

## **ONCOLOGY NURSING SOCIETY (ONS) Cancer Chemotherapy and Biotherapy Course**

**Tues., Jan. 15, 2008**  
**Mon., Jan. 28, 2008**

**Mon., Apr. 28, 2008**  
**Tues., Apr. 29, 2008**

**Mon., Jul. 21, 2008**  
**Tues., Jul. 29, 2008**

**Mon., Oct. 6, 2008**  
**Tues., Oct. 7, 2008**

### **Course Overview**

The ONS Cancer Chemotherapy and Biotherapy course is designed to encourage consistent practice among registered nurses who administer chemotherapy and/or biotherapy. The program provides a comprehensive review of the theoretical knowledge needed to administer chemotherapy and/or biotherapy. The educational program is based on the *Society's Cancer Chemotherapy and Biotherapy Guidelines and Recommendations for Practice, 2005 edition*.

### **Target Audience:**

Participants must be licensed registered nurses who have been employed as such for a minimum of six months. This course content is appropriate for nurses who are new to chemotherapy administration, as well as for those who want a comprehensive review.

### **Didactic Component**

The two-day didactic course provides a broad spectrum of information concerning molecular biology, cellular kinetics, drug classification, safe handling and administration, management of side effects, patient teaching strategies, and case studies related to the theoretical concepts presented. Upon successful completion of the course and a post-course test, participants will receive a laminated Cancer Chemotherapy Card from ONS. This validates that the participant has the theoretical foundation needed to administer chemotherapy and/or biotherapy. This card is valid for two years and may be renewed by completion of an independent study. Please note that participants must be registered nurses with a minimum of six months of oncology-specific experience.

### **Course Faculty**

The course faculty includes experienced oncology nurses who have successfully completed the Oncology Nursing Society's Cancer Chemotherapy and Biotherapy Trainer course. By limiting course instructors to nurses who have been approved as trainers, ONS ensures that every participant will receive consistent, updated information.

### **Fees**

Two-day didactic course- \$400. This includes meals, materials and selected publications.

### **Location and Time**

7:30a.m -5:00 p.m. The didactic course will be presented in the Auditorium on the first floor of The Cancer Institute of New Jersey, 195 Little Albany, New Brunswick, New Jersey

### **General Information**

The Oncology Nursing Society's (ONS) Chemotherapy and Biotherapy Course provides a comprehensive review of the knowledge needed to administer cytotoxic and biotherapeutic agents

### **Additional Information:**

The ONS Chemotherapy and Biotherapy Course is NOT a certification course, and is not intended to measure competency. Individual institutions are responsible for determining their own requirements for assessing clinical competency.

### **Course Objectives**

Upon completion of the course, the participant will be able to:

- A. Identify various therapeutic modalities used to treat cancer with emphasis on chemotherapy and biotherapy.
- B. Describe the investigational process all drugs undergo to gain approval for use.
- C. Review ethical and legal issues related to cancer therapy.
- D. Identify factors affecting response to cancer therapy.
- E. Identify selected commonly used agents, their mechanisms of action, and any unique administration issues.
- F. Discuss safety precautions necessary when handling cytotoxic agents.
- G. Review chemotherapy dose calculations and practice examples.
- H. Identify nursing procedures and interventions for administering cytotoxic and biologic agents.
- I. Discuss two immediate complications of cancer therapy, extravasation and hypersensitivity, and the nursing measures required to prevent and/or reduce these complications.
- J. Identify selected systematic side effects of cytotoxic and biotherapeutic agents and the nursing interventions required to manage these side effects.
- K. Review specific patient and family education that may prevent and/or reduce the impact of systemic side effects.

## **PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

1. Introduction
  - A. Definition of cancer
  - B. Treatment modalities
  - C. Drug development process
  - D. Ethical and legal issues
2. Goals of Cancer therapy and response
3. Principles of chemotherapy
4. Principles of biotherapy
5. Safe practice considerations
6. Administration
  - A. Dose determination
  - B. Pre-treatment care
  - C. Routes of administration
  - D. Immediate complications of cytotoxic therapy
7. Care of the patient receiving cancer therapy
8. Case Studies
9. Side effects of cancer therapy
  - A. Myelosuppression
  - B. GI and mucosal side effects
  - C. Alopecia
  - D. Fatigue
  - E. Cardiac toxicity
  - F. Pulmonary toxicity
  - G. Hemorrhagic cystitis
  - H. Hepatotoxicity
  - I. Nephrotoxicity
  - J. Neurotoxicity
  - K. Pancreatitis
  - L. Alterations in Sexual and Reproductive function
  - M. Cutaneous Reactions
  - N. Ocular Toxicity
  - O. Secondary Malignancies
10. Post-treatment Care
11. Case Studies