

## American Academy of Nursing Inducts Two ONS Members



*Deborah Watkins Bruner*

The American Academy of Nursing announced that 54 nurse leaders, including Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) members Deborah Watkins Bruner, PhD, RN, and Joan E. Haase, PhD, RN, were inducted as fellows during the academy's 34th Annual Meeting and Conference in November. Selection criteria include evidence of significant national and/or international contributions to nursing and health care. Each nominee was sponsored by two current academy fellows. Selection was based on the presentation of evidence of the nominee's work to improve nursing practice and health policy and their capacity to make contributions in the future. The mission of the academy is to serve the public and nursing profession by advancing health policy and practice through the generation, synthesis, and dissemination of nursing knowledge. New inductees have demonstrated their ability to assist in achieving the academy's goals.

"I warmly welcome this year's new fellows and international fellows into the academy," said Academy President Linda Burnes Bolton, DrPH, RN, FAAN, "and look forward to celebrating their extraordinary accomplishments. Moreover, I look forward to the unique contributions these individuals will bring to the academy, allowing us to expand our knowledge base and advance our tradition of purposeful action in support of the greater good."

The American Academy of Nursing was established in 1973 to provide visionary leadership to the nursing profession and to the public in shaping future healthcare policy and practice. For more information, visit [www.aannet.org](http://www.aannet.org).



*Joan E. Haase*

## Three ONS Members at Dana-Farber Win the Magnet Essay Contest

ONS members Sandra Kelly, MS, RN, ANP, Lisa Doherty, ANP, and Sheila Walsh, RN, BSN, were selected by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) as winners of the 2007 ANCC Magnet Recognition Program Essay Contest. Kelly and Doherty wrote an essay titled "Boston Red Sox Magnet Moment," describing how Dana-Farber Cancer Institute nurses threw the first pitch at a Red Sox game in 2005 to celebrate Magnet status; the essay will be published online at [www.medscape.com/ancc](http://www.medscape.com/ancc) late this year. Walsh's essay, which discusses how living the Magnet philosophy at Dana-Farber has motivated her to go back to school for training as a nurse practitioner, will be published in December 2007 or January 2008.

Magnet recognition, an award considered by many to be the gold standard in nursing practice, was established in the early 1980s by the American Academy of Nursing to identify characteristics in hospitals that serve to attract and retain nurses. Since 1993, it has been a formal recognition program of the ANCC, the nation's leading nursing accreditation organization and a subsidiary of the American Nursing Association. Dana-Farber is 1 of 256 Magnet-accredited hospitals worldwide and one of only five in Massachusetts.

For more information about Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, visit [www.danafarber.org](http://www.danafarber.org).

## University Hospital Nurses Are Among the First to Receive a DAISY Foundation Research Grant

Three University Hospital nurses, Scott Looney, RN, and ONS members Jennifer Hester, RN, DNP, and Kyra Whitmer, PhD, RN, recently were among the first individuals in the nation to receive the J. Patrick Barnes Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice Grant from the DAISY Foundation.

The DAISY Foundation is widely known for its DAISY Award, which recognizes extraordinary nurses in medical facilities across the nation. The grant, launched this year, provides funding for research and evidence-based practice projects that seek



*DAISY grant recipients Scott Looney, Jennifer Hester, and Kyra Whitmer (left to right)*

to impact treatment of patients with autoimmune diseases and cancer. Hester, Whitmer, and Looney will use the funds to study the effectiveness of a protocol to prevent and treat mouth sores caused by chemotherapy.

"Mouth sores caused by chemotherapy can result in major complications and can have a profound effect on quality of life," said Hester. "They can cause pain, infection, and difficulty talking and eating. Patients don't always receive much guidance on basic mouth care during chemotherapy treatment partly because there are no clear guidelines for patients to follow. We hope to clarify the issue so healthcare providers are able to provide their patients with mouth care information that is based on real research."

University Hospital is part of the Health Alliance, an integrated healthcare delivery system of physicians and hospitals serving Greater Cincinnati in Ohio. For more information, visit [www.universityhospitalcincinnati.com](http://www.universityhospitalcincinnati.com).

