



# Oncology Certified Nurse (OCN®) Review Course

*Debi Boyle, RN, MSN, AOCNS®, FAAN  
Certification Advocate*

## DAY 1

8:00 – 8:15 am

### Welcome & Course Overview

8:15 – 9:45 am

### Health Promotion, Screening, and Early Detection (6%)

Topics to be covered:

- Epidemiology (i.e., at-risk populations including cultures; socioeconomic status; age; occupations)
- Prevention (i.e., high risk behaviors; preventive health practices)
- Risk factors for cancers
- Screening
- Early detection
- Risk reduction guidelines
- Diagnostic testing

9:45 – 10:15 am

### Professional Performance (8%)

Topics to be covered:

- Local, state & national resources
- Application of statement on scope of practice and standards of oncology nursing practice
- Sources of data for EBP
- Education process (teaching & learning principles)
- Legal, ethical issues
- Patient advocacy
- Quality assurance
- Professional development
- Multidisciplinary collaboration

10:15 – 10:30 am

### Break

10:30 – 12:30 pm

### Scientific Basis for Practice (9%)

Topics to be covered:

- Carcinogenesis
- Immunology
- Genetics
- Specific cancers (pathophysiology, diagnostic measures, prognosis)
- Classification (tumors, grading, staging)
- Common metastatic sites
- Research protocols and clinical trials

12:30 – 1:30 pm

### Lunch

1:30 – 2:15 pm

### Survivorship (8%)

Topics to be covered:

- Psychosocial, physical and cognitive alterations
- Issues (financial, employment, insurance, discrimination, family and social support)
- Acute and late effects
- Recurrence and/or secondary malignancies
- Rehabilitation & long-term follow-up

2:15 – 4:00 pm

### **Treatment Modalities (16%)**

Topics to be covered:

- Vascular access devices
- Surgery
- Radiation
- Targeted therapies
- Biotherapy
- Chemotherapy
- Hematopoietic stem cell transplant
- Complementary, alternative and integrative modalities

## **DAY 2**

8:00 – 11:00 am

### **Symptom Management (22%)**

Topics to be covered:

- Etiology and patterns of symptoms
- Toxicity and rating scales
- Alterations in comfort, protective mechanisms, GI GU, respiratory, circulatory & neuro function; alterations in nutrition; anatomical and surgical alterations; pharmacologic (antimicrobials, antiemetics, analgesics, psychotropic, growth factors) & non-pharmacologic interventions (heat, massage, imagery); complementary, alternative & integrative modalities

11:00 – 11:30 noon

### **End of Life Care (11%)**

Topics to be covered include:

- Grief & bereavement process
- Reimbursement issues & community resources
- Hospice (principles, settings for care)

11:30 – 12:30 pm

### **Lunch**

12:30 – 2:00 pm

### **Psychosocial Dimensions of Care (8%)**

Topics to be covered:

- Cultural, spiritual and religious diversity
- Financial concerns
- Psychosocial disturbances
- Anxiety, loss, grief, depression
- Altered body image
- Loss of personal control
- Patient and family support groups
- Learning styles and barriers to learning
- Social relationships
- Coping mechanisms and skills

2:00 – 2:15 pm

### **Break**

2:15 – 4:00 pm

### **Oncologic Emergencies (12%)**

Topics to be covered:

- DIC
- SIADH
- Septic shock
- Tumor lysis syndrome
- Hypersensitivity/anaphylaxis
- Hypercalcemia
- Cardiac tamponade
- Spinal cord compression
- Superior vena cava syndrome
- Increased intra-cranial pressure

*Please note:* This course is not developed, provided, sponsored, or endorsed by ONCC, and the content may or may not be reflective of an actual certification test. Participation in a review course does not guarantee successful completion of a certification test.