Certification Can Make a WORLD of Difference

Lisa Bjorkelo, MSN, RN, CPON®, BMTCN®, CNE, CPN

Nurses contemplating specialty certifications often ask, “What are the benefits of certification?” At The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), certified nurses are eligible for a unique professional opportunity. I caught up with Maggie McGrath, BSN, RN, CPHON®, an outpatient oncology nurse, to learn about her recent all-expenses-paid trip to the United Arab Emirates (UAE). She was one of a pair of certified nurses from CHOP who spent two weeks observing pediatric nursing care, including oncology care, in two medical centers in the UAE.

This opportunity is open only to certified nurses as part of CHOP’s nursing professional development program and is the brainchild of the International Medicine Program’s nursing and business directors. To be considered for the trip, Maggie had to hold specialty certification and submit an essay explaining why she wanted this international experience. This trip to UAE was particularly pertinent to Maggie’s practice because CHOP’s International Medicine Program serves many families from Middle Eastern countries who are seeking oncology care for their children.

Maggie wanted to obtain a deeper understanding of the culture, to experience “where our patients come from” both socially and medically, and to bring this knowledge back to her colleagues. She believes that the more we know about these patients, the more comfortable their experiences can be in our institution. She visited two hospitals which provide care to both pediatric and adult patients; Sheikh Kalifa Medical Center and Corniche Medical Center in Abu Dhabi. During her visit Maggie spent time in the inpatient oncology

End of an Era: Last Chance to Earn AOCNS® Certification

December 31, 2017 will mark the last opportunity for nurses to earn the AOCNS® credential.

ONCC will not administer the Advanced Oncology Certified Clinical Nurse Specialist (AOCNS®) Examination after December 31, 2017. ONCC President, Rebecca O’Shea, APRN, OCN®, AOCNS®, CBCN® said, “We regret that we cannot continue to offer the AOCNS® Examination. The number of AOCNS® test candidates has been low in recent years. That makes it very difficult to maintain a high-quality examination.”

In 2015, 35 initial candidates took the AOCNS® test; only 25 initial candidates took the test in 2016. That number of candidates is insufficient to calculate the statistics needed to maintain a psychometrically sound examination. In addition, the program creates an ongoing financial deficit because it doesn’t generate the revenue needed to cover expenses.

Nurses who want to earn the AOCNS® credential must pass the test on or before December 31, 2017. After that, oncology clinical nurse specialists are encouraged to take one of ONCC’s five other nationally accredited certification programs, such as the Oncology Certified Nurse (OCN®) Examination.

Nurses will be able to renew AOCNS® certification by earning professional development points. Testing will not be a renewal option after 2017.
Editor’s Message: 
A Newsletter for You, by You

Erica Fischer-Cartlidge, MSN, DNP, RN, CBCN®, AOCNS®

This issue, the first one after the ONS Annual Congress, marks the beginning of our “year”. It also marks the “changing of guards” once again for our Editorial Board membership. We have been so lucky to have Theresa Gannon, BSN, RN, OCN®, Mohammad Younes, RN, BScN, CPHON®, and Nicole Krist, MSN, CNS, AOCNS®, BMTCN®, OCN® on our editorial board these past few years, sharing their experiences and bringing the stories of certified nurses to life for all of you. With the completion of their service terms we also welcome two new board members, Becky Collins, BSN, RN, OCN®, CHPN and Amy Evers, BSN, RN, OCN®. You will meet Becky in this issue and Amy in our next one. I’ve enjoyed getting to know them and am so excited for them to share their unique background and practice areas with you. Over the next year we will also look to add two more board members. If you are passionate about certification and like to write this is a great way to tell the stories of your colleagues and share in promoting certification. Answer the call to volunteer when you see it!! Finally, beginning with our next issue we will also be adding guest authors. These individuals will join us for one story. This addition is a way to engage more nurses and bring you more articles in each issue. It is also another way for us to bring innovations from different parts of the country to you and introduce you to other oncology colleagues, deepening your network.

