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

My Friends,

Every May, we celebrate Oncology Nursing Month - an opportunity to recognize the paramount role nurses play in delivering steadfast care to cancer patients. As I reflect on how far we have come this past year, I feel a great sense of pride. The outstanding contributions of our nurses continuously inspire innovation and exceptional care. There is no doubt the year was full of new experiences and unique challenges.

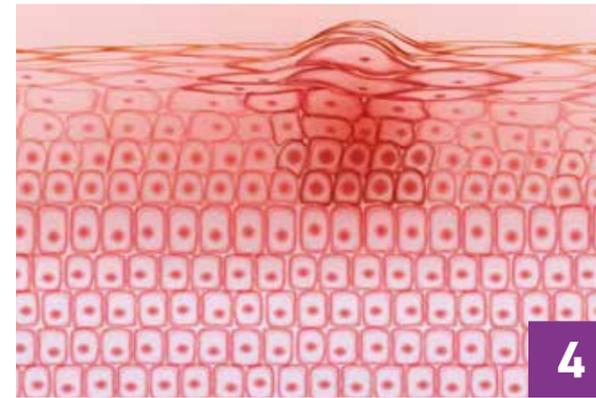
This year was one of many firsts, and we could not have been more excited to kick off Nursing Month with none other than our 6th Annual Clinical Education Conference. Our nurses had the privilege of networking and speaking with numerous sponsors, including the Executive Director of the Community Oncology Alliance (COA), Ted Okon, and The Warrior Ranch, a non-profit foundation that helps veterans struggling with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

While Memorial Day observes the soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice, it is also considered the unofficial start to summer. Summer is approaching, and it's essential to protect your skin. Inside this edition of The Specialist, our radiation oncologist, Dr. Joseph Cirrone, discusses the prevention and treatment of skin cancer.

As the weather begins to heat up, we aren't slowing down. From our ACPNY collaboration to the construction of our new cancer center in Ronkonkoma, we continue to further our mission by expanding our reach and providing patients with comprehensive cancer care closer to home.

Warm regards,

Dr. V



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Understanding The Treatment and Prevention of

SKIN CANCER

Skin cancer is an abnormal growth of skin cells caused by the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays. It is one of the many types of cancers New York Cancer & Blood Specialists (NYCBS) treat. NYCBS approaches patient care in the most comprehensive and personalized manner.

Radiation oncologist Dr. Joseph Cirrone discusses the treatment options available to patients with skin cancer. He said, "For young, healthy patients, the best treatment for skin cancer is surgery; generally, Mohs surgery. Surgery has a very low recurrence rate, good cosmetic results, and patients tolerate it very well."

Basal and squamous cell skin cancer are the two most common forms of skin cancer. They are related to sun exposure from an early age and tend to develop over time. When patients may not tolerate surgery or are too difficult or deforming, radiation therapy is an excellent option.

If close margins or poor prognostic factors present, radiation as an adjuvant may help to minimize postoperative recurrence rates. Radiation to areas of the body that are not amenable to surgery is also an option for older patients. Superficial radiation is when electron beam therapy delivers radiation

primarily to the superficial layers of the skin over three to six weeks daily. Patients have excellent control rates with radiation and experience positive cosmetic outcomes. Radiation is tolerated well but may produce redness or irritation to the area treated until it heals.

Adam Korzenko, MD, FAAD, a dermatologist in Port Jefferson, also mentioned, "melanoma, the third most common type of skin cancer, has a much greater propensity to spread. While it accounts for only about 1% of all skin cancers, melanoma is responsible for most skin cancer deaths."

A wide local excision surgical procedure can treat melanoma in its early stages. When the cancer has spread to the lymph nodes or organs, NYCBS provides treatment options, including radiation, immunotherapy, or checkpoint inhibitors.

"Prevention is vital," Dr. Cirrone reminds. "Everyone, especially those with a history of skin cancer, should use at least SPF 30 sunscreen, skin coverings, and hats for protection when exposed to the sun."

To schedule an appointment at New York Cancer & Blood Specialists, please call 1-833-CANCER9.



SKIN CANCER

There are three major types of skin cancer: basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, and melanoma. Though this abnormal growth of the skin cells most often develop on skin that is exposed to the sun, this common form of cancer can also occur on areas not ordinarily exposed to sunlight.

