

## **Collaboration in Building a Better Team: Spiritual Care Programming in Oncology Nursing**

**Barnes-Jewish Hospital Spiritual Care Services, St. Louis, Missouri**

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Through a growing collaboration, chaplains at Barnes-Jewish Hospital were invited to design and implement programs for Oncology Nurses. The expansion of Spiritual Care programming into regularly scheduled and new nurse development efforts has been a valuable educational and spiritual resource to support professional goals and good self care. Programs fit into a wide spectrum of educational initiatives: monthly orientation, annual Oncology Skills Day, Nurse Fellowship Intensives, and unit staff support modules.

### **Establishing a Defining Presence**

- Bone Marrow Transplant
- Leukemia and Lymphoma and Hematological Cancers
- Medical Oncology
- Outpatient Oncology Treatment Centers
- Support Groups

### **Building Cohesive Alliances**

- Interdisciplinary
  - o Nursing Staff, Nurse Specialist
  - o Psychiatry
  - o Psychology
  - o Pain Specialist
  - o Palliative Care Team
- Intra-team
  - o Clinical Manager
  - o Resource Nurse
  - o Case Manager/Discharge Planners
  - o Social Workers
  - o Patient Care Technicians
- Departmental
  - o Oncology Chaplains
  - o Palliative Care Team

### Forces Driving Collaboration

- Standards
- Vacuum in the Nursing Literature
- Need Awareness

### Meeting Expressed Needs

- Say Yes to Invitations
- Relevant Programs
  - o Informative to Patients and Program Coordinators
  - o Supportive and Affirming for Constituencies
    - Staff
    - Patients
    - Care givers

### Assessing Essential Needs

- Observing Behaviors
- Deep Listening
- Feeling for Focus

### Translating Essential Needs into Programs

- Identify Desired Contributing Outcomes
- Meeting Practical Constraints and Challenges
- Measuring Program Effectiveness
- Oncology Program Narratives

• Wholeness of Being • **Oncology Nursing Roles: Spiritual Care, Theirs and Yours** • Implementing Outcome Oriented Spiritual Care in Oncology • **Through the Eye of the Metastatic Needle** • Spiritual Dimension of Pain • **Spiritual Care Package – What’s in Yours?** • Excellence in Care – The Pain of Suffering • **The New Normal – Getting the Pieces to Fit** • I Can Cope • **Grief: Naming It, Claiming It, and Moving Through It** • Strength in Caring – Wholeness in the Face of Adversity • **Spiritual Issues in the Care of Cancer Patients** • Spiritual Care for Complex Situations, Intense Moments, & Life Affirming Oncology Professionals • **Living with Uncertainty** • Finding Resiliency: A Support Process for Oncology Nurses • **Cancer as a Journey: Seasons of Survival and Their Spiritual Themes** • Got Stress? How Oncology Professionals Cope with the Joys and Challenges • **Nourishing Hope When Uncertainty Has Entered Your Life**