I am deeply grateful to have another year ahead of us together with you, our readers, and this incredible team of writers on our editorial board! Most importantly, we are so thankful to have dedicated nurses like yourselves reading our work but also passionately committed to patient care every day.

Karen Sutherland Joins ONCC as Director of Credentialing
Theresa Gannon, BSN, RN, OCN®

January 9 was the first day on the job for Karen Sutherland, PhD, RN as ONCC’s Director of Credentialing. Sutherland has considerable background and extensive knowledge in the test development and delivery process for more than a decade with Pearson VUE, the provider of many credentialing exams, such as the NCLEX. During her time with Pearson VUE, Sutherland was a Research Principle Content Developer.

Sutherland also holds a doctorate in Immunology and Microbiology, with experience as a molecular biologist and holds a Master’s degree in Medical-Surgical Nursing. She was also an Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago where she taught pharmacology at the doctorate and master’s level.

When asked about the strengths she sees in the organization, she was quick to share her first impression when she arrived. “I consider [my employment] an honor to work with those who are so dedicated, so giving. All who work within this building – EVERYONE – the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation and the Oncology Nursing Society truly believe in what they do – every day.” One image that struck Sutherland was that all employees, both clinical and non-clinical, take a basic course on cancer; even the maintenance crew! “ONCC practices what they preach and that is very gratifying – very different – in a very positive way. Their mission: ‘to promote health and safety by validating competence and ensuring life-long learning in oncology nursing and related specialties’ rings true.”

Sutherland is responsible for overseeing all of ONCC’s certification programs while maintaining national accreditation status of the exams. When I asked what she hopes to accomplish as Director of Credentialing, she responded with a few goals: “I would like to increase membership in the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) and oncology certified nurses. I would like to look at barriers as to why nurses do not certify. I would like to emphasize the value of hiring certified nurses – it helps employers get Magnet status. And, I’d like to see nurses who would like to certify see financial benefits.”

It sounds like the future is bright with Karen as a member of the ONCC team. Welcome aboard, Karen Sutherland.
Chapter Grant Spotlight: Two ONS Chapters Committed to Certification

Nicole Krist, MSN, CNS, AOCNS®, BMTCN®, OCN®

Oncology nurses are a special breed, requiring knowledge, skill, compassion and resilience like none other. ONCC recognizes the importance that Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) and Association of Pediatric Hematology Oncology Nurses (APHON) chapters play in supporting and endorsing the benefits of certification. For these reasons ONCC awards grants to chapters of these organizations to fund activities that support nurses who are certified in oncology. Two of the chapters that received awards in 2016 include the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter (GPC) and the New York City (NYC) Chapter. Learn how these chapters are using the funding— and you may get some ideas for your chapter.

Greater Pittsburgh Chapter
C3—Cancer Certification Conference: The Power of Education, Knowledge and Skills for the Oncology Nurse

ONS’s Greater Pittsburgh Chapter (GPC) will provide current and potential members with a half-day conference/vendor fair to promote certification and provide education. The chapter believes that oncology certification promotes positive outcomes in symptom management, quality of life, patient-family satisfaction and cost of care. They also recognize that engaging oncology nurses to become certified is often a struggle due to test anxiety, lack of workplace support, or cost. Their goal is to help re-certification candidates obtain continuing education (CE) credits while informing non-certified nurses about the certification process. The conference content will be based on results of a chapter member needs assessment, and will help nurses earn ILNA points for recertification in their most-needed subject areas. The CE credit will also help non-certified nurses meet eligibility requirements for initial certification testing. Lastly, the conference will serve as an opportunity for professional growth by allowing Pittsburgh nurses to showcase their oncology knowledge by speaking at the conference and mentoring other oncology nurses.

GPC leaders hope this becomes an annual chapter event. Stay tuned to learn more about their success.

