Seattle Cancer Care Alliance Nurses Honored with National Awards
Honors reflect specialty oncology nurse training, commitment to patient care

SEATTLE – (December 13, 2016) – Two oncology nurses from Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA) have earned national awards from the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) and the March of Dimes.

“These awards reflect the excellence of oncology nursing leadership, research and expertise that exists at Seattle Cancer Care Alliance,” said Norm Hubbard, Executive Vice President of the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. “All four of these individuals clearly elevate and advance nursing practice throughout the SCCA, helping us to provide ever better care to our patients.”

Lenise Taylor, RN AOCNS® is the recipient of the 2017 Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) Excellence in Blood & Marrow Transplantation Award. The award recognizes and supports excellence in nurses engaged in blood and marrow transplantation. The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) is a professional association of more than 39,000 members committed to promoting excellence in oncology nursing and the transformation of cancer care.

Lenise joined the SCCA’s Hematologic Malignancies team as a Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) Clinical Nurse Specialist in 2008 and is a clinical faculty member at the University of Washington’s School of Nursing. Lenise is a nationally recognized BMT expert and trusted leader whose early phase research has been translated into state-of-the-art clinical care for oncology patients.

She has held leadership roles in the Puget Sound Oncology Nursing Society for 20 years, and she’s shared her expertise with nurses across the region to build the network of knowledge, competency and skill around the care of oncology patients. Lenise will receive her award at the ONS national conference in March 2017.

Three SCCA nurses were honored by the March of Dimes at its November Seattle Chapter event for extraordinary contributions to the nursing profession in Washington State. The mission of the March of Dimes is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality.

- **Terri Cunningham** was chosen as Distinguished Nurse of the Year. Terri started her SCCA career as a Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) in 2002. Her clinical oncology career spans oncology practice as a research nurse at SCCA’s Alliance Partner organization, Fred Hutch, as a CNS at Northwest Medical Center, and most recently at SCCA.

She has translated her nursing education to a lifetime of teaching in order to facilitate the best
care of oncology patients in Washington, our region and in the world. She helped establish the foundations for oncology practice clinical policies and procedures since the SCCA’s ambulatory clinic opened its doors.

In 2015, she traveled to Guam Memorial Hospital with the SCCA delegation to teach oncology-related classes to inpatient staff. She also spearheaded the work to open community sites of practice at Northwest and Evergreen, laying the groundwork for the model of care delivery, standards of practice and the operating policy and procedures. Today, Northwest and Evergreen are thriving, vibrant community cancer treatment centers. Terri has also begun working with SCCA’s 19 network sites to identify topics for future educational offerings.

“Terri wields extraordinary influence in the state of Washington and beyond in setting the standards for the best care of oncology patients,” said Kathleen Shannon Dorcy, PhD, RN, Director of Clinical/Nursing Research, Education & Practice, at SCCA. “She has dedicated an unwavering commitment to nursing, teaching and translating research findings into clinical care practices. She remains focused on nimbly balancing science and care demands to promote the efficacy and productivity of all nurses with the best clinical practices.”

- **Shinu Cherian** was nominated for the Advocacy for Patients award for her work with sickle cell patients. Shinu brought structure and organization to a clinic role working with sickle cell patients, by creating a nursing triage model that evaluated and assessed patients before receiving pain protocols. She’s advocates on an ongoing basis for SCCA sickle cell patients to support their care goals.

- **Marian Richardson** was nominated in the Nursing Administration and Leadership category for her work at Northwest and Evergreen. Marian Richardson has led education for her team on the Johns Hopkins Nursing evidence-based practice mold to support integration of research into the daily work of clinical care. She uses of Continuous Process Improvement (CPI), a Lean-based efficiency methodology at Northwest and Evergreen, ensuring that the daily management of patient care is as efficient and effective as possible.

For more information about nursing careers at Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, visit [www.seattlecca.org](http://www.seattlecca.org).

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**About Seattle Cancer Care Alliance**

Seattle Cancer Care Alliance brings together the leading research teams and cancer specialists from Fred Hutch, Seattle Children’s and UW Medicine – one extraordinary group whose sole purpose is the pursuit of better, longer, richer lives for our patients. Based in Seattle’s South Lake Union neighborhood, SCCA has six clinical care sites, including a medical oncology clinic at Evergreen Health in Kirkland, Washington; medical and radiation oncology clinics at UW Medicine/Northwest Hospital & Medical Center in Seattle, Washington, as well as Network affiliations with hospitals in six states. For more information about SCCA, visit [seattlecca.org](http://seattlecca.org).

**Contact**

Karen Brandvick-Baker, kbrandvi@seattlecca.org, 206-288-7239 (office), 206-659-2187 (cell)