THE NUMBERS

5.4 MILLION

BASAL AND SQUAMOUS
CELL SKIN CANCERS ARE DIAGNOSED
EACH YEAR IN THE US

RISK FACTORS



ULTRAVIOLET (UV)
LIGHT EXPOSURE



HAVING LIGHT-COLORED SKIN/
ALBINISM

BEING OLDER



BEING MALE



EXPOSURE TO
CERTAIN CHEMICALS



RADIATION
EXPOSURE

PSORIASIS
TREATMENT



WEAKENED
IMMUNE SYSTEM



HUMAN
PAPILLOMAVIRUS
(HPV) INFECTION



SMOKING

PREVENTION TIPS



LIMIT YOUR
EXPOSURE
TO UV RAYS



CHECK
YOUR SKIN



DON'T SMOKE



AVOID WEAKENING
YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM



AVOID HARMFUL
CHEMICALS

TREATMENT



FREEZING



SURGERY



CHEMOTHERAPY



RADIATION
THERAPY

CHOOSE YOUR
SPF WISELY

30 SPF



THE 2021 NYCBS CLINICAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

New York Cancer & Blood Specialists hosted the 6th Annual 2021 Clinical Education Conference at The Garden City Hotel on May 1st. The event was a huge success and kicked off with Dr. Vacirca's virtual opening remarks. He addressed the attendees, sponsors, and clinical staff who made the event possible.

Those who attended the conference participated in educational workshops presented by a fantastic group of speakers. Nurses had the opportunity to interact with each other during a networking lunch, providing valuable insights and best practices.

The exhibit hall featured 34 representatives, including pharmaceuticals and the Mondays at Racine Foundation. The various organizations educated our staff on the latest products to improve patient care.

A video testimonial booth provided nurses with an opportunity to share their stories and why they became nurses. While the lights and camera were intimidating, our nurses faced their fears, and their genuine narratives were heartwarming and inspiring.

In one of the most memorable lectures that concluded the conference, Eileen Shanahan, Director of The Warrior Ranch, explained the ranch, founded initially to help veterans suffering from PTSD, now includes frontline workers.

After a lovely day of learning, the day's events concluded with dinner and dancing. Dr. Harry Stazewski and Chief Operating Officer/Chief Financial Officer Todd O' Conell addressed the staff to say thanks for their continuous hard work and dedication.

All proceeds from the event support the New York Cancer Foundation, which offers financial assistance grants for non-medical expenses to qualifying patients actively undergoing cancer treatment in the Greater Metro Area (within the counties of New York City, as well as Nassau & Suffolk). The Foundation strives to relieve some of the financial burden patients face to focus on their treatment and healing.





From Left to Right
Robert Nicoletti
Chief Human Resources Officer

Dawn Savarese
Chief Revenue Officer

George Calcanes
NYCBS Ambassador

Oncology

NURSES MONTH

Some heartfelt messages from our nursing administration

Michelle Bongiovanni, RN, BSN, OCN - *Assistant Director of Nursing Western Region*

"Our nurses are special because they work hard every day with the same goal in mind; to take care of their patients. They are fierce advocates, companions, and an open ear or shoulder to lean on for patients living through their cancer diagnosis. I love being a nurse because it challenges me both mentally and physically, but when I come home at the end of the day, I am proud to know that I made a difference in someone's life. Even if only for a moment.

'Your profession is not what brings home your weekly paycheck; your profession is what you're put here on earth to do, with such passion and such intensity that it becomes spiritual in calling.'

- Vincent van Gogh.





Julia Harwood, RN, BSN - VP of Clinical Operations - Director of Nursing

"Our nursing team, in general, is exceptional. What we do every day is so special, and so are our patients. Our nurses are extraordinary. They show compassion as they care for their patients throughout their treatment with a different level of empathy. Our patients may walk in as patients, but they walk out as our loved ones, every single one of them, and that is what truly makes us unique, like family. Our nurses inspire me every day. I genuinely love being a nurse. I found nursing as a mother who also wanted to have a career.