New York City Chapter: Expanding a Certification Promotion Program

The NYC Chapter received funds to expand a certification promotion program launched in 2016 that provides grants to five chapter members for certification test registration or renewal fees. Due to popular demand, the chapter wanted to expand the program. The funds will enable them to double the number of grants, and provide funding for review courses or study materials. The goal is to promote certification with the NYC Chapter, and increase the number of certification grants provided to chapter members. The NYC Chapter shares a deep commitment to certification, and plans to achieve this goal by annually increasing their budget to support and sustain this program.

Both of these chapters are working to better serve the oncology nurse by providing tools to become more educated about this complex field. We hope these stories have inspired you to think about what your chapter could do with a grant of up to $5,000. The application deadline for 2017 grants is September 30. We hope to receive numerous applications from chapters across the nation.

Apply for an ONCC Chapter Grant

Do you have an idea for a chapter project to encourage, support or recognize certification of oncology nurses? It could be worth up to $5000 in funding!

Learn more at www.oncc.org. Search “chapter grant” Applications are due September 30.
Chapter Grant Spotlight:
Increasing Pediatric Oncology Nurse Certification Coast to Coast
Lisa Bjorkelo, MSN, RN, CPON®, BMTCN®, CNE, CPN

In 2016, two APHON Chapters, one from each coast, were awarded ONCC grants to increase certification rates among their members: Southern California APHON and the Greater Philadelphia Area APHON. While different chapters in different geographic areas, both have identified common barriers among nurses and are using their funds to make certification a reality for more nurses.

Greater Philadelphia Chapter: Quarterly Certification Reviews

The Greater Philadelphia Area Chapter identified that it is difficult for nurses to attend CPHON® review courses on weekdays because of work schedules or the need to take a vacation day. To combat this, the chapter will use grant funding from ONCC to hold quarterly CPHON® review courses on Saturdays, and provide both attendees and presenters with a monetary stipend for participating. Participants will be provided binders of review materials and lunch as well. To further entice participants, the chapter is raffling a free APHON membership and free CPHON® certification exam registration to those who attend.

With only 20% of eligible pediatric oncology nurses currently certified at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (nurses from this organization make up most of the chapter), they hope to increase certification by thirty percent within the first year. Chapter President Colleen Wallace, BSN, RN, CPHON® states, “We want to show the value of the Saturday classes to oncology hospital leadership. We hope to get ongoing financial support from the hospital for future weekend courses if we are able to demonstrate an increase in certification this first year. We are excited and grateful to ONCC for this award as we feel it will provide new opportunities for nurses to become certified.”

Southern California Chapter of APHON: Financial Support for Nurses

The Southern California Chapter of APHON (SCAPHON) also recognized access to review courses as a barrier but found it to be primarily financial. As such, they will use their grant funds to provide funding that can be used to cover review courses or test registration for members working at institutions that do not reimburse for certification. SCAPHON members hail from several children’s hospitals and the chapter plans to put extra effort into targeting nurses at institutions with less than 65% of eligible nurses holding certifications. In the inaugural year they plan to award funds to four members with the hopes of growing the program once member interest is fully assessed. Project leader Scarlett Czarnecki, BSN, RN, CPHON® said, “We are thrilled that SCAPHON was awarded one of the ONCC grants and hope that by supporting the certification of 4 of our members, we will be able to contribute to the legacy of excellent care of our patients by nurses in Southern California.”

Stay tuned to a future issue where we’ll follow-up with these chapters to find out how their chapter efforts to increase certification are going!

Get Certified for Free in 2018!

Would you like to earn or renew oncology nursing certification for free in 2018? You could – if you are selected to receive one of ONCC’s 2018 Roberta Scofield Memorial Certification Awards.

The Scofield Awards consist of a free registration for a certification test or renewal. The award can be used to earn or renew any ONCC certification, but must be used in 2018. Up to 150 nurses will be selected for the awards. To be considered, nurses must submit an application, including a brief essay describing how certification will help her or him achieve their goals.

