FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Joyce Wong Receives 2014 Certified Pediatric Oncology Nurse of the Year Award

PITTSBURGH, PA – August 25, 2014 – The Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation (ONCC) has selected Joyce Wong, RN, CHTP, CPON® as the 2014 Certified Pediatric Oncology Nurse of the Year. Wong was selected based on her contributions to pediatric oncology nursing, nursing service, and her support and promotion of oncology nursing certification.

Wong is the Integrative Services Coordinator at Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children. She was in the first group of certified nurses at her institution, and she actively encourages and mentors other nurses to become certified. Wong served as the chairperson of the Clinical Ladder Committee, a group of certified nurses who work to promote quality care and advance nursing practice. She also participated in union negotiations, advocating for certified nurses to receive a monetary bonus. Her efforts resulted in a $500 bonus for certified nurses, which led to a fourfold increase in certified nurses at her institution.

In addition to her certification efforts, Wong is a strong proponent of holistic care. She single-handedly leads the program at Kapiolani Medical Center that provides complementary medicine to patients throughout the facility. As a cancer survivor herself, she experienced the benefits of the Healing Touch, and made it her mission to share the value of it with her patients. She became certified in Healing Touch in 2000, and later also became a Licensed Massage Therapist. In 2012, Wong published her research titled “The Impact of Healing Touch on Pediatric Oncology Patients.” Her studies showed Healing Touch provided relief for symptoms of pain, anxiety, and fatigue.

“As a holistic nurse, I am one who cares for the whole person, mind/body/emotions and spirit, serving from the heart, promoting well-being and mindfulness,” said Wong. “This prestigious award adds validity to integrative care research (holistic CAM) and can improve the care for our pediatric oncology patients and families. My goal is to see integrative care as the ‘golden standard’ of practice in the care of our kids with cancer and their families. We can each start with personal holistic self-care and visioning integrative care as the accepted norm for all of our medical centers. I sincerely believe that certification contributes to a higher quality of nursing care, and encourage all nurses to become certified and to live their passion to the fullest!”

The award will be presented during the Recognition Breakfast for Certified Oncology Nurses at the APHON Annual Conference on September 6, 2014 in Portland, OR.

Wong is one of more than 35,000 nurses certified as an Oncology Certified Nurse (OCN®), Certified Pediatric Oncology Nurse (CPON®), Advanced Oncology Certified Nurse (AOCN®), Advanced Oncology Certified Nurse Practitioner (AONCP®), Advanced Oncology Certified Clinical Nurse Specialist (AOCNS®), Certified Breast Care Nurse (CBCN®), Certified Pediatric Hematology Oncology Nurse (CPHON®), or Blood and Marrow Transplant Certified Nurse (BMTCN™).

The Certified Pediatric Oncology Nurse of the Year Award is presented annually to an outstanding Certified Pediatric Oncology Nurse or Certified Pediatric Hematology Oncology Nurse. To win the award, nominees must
have recommendations from two colleagues in the nursing profession; prepare an essay describing how (s)he has promoted certification; summarize services offered that enhance pediatric hematology/oncology care and nursing service; and demonstrate accomplishments in at least one area of oncology nursing practice – clinical practice, education, or research.

The Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation (ONCC) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote excellence in patient care and professional practice by validating specialized knowledge in oncology nursing and related specialties. ONCC administered the first Oncology Certified Nurse examination in 1986. Today, ONCC offers basic and advanced certification in adult oncology nursing, basic certification in pediatric oncology/hematology nursing, and specialty certification in breast care nursing and blood and marrow transplant nursing. Learn more about ONCC at www.oncc.org.

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