Oncology at New York Cancer & Blood Specialists inspired my nursing career. Not only in my career but as a nurse. Seeing what we do with the rapport and relationships we build inspires me to be the best nurse every day. I have the fortunate opportunity to care for our nurses who provide care to our patients, and I don't believe there's a more important job than what they do."





Alisha Summers, BSN, RN - *Assistant Director of Nursing Eastern Region*

"Our nurses are truly one of a kind. They go above and beyond to care for our patients. They make every patient feel special and like family.

As a nurse, I am proud to be a part of the work that we do here! When I work in our offices, one thing I am always proud of is how well we work together. Our teamwork is impeccable. When one nurse has a tough day, the other team members jump into action, often without asking for assistance.

Our nurses are dedicated, caring, knowledgeable advocates striving for greatness and improvement for themselves and our patients. I hope that this is something that never changes.

I decided to become a nurse because cancer hit close to home in my family, but the nurses helped my family and me turn the page and get through the tough times. Working here has allowed me to give that same care back to my patients that I once was so generously provided."





Diana Youngs, RN, MSN, ANPc - Chief Clinical Officer

"I love being a nurse because I like to see the positive impact that I can have on peoples' lives. At NYCBS, we have a group of nurses that are unique and special because they truly treat every patient that walks through the door as a family member. They have a personal investment in the success of each patient, whether the success is to finish chemo and strive for a cure or to help them on their final journey on this earth. I know that the difficult times impact them, but they keep their smiling faces on for the patients and then support each other to work through the tougher times. It's a beautiful thing to see when our nurses are there for each other during personal and professional struggles and when they are there together celebrating life's most special moments (like weddings and babies!!). I can't say it enough. We have THE BEST nursing staff! I am humbled by their dedication to the patients and each other. For nurses week, I would like to thank our nurses for their continued commitment to the profession of oncology nursing. They are second to none, and they make me proud every day!"







FUN FACT
Olive Oil
reduces bad
cholesterol
(LDL)

Olive Oil

By Wendy Kaplan, MS, RDN, CSO, CDN

A Key Component of the Mediterranean Diet

The Mediterranean dietary eating pattern centers around whole plant-based foods and emphasizes other important aspects of a healthy lifestyle including, being social, acting mindfully, and engaging in physical activity. Based on traditional foods from Greece, Italy, Spain, and other areas surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. The Mediterranean Diet focuses on consuming fruits, vegetables, whole grains, nuts and seeds, legumes, and healthy fats (like olive oil and fatty fish), and some dairy. Meat can be part of this diet, but it is viewed more as a side dish, not a meal centerpiece. Herbs and spices are a mainstay to boost flavor.

U.S. News & World Report once again rated this dietary pattern a top pick for the best diet for healthy eating. It was voted the best diet overall for 2021! In previous years it shared the number one spot with the DASH diet.

Olive oil, a monounsaturated fat, is part of the “healthy” fat group and an essential component of the Mediterranean Diet. Many of the health benefits are associated with the polyphenols and oleic acid in the oil. Extra virgin olive oil contains the most beneficial components. In some observational studies, olive oil consumption has links to a lower risk of cancer, particularly breast, prostate, and colorectal, and fewer cancer deaths. Health benefits extend to other chronic conditions such as heart disease by improving blood lipid levels, lowering blood pressure, and managing diabetes by helping to control insulin levels.

Olive oil is the main fat component of the Mediterranean Diet. It’s a very versatile oil, probably even much more than people think.

Here are some fun facts and tips for incorporating olive oil:

- You can sauté, fry, and bake with olive oil. I know you may have heard a lot of buzz about the smoke points of olive oil. However, a lot of that is misinformation. Especially with home cooking methods, it’s tough to burn olive oil or the food.
- When buying olive oil, look for the harvest date on the bottle; the more recent, the better, less chance of it nearing rancidity. FYI - the “sell by” date is meaningless, as there is no legal definition attached to it.
- When sautéing, pour a small amount of olive oil into the pan and heat over low heat. Don’t add the food until the oil is heated.
- Swap olive oil for butter in recipes. You’ll be lessening the saturated fat and adding in heart-healthy fat. A 1/2 cup of butter is equivalent to 1/4 cup + 1 Tbsp olive oil.
- Cold-pressed olive oils retain more flavor and more of the healthy compounds.
- All oils (no matter what kind) have the same amount of calories and fat per tablespoon (120 calories, 14 grams fat). When oil is labeled “light,” it means light in color.
- Marinate meats in olive oil-based marinades before grilling, reducing the carcinogens produced during the grilling process.
- Use olive oil to fry eggs instead of butter.
- Drizzle olive oil on popcorn with seasoning of choice for a healthy, fiber-filled snack.
- Use olive oil in place of butter when making garlic bread.
- Toss a little olive oil into a bean salad with herbs and spices.
- Make pesto.