The Scofield Awards were established in honor of Roberta Scofield, the first president of ONCC and strong advocate for the role of certification in professional nursing.

Applications are due September 30, 2017. To apply, go to www.oncc.org and search “Scofield award”.

Note: nurses who want to use the award for certification renewal must be due to renew their credential in 2018.
Certification can make a world of difference continued

unit, cardiac intensive care unit (ICU), pediatric intensive care unit (PICU), neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), a medical-surgical inpatient unit, and the Emergency Department.

Once Maggie was selected to participate, she attended three preparatory sessions and received articles to read about the social culture and norms so that she was not traveling “culturally blind”. Even the simplest knowledge was important. For example, she learned that nurses wear all white scrub uniforms, so she had to purchase some!

Maggie shared many valuable experiences from her trip as well as a few interesting facts. The UAE is made up of 20% nationals and 80% ex-patriots of other countries and/or people with work visas. Nursing staff at the two medical centers is comprised entirely of foreigners; many from the Philippines, India, and South Africa. This is because the nursing profession is considered undesirable or “lowly” work in this country. This is certainly a difference from nursing being the most trusted profession for decades in a row in the United States. Of note, English was spoken by both nurses and most patients. When needed, a bilingual unit clerk is available to serve as a translator.

When visiting the Pediatric Oncology program at Sheikh Kalifa Medical Center (SKMC) it was found that although not currently a Children’s Oncology Group (COG) institution, children are treated on COG protocols. Nurses share a commitment to education and evidence-based practice and are educated about chemotherapy administration using APHON’s Chemotherapy Biotherapy Provider Course. Children with typical pediatric diagnosis such as ALL, AML, brain tumors, neuroblastoma and rhabdomyosarcoma are treated. One notable difference is that patients with ALL are kept hospitalized for the entire induction course and through count recovery. Also interesting is that there are no “needleless” systems used in the hospitals because of the expense. Everyone who lives in the UAE is tested yearly for HIV and TB, and HIV prevalence in this part of the world is low. HIV is not considered a high risk to healthcare workers. All patients have private rooms with a separate bed for the parents. All rooms have an arrow which points in the direction of Mecca for the 5 times daily call to prayer. As the prayers take about two minutes, nurses strive to leave patients and families alone during that time. Maggie notes this is definitely an area in which we can try to better accommodate our families when they are in our country.

Maggie was in UAE when the new United States president was inaugurated and the travel ban order was signed affecting Middle Eastern countries. Although UAE was not on the list, Maggie noted there was concern and uncertainty for our Middle Eastern patients. The choice to come to the US is based on family preference and if approved by their government, the cost is subsidized. Western medicine is viewed to be better and some treatments, such as blood stem cell transplant, are only available abroad. Other options for these patients are European countries if they cannot travel to America.

Maggie will present her experiences at Nursing Grand Rounds at CHOP. She will also be featured in the CHOP nursing newsletter, The Pulse, and on the hospital employee website. It is anticipated that learning about her experience will encourage other certified nurses to apply for future programs and she will serve as a resource to the next participants. The program is expected to continue twice yearly with the next destination being Qatar.

Maggie says of the experience, “Being CPHON® certified opened up this once in a lifetime opportunity. Being half a world away, I was unsure of what to expect. Even though the country was different, so much in respect to nursing care, compassion of the providers, and expectations of patients/families remained the same. In such a time of uncertainty, our similarities as human beings, outweigh our differences, despite these cultural differences. Immersing myself in the Middle Eastern culture gives me insight to what barriers our patients and families encounter when they arrive to the US. I hope that my experience with their culture (although minimal) and my generalized respect for their customs and culture sets them at ease.”
Employers Recognized for Staffing with Certified Nurses

Staff, patients, and visitors at the 29 institutions listed below will see ONCC Employer Recognition Plaques on display, honoring these organizations for staffing their facilities with oncology certified nurses. These organizations were recently given plaques acknowledging that a majority of their nurses are ONCC-certified.

