

## Joan O'Hanlon Curry Chosen as the 2007 CPON® of the Year



The Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation (ONCC) has selected Joan O'Hanlon Curry, RN, MS, CPNP, CPON®, as the 2007 CPON® of the Year. Curry won the award for her significant contributions to pediatric oncology nursing and oncology nursing service and for supporting and promoting certification in oncology nursing. She is an administrative nurse manager and pediatric nurse practitioner at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore (CHAM) in the Bronx, NY. Curry was presented with her award at the ONCC Recognition Breakfast for Certified Pediatric Oncology Nurses on October 5, 2007, in Milwaukee, WI.

According to one of her colleagues, in just two years since joining CHAM, Curry has had "a major impact on the quality of care delivered, the research infrastructure, the administrative organization of the division (which has had far reaching impact on the hospital overall), the education of nurses and nurse practitioners, and establishing standards."

Curry is noted for her many accomplishments, including the development of an ambulatory chemotherapy program in which children receive chemotherapy as outpatients via pumps in backpacks, her service as an instructor and trainer for nursing courses, and the introduction of town hall meetings where patients and families can discuss issues related to treatment and services.

The CPON® of the Year Award is supported by Novartis Oncology and is presented annually to an oncology-certified nurse. To win the award, nominees must obtain recommendations from two colleagues in the pediatric oncology profession; prepare an essay describing how he or she has promoted certification; summarize services offered that enhance pediatric oncology care and oncology nursing; and demonstrate

accomplishments in one of three areas of pediatric oncology nursing practice: clinical practice, education, or research. Recipients are presented with \$1,000 and a crystal award at the Recognition Breakfast for Certified Pediatric Oncology Nurses at the Association of Pediatric Oncology Nurses Annual Conference.

ONCC, an affiliated organization of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), administers and evaluates programs for certification in oncology nursing. For more information, visit [www.oncc.org](http://www.oncc.org).

## ONS Member Wins Prestigious Award



At a gala reception in Toronto, Canada, Lesley Degner, RN, BN, MA, PhD, a professor in the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Manitoba, was formally recognized as one of Canada's 10 leading cancer researchers. Degner, an ONS member and past ONS Distinguished Researcher, received the National Cancer Institute of Canada's (NCIC) Diamond Jubilee Award as part of its 60th anniversary celebration. NCIC created six one-time NCIC Diamond Jubilee Awards to recognize researchers of outstanding achievement who, within the last six decades, have conducted high-impact cancer research.

Degner is one of 12 chairs in the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research in health services and nursing research in Canada. She heads the Development of Evidence-Based Nursing Practice in Cancer Care, Palliative Care, and Cancer Prevention program at the University of Manitoba. She is considered an expert in the psychosocial aspects of cancer care and symptom management.

Degner was awarded the NCIC Diamond Jubilee Award for her research into behaviors and supportive care leading to improved quality-of-life and supportive

tools for patients with cancer. She is a previous recipient of the Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology Award of Excellence for Research.

NCIC is Canada's longest-standing research organization dedicated to supporting excellent cancer research and advancing cancer control. For more information, visit [www.umanitoba.ca](http://www.umanitoba.ca).

## The Great 100 Nurses in North Carolina Recognizes Five ONS Members

The Great 100 Nurses in North Carolina announced its 2007 award recipients, which included five ONS members. Irene Doherty-Carbone, RN, BSN, OCN®, Gail Funk, RN, OCN®, Ann Marie Lee, RN, MPH, CHES, OCN®, Kenneth Miller, RN, BSN, and Patricia Ramsey, RN, BSN, OCN®, were recognized as nurses "who demonstrate excellent nursing care to their patients and also a commitment to their vital profession." Recipients were honored at a gala held on October 6, 2007, at the Joseph S. Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, NC. For more information on the Great 100 Nurses in North Carolina, visit [www.great100.org](http://www.great100.org).

## ONS Member Receives National Cherokee Inspired Comfort Award

Cherokee Uniforms announced 10 winners of the 2007 Cherokee Inspired Comfort Award, including ONS member Joan Delk, RN, BSN, COHN-S. Winners were selected from more than 1,000 nominations for exceptional service, sacrifice, and innovation.

"This award was created to acknowledge healthcare professionals who often sacrifice their own desires to fulfill the needs of others," said Michael Singer, president and chief executive officer of Cherokee Uniforms. "We hope the winners' stories will inspire all healthcare workers to continue giving

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