The Art of Being Mindful

By Michelle Slowey, MA, RDN, CDCES

Studies have shown that the eating patterns of the Mediterranean diet closely connect to good health and a decrease in the risk of many lifestyle diseases such as heart disease, high blood pressure, obesity, and type 2 diabetes. Regular physical activity, sharing meals with family and friends, and enjoying life are vital components of the Mediterranean diet.

Being present allows you to enjoy moments in your life fully. If you are feeling stuck in any way, whether by your weight on the scale, your career, your relationships, your creative energy, or anything that has stopped you from moving forward positively, make a conscious decision to look inward for solutions.

Stress or eating out of boredom can wreak havoc on your physical and emotional state, triggering you to reach for foods high in sugar, fat, and sodium.

These foods can “soothe” the mind, increase weight, belly fat, blood pressure, blood lipids, and blood sugar levels. As a nutritionist, I frequently suggest meditation and journaling, which can help in following a healthy lifestyle. The effects of meditation are cumulative. A 10 minute guided meditation each day will score big in your inner peace department. You will begin to notice subtle changes in how you deal with everyday stressors.

Welcome positivity into your life! Do not feel guilty for allowing yourself moments of stillness. Take 20 minutes for yoga or 10 minutes for meditation. Prioritize your overall being and put self-care as a priority in your life.

Daily physical exercise can improve your physical and emotional health. Regular activity may naturally lead you to choose healthier foods at mealtimes. Looking inward with a mindful practice can move you towards a place of motivation and inner peace and help organize your thoughts and subsequently enable you to make healthy decisions.

The simple act of putting your thoughts on paper can help you to see situations in a different and more workable light. Ask yourself the tough questions such as why am I eating this? How am I feeling emotionally right now? Understanding what triggers your food choices and eating behaviors can help you move towards a more positive and healthy way of eating. When you manage the feelings that drive you towards your food choices, you will begin to see fundamental changes.

Mindful eating is all about slowing down.



Tips to get started on mindful eating:

- Sit in a relaxed environment without significant distractions.
- Teach yourself to eat slower by eating with your non-dominant hand.
- Take a look at your plate and notice the variety of colors and textures in front of you.
- Take a deep cleansing breath.
- Take small bites and chew thoroughly.
- Savor the flavor of each bite. Recognize and appreciate the flavor.
- Be aware of your hunger signals.
- Allow time for your brain to catch up to your stomach. It can take up to 20 minutes to realize you are full.
- Enjoy the process of nourishing your body.

Diets are only one piece of the healthy and happy package. If you choose to follow the eating patterns and lifestyle recommendations of the Mediterranean diet, practicing mindful eating each day will help you to enjoy your meals truly, feel satisfied and allow you to manage your weight. Strive to reach the complete package of a happy and healthy body, mind, and spirit. Namaste.

Questions Surrounding

Palliative Care Simplified



By MaryAnn Fragola, DNP, ANPc, ACHPN

What Is Palliative Care?

The World Health Organization defines palliative care as an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing the problems associated with life-threatening illness through the prevention and relief of suffering using early identification and impeccable assessment and treatment of pain and other problems, physical, psychosocial, and spiritual.

What Is At The Core Of Palliative Care?

The core of palliative care is addressing, in-depth, the physical, emotional, and spiritual suffering that a patient may experience. Palliative care is a crucial component in oncologic care, and integrating it into the care plan for patients with advanced cancer is highly recommended. Early integration of palliative care has proved to provide improved outcomes in patients with advanced cancer.

What Is The Difference Between Palliative Care And Hospice?

Palliative care is whole-person care that seeks to relieve symptoms of various diseases at any stage. It is applicable for any trajectory of the disease.

