

Oncology Nursing Society Member Receives Nursing Hall of Fame Award



Altru Health System in Grand Forks, ND, presented its annual Nursing Hall of Fame Award to Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) member Nancy Klatt, RN, a manager at Altru Cancer Center. The award is given annually to nurses who, over the course of their career, have exhibited extraordinary achievement in nursing at Altru. Klatt is the 19th recipient of the award.

A nurse at Altru Health System since 1976, Klatt has shown continuous dedication to the system, its patients, and employees through her focus on oncology services. "Nancy has been relentless in her drive for excellence in the care of cancer patients. It isn't everyday you find a nurse who has dedicated their professional career to one type of population; especially one that is so complex and has such evolving treatments," said Chief Nurse Executive Margaret Reed, RN.

In her role as manager, Klatt led the charge for the renovation and expansion of Altru Cancer Center in 2009, while ensuring uninterrupted patient care throughout. The renovation has attracted new physicians, bringing with them advances in treatment through technology. "Nancy is one of the reasons I selected employment at Altru Cancer Center," said Grant Seeger, MD, a radiation oncologist.

Altru Health System's mission is to improve health and enrich life for its community. Altru provides health education, preventive care, and early interventions to more than 200,000 residents of northeast North Dakota and northwest Minnesota.

For more information, visit www.altru.org/about-us/news.

ONS Members Recognized for Oncology Nursing Excellence

McKesson Specialty Care Solutions/US Oncology recognized five exceptional oncology nurses from almost 2,400

nominees nationwide for their dedication to their profession and their passion for their patients. The Excellence in Oncology Nursing Award honors those in the United Network of US Oncology who exemplify competency, courage, and determination in providing the highest quality oncology nursing care to patients and their families.

The following ONS members received the 2011 Excellence in Oncology Nursing Award.

- Julia Carr Ober, RN, Texas Oncology—Arlington North
- Allison Frendberg, RN, OCN®, Florida Cancer Institute—New Hope, Brooksville
- Robert Beach, RN, OCN®, Northwest Cancer Specialists—St. Vincent Office, Portland, OR

In addition, two other nurses also received the award.

- Carrie Czech, RN, OCN®, Minnesota Oncology—St. Paul
- Heidi Hoffmeister, RN, BSN, Maryland Oncology Hematology—Columbia, Maryland

"These extraordinary nurses play an integral part in so many patients' lives," said Smith. "This award was created to recognize and honor nurses for putting their patients first."



Julia Carr Ober

occasion, she drove to a patient's church to meet him in order to deliver his medication to him."



Allison Frendberg

Freundberg's nominator wrote, "[Her] supportive manner and understanding way help to make the patient and family feel hopeful and in control of their disease at a time of uncertain outcome. This is very reassuring to the patient and relieves some of the stress of a cancer diagnosis."



Robert Beach

support them throughout their entire treatment journey."

McKesson Specialty Care Solutions/US Oncology, a division of McKesson Corporation, empowers the community patient-care delivery system to advance the science, technology, and quality of care. Through innovative clinical, research, business, and operational solutions, facilitated by integrated technology systems, McKesson improves the financial health of its customers and helps them provide quality care for patients.

For more information, visit www.mckesson.com/specialty and www.usoncology.com.

MD Anderson Selects Outstanding Nurse Oncologist



Nancy Tomczak, RN, OCN®, a clinical nurse in the inpatient stem cell transplantation unit at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, received

the 2011 Ethel Fleming Arceneaux Outstanding Nurse-Oncologist Award, presented by the Brown Foundation, Inc. A committee of MD Anderson's clinical faculty, patient-care administration, and nursing staff reviewed nominations sent from peers and patients alike before selecting Tomczak as the choice for the annual award. Established by the foundation in 1982, the award is the institution's highest nursing honor.

"I'm so honored by this award," said Tomczak. "I'm truly overwhelmed."

At age 8, after witnessing her grandmother succumb to lung cancer, Tomczak made it her mission to help fight cancer. Her passion increased after surviving a life threatening car accident at age 16.