



ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON
MEDICAL SCHOOL

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CINJ Nurses are Recognized During National Oncology Nursing Month

Top Nursing Professional Discusses Nurses' Contributions to Palliative Care During Lecture Program

New Brunswick, N.J., May 14, 2009 – This week was the culmination of events surrounding National Oncology Nursing Month at The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ), which included the 2009 Nurse Day Distinguished Lecture Program. The annual event ended last evening with the Elizabeth Gibby Osborne Lecture and the Oncology Nursing Excellence Awards, which are given to a pair of outstanding nurses at CINJ. The event aims to acknowledge the CINJ nursing staff for the great strides it continues to make in caring for, communicating with and educating patients and their families. CINJ is a Center of Excellence of UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

Featured during the lectureship portion of the event was Nessa Coyle, RN, PhD, FAAN, director of the Supportive Care Program at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. She is known in the nursing community for her work in pain and palliative care as well as her work on ethical concerns for nurses, and for her lectures around the world on these issues. Coyle presented “Nursing’s Contributions to Palliative Care,” which focused on relieving suffering and achieving the best possible quality of life for patients and their caregivers.

The lectureship and Nursing Excellence Awards are underwritten in part by the Elizabeth Gibby Osborne Lecture and Scholarship Fund. The fund bearing Osborne’s name was established immediately following her death from cancer in 2004. “Liz”-- as she was affectionately known by the nurses at CINJ who treated her -- was a long-time resident of central New Jersey. Due to Liz’ strong belief in education, her husband Bill created the fund in an effort to give oncology nurses at CINJ an opportunity to learn more about their profession from experts across the nation.

CINJ’s Interim Chief Nursing Officer Margaret Joyce, PhD(c), RN, AOCN, notes such support for extended educational opportunities for nurses is key, “It is vital to those in the oncology nursing profession that they are exposed to leaders in the field. By hearing from seasoned professionals, who are engaged in new research, treatment and education methods, our nurses will be encouraged to think creatively about their own nursing practice, which will translate into new and exciting work at CINJ that will ultimately benefit our patients.”

Along with the lectureship, the other highlight of this year’s celebration was the awarding of the third-annual Oncology Nursing Excellence Awards. Advanced Practice Nurse Jacquelyn Lauria, RN, MS, NP-C, AOCNP, and Research Nurse Clinician Lien Huzzy, RN, BSN, OCN, captured this year’s honor for being leaders in the area of patient care and education. Both women were recognized for their collaborative efforts with fellow nurses, doctors and other team members, and were heralded as champions for promoting oncology nursing as a profession. Kathy Morris, RN, BSN, OCN and Chia-Chun Lu, RN, OCN also were nominated.

In addition to the lecture and awards celebrating Oncology Nursing Month, the Nurse Day Planning Committee hosted a display to recognize the work that oncology nurses do. Highlighted were posters presented at recent conferences, articles, and other presentations devoted to cancer research, care, and

development of patient education materials. The goal was to increase awareness to CINJ staff and patients about nurses' contributions to cancer care, which includes their participation in the training of oncology nurses at CINJ's Flagship and Affiliate hospitals statewide.

About The Cancer Institute of New Jersey

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (www.cinj.org) is the state's first and only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, and is dedicated to improving the prevention, detection, treatment and care of patients with cancer. CINJ's physician-scientists engage in translational research, transforming their laboratory discoveries into clinical practice, quite literally bringing research to life. The Cancer Institute of New Jersey is a center of excellence of UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. To support CINJ, please call the Cancer Institute of New Jersey Foundation at 1-888-333-CINJ.

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey Network is comprised of hospitals throughout the state and provides a mechanism to rapidly disseminate important discoveries into the community. Flagship Hospital: Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. Major Clinical Research Affiliate Hospitals: Carol G. Simon Cancer Center at Morristown Memorial Hospital, Carol G. Simon Cancer Center at Overlook Hospital, and Jersey Shore University Medical Center. Affiliate Hospitals: Bayshore Community Hospital, CentraState Healthcare System, Cooper University Hospital*, JFK Medical Center, Raritan Bay Medical Center, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Hamilton (CINJ at Hamilton), Saint Peter's University Hospital, Somerset Medical Center, Southern Ocean County Hospital, The University Hospital/UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School*, and University Medical Center at Princeton. *Academic Affiliate

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