Hospice focuses on end-of-life; care for patients who likely have six months or less to live.
Essentially hospice care is always palliative, but not all palliative care is hospice care.

Yet where you are in the course of your illness makes all the difference in whether you are eligible for hospice or palliative care. To qualify for hospice, a doctor must certify that death could be expected in six months or less if the illness runs its natural course. The individual must also not be receiving curative treatment, such as chemotherapy. On the other hand, patients can use palliative care anytime during a severe illness—starting with the diagnosis—and patients can be receiving curative treatments for their disease.

Who Should Receive Palliative Care And Why?

Any person diagnosed with a chronic, severe illness or complex medical issues. The understanding that these serious illnesses often lead to physical, emotional, spiritual, and social issues.

Examples of appropriate illnesses include cancer, hematologic malignancies, end-stage chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), end-stage congestive heart failure, end-stage kidney disease, end-stage liver disease, dementia, stroke, and many others.

Palliative care can be helpful at any stage of illness and is best when provided from the point of diagnosis. Also, necessary when patients first begin treatment with chemotherapy. Although symptoms may not be present initially, we can serve as a resource should unwelcome side effects develop.

Why Is Palliative Care Important In Cancer Care?

For our patients, it is essential to remember that the effects of cancer and its treatments vary from person to person. Our palliative care team works to assess each patient's situation and works together to develop the best care plan for the patient and their family.

The focus is on having a better quality of life, less pain, less shortness of breath, less depression, and less nausea. Research has also shown that cancer patients receiving palliative care have better emotional health because their medical care aligns with their values, goals, and preferences.

It is essential to improve patients' quality of life by approaching care from a more holistic approach.

It looks at the patient as a whole person; it does not only look at the disease.

How Can Palliative Care Help?

Palliative care can control physical symptoms and side effects such as pain, shortness of breath, fatigue, anxiety, depression, sleep issues, lack of appetite, nausea, constipation, or diarrhea. It can manage emotional issues that go alongside cancer diagnosis and treatment.

- Assessing spiritual concerns
- Supporting the needs of caregivers
- Addressing concerns regarding advanced care planning.
- Assisting with an explanation of documents and filling out advanced care planning forms, i.e., MOLST forms
- Transitioning to hospice care services if and when applicable

Your palliative care team will ask what is most important to you. Maybe you would like to feel well enough to leave the hospital or move forward in your treatment. Perhaps you wish not to be hospitalized at all. Or you may have a special event that you want to be strong enough to attend. Your oncology and palliative care team together can help you try to reach those goals.

Questions Surrounding

Continued

Palliative Care Simplified

By MaryAnn Fragola, DNP ACHPN

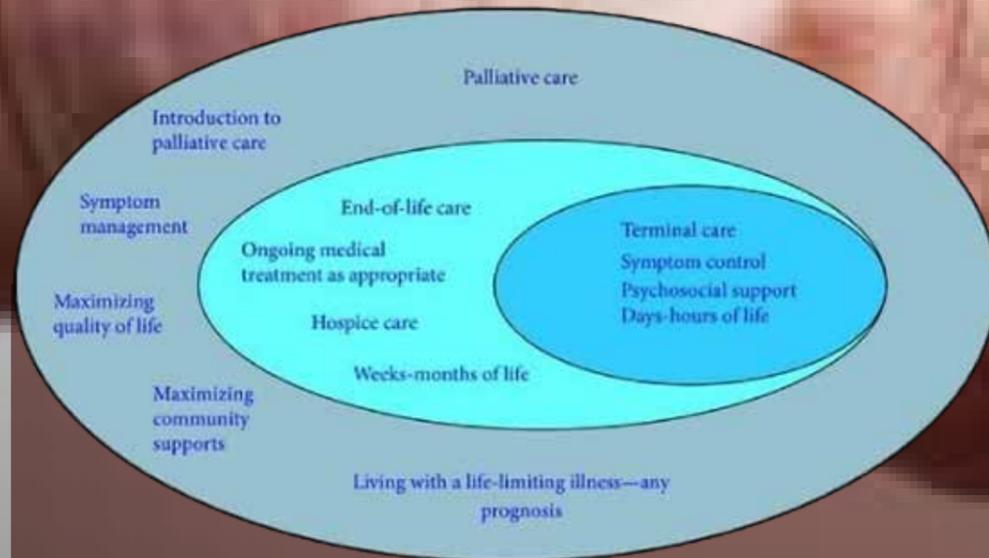
If I Agree To Palliative Care, Does That Mean I Am Giving Up?