These plaques are free to any patient care setting where a majority (more than 50%) are certified by ONCC. To request a plaque for your organization, go to http://www.oncc.org/employer-recognition-plaque-order-form.

Congratulations to these organizations for their commitment to certification.

Baptist Health Lexington, Oncology Pathway in Lexington, KY
Baptist Health Lexington, Outpatient Infusion in Lexington, KY
Baptist Health Paducah, Radiation Oncology in Paducah, KY
Baylor Scott & White Medical Center – Grapevine, in Dallas, TX
Cadillac Cancer & Infusion Center in Cadillac, MI
Cancer Center of Northern Arizona Healthcare, Flagstaff Medical Center in Flagstaff, AZ
Caromont Health, Infusion Center in Gastonia, NC
David Grant Medical Center, Joint Hematology/Oncology and Radiation Oncology Clinic in Benicia, CA
Day Kimball Hospital, Cancer Program in Putnam, CT
Duke Raleigh Cancer Center in Raleigh, NC
Horizon Oncology Center in Lafayette, IN
Mount Sinai Comprehensive Cancer Center in Aventura, FL
Mt. Sinai at Beth Israel Medical Center, Cancer Center/Infusion Suite in New York City, NY
New York Presbyterian/Lawrence Hospital, Cancer Center in Bronxville, NY
New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell, Oncology Treatment Center in Staten Island, NY
Northwell Health Cancer Institute, Monter Cancer Center, Lake Success, NY
Ohio State Wexner Medical Center in Columbus, OH
Rush University Medical Center, Radiation Oncology, Chicago, IL
Rush University Medical Center, Rush Cancer Care – Lisle in Lisle, IL
Rush University Medical Center, Rush Cancer Care – Oak Park in Oak Park, IL
San Francisco VA Medical Center, Hematology/Oncology/Infusion Center in San Francisco, CA
Southcoast Cancer Center in Fall River, MA
Sparta Cancer Center, Radiation Oncology in Sparta, NJ
Spectrum Health Gynecologic Oncology in Grand Rapids, MI
St. Francis Hospital, Infusion Center in East Hills, NY
St. Joseph Health Round Barn Cancer Center in Santa Rosa CA
University of California Davis, Cancer Center Adult Infusion in Sacramento, CA
University of California Davis Medical Center, UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center Adult Clinic in Sacramento, CA
UPMC Susquehanna Cancer Center in Williamsport, PA

Use Your Nursing Judgment to Apply ILNA Points: An Example

Does this sound familiar? You complete a continuing education (CE) offering, but you’re unsure how to use it for certification renewal points. Begin by using your judgment.

Consider this example: Treatment Adherence in Adolescents and Young Adults, offered by the City of Hope (https://cme.cityofhope.org/eventinfo_8387.html). This program is worth one CME credit (one ILNA point). The program description/objectives indicate it addresses the unique issues facing AYA cancer patients, how these issues and AYA developmental stages may impact treatment decisions, risk factors for non-adherence, and communication skills professionals can use to increase adherence.

How do these topics relate to ILNA categories? Concepts such as the unique issues facing AYA patients and developmental stages suggest Psychosocial issues; how these issues impact treatment decisions could apply to Survivorship or Coordination of Care. Communication skills to increase adherence could apply to Professional Performance or Roles of the APN.

Points for this program could be applied to any of these ILNA categories. In other words, one point could be applied to Psychosocial or Survivorship or Coordination of Care or Professional Performance or Roles of the APN. You do not need to divide programs of 4 points or less among multiple subject areas.