Not at all! The goal of palliative care is to help you achieve the best possible quality of life while undergoing treatments or living with a chronic illness. PC seeks to alleviate or help you cope with symptoms you experience while undergoing aggressive treatments that aim to cure or stabilize your illness. By getting pain and distressing symptoms under control, you can focus on fighting the disease.

Who Can Be Part Of The Palliative Care Team?

The team comprises palliative care specialist doctors, advanced practice nurses, nurses and includes social workers, nutritionists, and chaplains. Its focus is not to treat or cure your disease but to ease your symptoms and any side effects of treatment.

If anyone has questions regarding palliative care services or feels someone may be eligible and unsure, please just reach out. Any of the providers would be willing to answer questions or discuss options. Also, it is important to remember that referrals can come from anyone who feels that a patient is eligible.





**NEW YORK
CANCER & BLOOD
SPECIALISTS**
Conquering Cancer Together™



mondays
at racine
changing the face of cancer one monday at a time

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN EXCLUSIVE
SPRING WELLNESS EVENT**

WHEN: SATURDAY MAY 22, 2021, 10 AM - 3 PM
WHERE: NEW YORK CANCER & BLOOD SPECIALISTS
2330 EASTCHESTER RD
EASTCHESTER, NEW YORK 10469

**THE FOLLOWING MONDAYS SERVICES
WILL BE AVAILABLE:**

- Gentle Oncology Massage
- Gentle Chair and Restorative Yoga
- Meditation
- Reiki
- Skin + Cosmetics
- Lashes + Brows
- Oncology Nutrition Info
- Wig Care + Support
- Advocacy

**All Services are complimentary (FREE)
thanks to the leadership team at NYCBS!**

**A Healthy + Delicious Lunch
Will Be Served**

PLEASE CALL 888.9MONDAY (888.966.6329)
TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

****Space is Limited****



mondays
ON THE MOVE
On Location Cancer Care Wellness Services

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Our Employee of the Month is

Stephen Pentheros, BSN, OCN, CCRC,
Clinical Research Coordinator

Stephen has been working at NYCBS since 2015, when he started as a nurse in the infusion center. He attended Suffolk County Community College as an LPN, then obtained his RN at Stony Brook University. Stephen is graduating this month from Stony Brook University with his MSN and will start with us as an NP in June.

"It's truly an honor to be a part of this company and being recognized as Employee of the Month. It makes me want to work harder."

New York Cancer & Blood Specialists

Ronkonkoma Construction

New York Cancer & Blood Specialists (NYCBS), one of the Nation's leading oncology practices, has begun construction on a new cancer care center. The building located at 501 Hawkins Ave, Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779, is expected to open in the third quarter of 2021.



The historic site, previously known as Agnew and Taylor hardware store, was a treasured institution in the Lake Ronkonkoma community for more than 100 years, first opening in 1898. The Brookhaven Town Landmark will house a NYCBS treatment center. NYCBS is excited to pick up the baton and preserve the classic piece of land, fully restoring the iconic storefront window and architecture.

“Like all of our locations, our goal is quite simple, to bring the best in cancer and blood care to our local communities,” said Jeff Vacirca, MD, CEO.

The project will consist of a new two-story, 2800- square-foot second floor and 4200- square foot first-floor building with seven exam rooms and 16 infusion chairs.

“Like all of our locations, our goal is quite simple, to bring the best in cancer and blood care to our local communities,” said Jeff Vacirca, MD, CEO.

NYCBS is looking forward to providing patients with cancer and blood disorders world-class, patient-centered affordable care in their community, close to family and friends. The practice, which has been serving Long Island for decades, currently cares for more than 30,000 patients of the nearby population. The renovation will enable NYCBS to serve the Ronkonkoma neighborhood undergoing rapid gentrification, similar to the towns of Riverhead and Patchogue, where NYCBS also has treatment centers. The result is an increase in property values, inspiring new investments and occupancy while bringing new life to the community through healthcare.

“We’re even more excited to have the opportunity to be able to provide these services in a historic building, and are so grateful to our friends in the town of Brookhaven and the Historical Society for working with us to restore this building to its historic Granger,” Vacirca said.

New York Cancer & Blood Specialists

Conquering Cancer in Forest Hills

New York Cancer & Blood Specialists (NYCBS), one of the Nation's leading oncology practices, is now providing state-of-the-art cancer care services at: 96-10 Metropolitan Ave, Forest Hills, NY 11375.

The newest location will provide cutting-edge cancer treatment, making it NYCBS's sixth location across Queens. The site encompasses numerous comprehensive support services to patients that provide a comfortable and attentive environment conducive to healing—staffed by a multidisciplinary team of experts ready to provide nutritional, emotional, financial, and psychological guidance for any patient.

“We are so pleased to open the doors of this facility to expand access to medical oncology and hematology services in Forest Hills so we can serve patients close to their home,” said Jeff Vacirca, MD, CEO of NYCBS.

Keeping cancer care close to home is a priority. As a result, NYCBS will co-locate at AdvantageCare Physicians' office in Forest Hills with their world-class, multidisciplinary team of specialists.

The cancer center is staffed by renowned, local cancer experts: Dr. David Askin, Dr. Efat Azizi, and Nurse Practitioner Eunyoung Kim. They will work under NYCBS leadership to provide the highest quality comprehensive cancer care to patients with a full complement of staffing and streamlined services.

For decades, NYCBS's highly regarded physicians and staff have provided remarkable cancer services to patients in diverse communities throughout New York. “The new location will allow us to strengthen our efforts in cancer prevention, screening, diagnosis, and treatment while increasing access to care for our patients in Queens,” Vacirca said.

To make an appointment, please call (718) 732-4049.

About New York Cancer & Blood Specialists:

New York Cancer & Blood Specialists is committed to our patients. We are dedicated to providing each patient with a unique path to treatment and unmatched support. We strive to make quality, comprehensive cancer care available to each and every patient throughout New York.

“We are so pleased to open the doors of this facility to expand access to medical oncology and hematology services in Forest Hills so we can serve patients close to their home,” said Jeff Vacirca, MD, CEO of NYCBS.

The Bulletin Board

Social Work

Jason Bleecher, LCSW, started working in the Port Jefferson Nephrology office, and Anthony Bellomo, LMSW, began working in Dr. Muratori's office, each one day a week. We are looking to grow our availability and referrals between Social Work and NY Health moving forward.

Overall, the Social Work Department saw 206 New Patients and 195 Follow Up Patients through 4/23/21

Lab Week

We are so proud to recognize our dedicated team of lab personnel for Medical Laboratory Professionals Week! Your continuous efforts inspire us each and every day!

What's New in IT

IT has been busy preparing for our medical oncology office's May 3rd grand opening at 96-10 Metropolitan Ave, 3rd floor, Forest Hills, NY 11375.

Review of The Month

The staff is very friendly and compassionate. Doctors take the time to listen to you! Highly recommend this office for care and treatment!
- Keith B (PJ 112 office)

Moving Up!

- John Spangler is moving from the Call Center to a New Patient coordinator.
- Ernesto Amorelli is moving from the Call Center to a scheduling coordinator.
- Heather Early has moved from the lab to the Implementation Team.
- Sean Horan, Research Coordinator (joined us from Billing on 4.19.2021)
- LuAnn Simmons, RN, Research Coordinator (joins us on 4.26.2021)
- Laura Brady, LPN, was promoted to Research Regulatory Manager.

Quote of The Month

"And what nursing has to do in either case, is to put the patient in the best condition for nature to act upon him" - Florence Nightingale