ONCC has resources to help you determine how to use ILNA points, including lists of point breakdowns for conferences and some widely-used online CE offerings, lists of free CE programs and how they can be used for ILNA points, and lists of CE providers. Find them at http://www.oncc.org/resource-center/continuing-education.
Meet Becky Collins—New Member of Certification News Editorial Board

Rebecca “Becky” Collins MSN, RN, OCN®, CHPN

This is an exciting opportunity to be a part of the ONCC Certification News Editorial Board. In my over 20 years of oncology nursing, I still remember the sense of accomplishment that came when I was able to add “OCN®” after my name. The oncology nurse certification was not only the first certification I received but it also represented my commitment to the oncology profession. With OCN® after my name I knew I was part of a specialized group of nurses and have supported certification ever since.

My nursing background has always included oncology but in various settings such as homecare, medical practice settings and chemotherapy administration. I started my career on a dedicated oncology floor and then transitioned to a role in the bone marrow transplant center. Today, I am the Director of Focused Care for Ohio’s Hospice. Focused Care is a disease management approach to end of life care. Our team includes respiratory therapists and specialty care nurses. It’s definitely a team approach and we are seen as resources for our staff and the community. As program director, I’m able to apply patient assessment and education to the continuum of care for oncology patients. I know that I could not have achieved my current position without having certification in my specialty.

I am a firm believer in obtaining professional certification. As an oncology nurse, having my OCN® has opened up many opportunities for me. I was able to show my dedication to my profession as well as stand out amongst other nurses. An OCN® after your name opens up conversations with other certified nurses and respect from medical teams. I know it was because of my OCN® that I obtained my first promotion and now has led me to a directorship. I could utilize every page in this newsletter to explain what certification means to me, and I’m glad as a new editorial board member I will have that chance to share the impact certification had on my career with you.

I find that being in oncology, you tend to have an increased appreciation for all that life brings. Sometimes life gets busy all at once and yet perhaps it’s our commitment to oncology patients and the value they have for each day and moment that makes us appreciate the life events in a way that’s different from others. This year, my older daughter and her husband will be first time parents, making me a first-time grandma! At the same time, I will earn my MSN as my youngest graduates from Ohio University with a bachelor’s degree. Oh, and just to add more adventure, I am a newlywed this year!

I’m delighted to have the chance to add my voice to promote the ONCC mission statement. Obtaining my certification in oncology has provided many opportunities. My hope is to celebrate oncology certified nurses, as well as encourage nurses to obtain their OCN® credential. I find that the articles in the ONCC Certification News can provide support and direction that can lead to success in certification. I’m looking forward to working with the ONCC Certification News Editorial Board to bring their mission to life via the printed word.

Take Your Leadership Skills to the ONCC Board of Directors

If you have volunteer leadership experience and are ready to move to a new leadership role, serving on the ONCC Board of Directors may be right for you.

The ONCC Nominating Committee is seeking a nurse who holds OCN® certification for one position that will be open for election in 2017. This position must be filled by a nurse who holds OCN® certification. The position is for a three-year term that begins in May 2018.

Serving on the ONCC Board of Directors is an exceptional opportunity for certified nurses who want to have an impact on the future of certification, sharpen their leadership skills, expand their network of colleagues, and grow professionally.

Potential candidates are encouraged to review the nomination information at http://www.oncc.org/about-oncc/leadership/election. Interested individuals should submit completed nomination packets by August 14, 2017.
Advocates Sign on to Support Certification

Forty-five nurses recently volunteered to promote the benefits of certification by joining ONCC’s Oncology Nursing Certification Advocates Program (ONCAP). Advocates encourage certification among nurse colleagues in their workplace or chapter, and often educate administrators and patients on the value of having certified nurses on the cancer care team. To join the program, go to http://www.oncc.org/advocates-application.

Please join ONCC in thanking these nurses for their participation.

Khaled Al-Qawasmeh
Andrea Arvidson
Heather Askren
Gayle Beard
Abigail Bilbrey
Garry Breckenridge
Albertina Burgos
Paul Timothy Cabague
Nicole Centers
Brianne Cohen
Rebecca Collins
Christina Colvin
Kathleen Coughlin
Eva Eastham
Jessica Fodrocy
Cassandra Gibbs

Carrie Grattan
Deanna Griffie
Debra Havranek
Kate Hubbard
Jessica Humphries
Joy Joseph
Christine Ladd
Sonya Lebaron-Edington
Brenda Martinez
Jessica Miles
Susan Moon
Ellen Neylon
Carol Oldridge
Jayne Olshansky
Cheryl Page
Linda Rasmussen
Marlene Reidl
Nichole Rines
Lisa Russo
Lynn Sanders
Shelby Schroeder
Danielle Sheehy
Melissa Simon
Andrea Smith
Julianne Stirt
Nelly Stone
Mildred “Millie” Toth
Julie Stensness
Courtney Welch
Julie Whitford

ONCC Welcomes New Board Member, Officers

ONCC leadership changed hands in May, when Marybeth Singer, MS, ANP-BC, AOCN® concluded her term on the Board of Directors and her role as President. Singer served on the board for six years, and as President for the past two years.

New officers for 2017-2018 include Rebecca O’Shea, MSN, RN, OCN®, AOCNS®, CBCN®, President; Lucy Licamelli, BSN, RN, OCN®, Vice-President; Melody Watral, MSN, RN, CPNP-BC, CPON®, Secretary/Treasurer. Andrea “Angie” Caton, RN, OCN®, CHPN joined the Board of Directors, which includes returning members Diane Otte, MSN, RN, OCN®, Nickolaus Escobedo, MSN, RN, OCN®, NE-BC, Chien-Chi Huang (Public Member), Meredith Lahl, MSN, PCNS-BC, PNP-BC, CPON® (APHON Board representative), Virginia Vaitones, MSW, OSW-C, and Lori Williams, PhD, RN, APRN, OCN®, AOCN®. Brenda Nevildjian, MSN, RN, FAAN, ONS Chief Executive Officer and Cyndi Miller Murphy, MSN, RN, FAAN, CAE, ONCC Executive Director, are both ex-officio members of the Board.

ONCC Certification News Editorial Board
Erica A. Fischer-Cartlidge, MSN, DNP, RN, CBCN®, AOCNS® - Chair
Lisa Bjorkelo MSN, RN, CPON®, BMTCN®, CNE, CPN
Becky Collins, RN, OCN®, CHPN
Lynda Czaplewski, MS, RN, ACNS-BC, CRNI, AOCNS®
Amy Evers, BSN, RN, OCN®
Nicole Krist, MS, CNS, AOCNS®, BMTCN®, OCN®
Theresa Gannon, BSN, RN, OCN®
Mohamad Younes, RN, BScN, CPHON®
Lori Williams PhD, RN, APRN, OCN®, AOCN® - Board Liaison

ONCC Board of Directors
Rebecca O’Shea, MSN, RN, OCN®, AOCNS®, CBCN®, President
Lucy Licamelli, BSN, RN, OCN® , Vice-President
Melody Watral, MSN, RN, CPNP-BC, CPON®, Secretary/Treasurer
Andria Caton, RN, OCN®, CHPN
Nickolaus Escobedo, MSN, RN, OCN®, NE-BC
Chien-Chi Huang, Public Member
Meredith Lahl, MSN, PCNS-BC, PNP-BC, CPON®
Diane Otte, MSN, RN, OCN®, Virginia Vaitones, MSW, OSW-C
Lori Williams PhD, RN, APRN, OCN®, AOCN®
Brenda Nevildjian, MSN, RN, FAAN, Ex Officio
Cyndi Miller Murphy, MSN, RN, FAAN, CAE Ex-Officio

ONCC Mission Statement
The mission of the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation is to promote health and safety by validating competence and ensuring lifelong learning in oncology nursing and related specialties.

Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation, 125 Enterprise Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15275-1214 (+1-877-769-ONCC or +1-412-859-6104, phone; +1-412-859-6168, fax; oncc@oncc.org, e-mail; www.oncc.org, Web site)

ONCC Certified Nurses as of July 1, 2017

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