Upcoming Holidays & Events

June 6 - National Cancer Survivors Day

June 14 - Flag Day

June 17-24 - National Nursing Assistants Week

June 20 - Father's Day

10 Years of Service or More with NYCBS

O'DONNELL, PATRICIA 40
BAIRD, BRIDGET 27

D'ANDRAIA, PATRICIA J. 14
BOTSCH, KAREN M. 13

New Hires

April



Akib Habib (RN)
Allison Rienzo (LPN)
Amanda Andrews
 (NY Health Authorization Coordinator)
Angelica Rodriguez
 (Medical Assistant)
Angelo Wilson
 (Call Center ACP)
Barbara Gilgallon
 (Western Liaison)
Brianna Byrnes (Receptionist)
Brianna Catrini (LPN)
Brianna Pagano (RN)
Brianna Scanlon
 (Infusion LPN)
Cristie Rivers
 (Medical Technologist)
Daisy Mizhquiri (Lab MA)
Dawn Digregorio (LPN)
Dixcia Morales (Lab MA)
Ebony Blair (Medical Records)
Eley Fink (Office Manager)

Helen Khealie
 (Medical Assistant)
Jessica Marrone
 (Director of Utilization
 Review & Compliance Risk
 Management)
Joyce Podlas (Reception)
Joyann Boxill (Lab MA)
Kaitlyn Timony (LPN)
Katie Wong (Reception)
Kayla Rutigliano (Call Center)
Latoya Smith (Lab MA)
Lisa Persico (PA)
Meagan Blake (Reception)
Melanie LoVerde (MA)
Melany Pena (Floor MA)
Michelle Duff (Lab MA)
Mikhailia Edwards (Lab MA)
Patricia Torres (LPN)
Priscilla Benedetto
 (Call Center)

Saleha Shaikh
 (Regional Director)
Samantha Milla
 (PET/CT Technologist PRN)
Sophia Rosario (Infusion LPN)
Sharon Lowry
 (Medical Records)
Shikhan Mortley (MA)
Sumary Tua (MA)
Tiasia Goff (LPN/Scribe)
Tiffany Borges
 Lab (MA)
Torrisha Smith
 (Lab MA)
William Kwas
 (MRI Technologist)
Yamel Batista
 (MA - Floor)
Yanari Rodriguez
 (Receptionist)
Zamira Maragos-Zaim
 (Call Center)

Open Positions

MEDICAL ASSISTANTS
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

CAT Scan (CT) Technologist
Port Jefferson Station Medical Oncology
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN)
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Medical Front Desk Receptionist
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Registered Nurses (BSN/RN's)
 Contact: Julia Harwood
jharwood@nycancer.com

Medical Laboratory Technologist PM Shift
Patchogue Medical Oncology
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

PET/CT Scanner (FT/PT/Per Diem)
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Flow Technician
Port Jefferson Station Medical Oncology
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Staff Hematologist/Medical Oncologist
at our Brooklyn Hospital Location
 Contact: Eric Jackson
eric.jackson@oneoncology.com

Medical Front Desk Receptionist (NY Health)
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Medical Assistants (New York Health)
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Licensed Practical Nurses (NY Health)
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Oncologist/Hematologists
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Hematologist/Oncologist (Greek Speaking)
Bayside Medical Oncology
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Healthcare Administrator
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Infusion LPN
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Benefits Analytics Manager
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Corporate Controller
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Credentialing Specialist
 Contact: Mike Mitrani
mmitrani@nycancer.com

Nurse Practitioner (NP) / Physician's
Assistants (PA) Manhasset
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Nurse Practitioner
 Contact: Diana Youngs
dyoungs@nycancer.com

Pathologist Assistant
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Ultrasound Technician
 Contact: Dakota Spataro
dspataro@nyimaging.com

Clinical Development and Training
Specialist (Eastern Region)
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Clinical Development and Training
Specialist (Western Region)
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Radiology IT Administrator
 Contact: Donald Crawford
dcrawford@nycancer.com

Patient Financial Counselor
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Clerical Development and Training
Specialist (Western Region)
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Implementation Training Specialist
(Medical Assistant)
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Breast Imaging Radiologist
New Hyde Park Medical Oncology
 Contact: Robert Nicoletti
rnicoletti@nycancer.com

Nurse Practitioners (NP) / (PA)
 Contact: Diana Youngs
dyoungs@nycancer.com

Nurse Practitioners (NP) / (PA)
NY Health Central Park
 Contact: Diana Youngs
dyoungs@nycancer.com



OUR PATIENTS & THEIR FAMILIES

Our patients and their families tell the story of conquering cancer like no other. They help us connect, inspire, and empower. If you know a patient or have a family member who would like to make an impact and share their experience with us, please have them contact marketing@nycancer.com.