## ONS Journals Added to PsycINFO Database

The *Oncology Nursing Forum* (ONF) and *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing* (CJON) have been accepted for indexing in the PsycINFO database, which offers abstracts of psychological literature dating from the 1800s. The database is used extensively by researchers and is a service of the American Psychological Association.

Digital Object Identifier: 10.1188/07.ONF.1101-1103

*ONF* and *CJON* were accepted after a PsysINFO committee reviewed the publications and determined that the portions of the journals related to psychological issues would be relevant and beneficial to the users of the database. For more information about PsysINFO, visit [www.apa.org/psycinfo](http://www.apa.org/psycinfo).

## **TrialCheck® Cancer Clinical Trial Matching Interface Debuts Online**

TrialCheck®, the nation's premier searchable database for cancer clinical trials, debuted on the American Cancer Society Web site ([www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)) and its 24-hour National Cancer Information Center (800-ACS-2345), giving millions of patients with cancer quick access to clinical trial matches for their diagnosis and locale.

Developed by the Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups in 2001, TrialCheck uses a patient-centered approach to online clinical trials matching. Its disease-specific search filter guides users through a brief questionnaire of the patient's type of cancer, treatment history, and current condition. Its location-driven filter displays the search results by proximity to the user's zip code. As a result, users (patients and physicians) receive tailored information on thousands of nationally registered cancer clinical trials open and seeking patients in the United States.

All users receive a recap of their TrialCheck search in writing, sent via mail by the American Cancer Society. The packet of information, which includes summaries of protocols returned in search results, takes a critical step, facilitating communication between patients and physicians to confirm whether the protocols that appeared in the search results are appropriate treatment options. Patients also can save their searches and send them via e-mail to themselves or others for personal use.

"The combined power of two leading cancer organizations can help bridge serious gaps in cancer clinical trial awareness and participation," said Robert L. Comis, MD, coalition president and chair. "The data clearly underscore that it is crucial that cancer patients—and their physicians—are aware of clinical trial availability. With this new TrialCheck service, we can work with the American Cancer Society to reverse these enrollment trends and give patients access to information that can inform and facilitate discussion with their physician."

"This new service will help the American Cancer Society put clinical trial information into the hands of patients," said Richard C. Wender, MD, national volunteer president of the American Cancer Society. "Making the information easy to access and providing it in a way that supports the discussion between patients and their physicians about clinical trials provides a wonderful tool to help link patients with the right trial for them. As a

result, we'll accelerate our understanding of cancer."

TrialTracker, an innovative TrialCheck feature, will capture patients' clinical trial experiences, determining whether they ultimately were enrolled in a trial. For the first time, the American Cancer Society can gain an expansive view of clinical trial activity, tracking the experiences of patients individually and collectively. In addition, TrialTracker will provide comprehensive reporting on demographics and insights into patient barriers to enrollment (e.g., physicians unfamiliar with trials, location, personal concerns) that can inform the development of new clinical trial education programs.

For more information, visit [www.cancer.trialshelp.org](http://www.cancer.trialshelp.org).

## **New Editor-in-Chief Named to Society of Gynecologic Oncologists' Medical Journal**



Beth Y. Karlan, MD, director of the Cedars-Sinai Women's Cancer Research Institute at the Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute in Los Angeles, CA, and a renowned expert in the field of gynecologic oncology, has been named the new editor-in-chief of *Gynecologic Oncology*, the medical journal of the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists (SGO). Karlan, who begins her editorship on January 1, 2008, succeeds David M. Gershenson, MD, who led the journal for the past 17 years.

Karlan specializes in ovarian cancer surgery and has spearheaded research efforts that have contributed to several innovative treatment strategies for ovarian cancer used worldwide. She is a national advocate for early detection of women's gynecologic cancers and has testified before Congress to increase funding for women's cancer research.

A past president of the SGO, Karlan previously was associate editor for *Gynecologic Oncology*. She also held editorial board positions with *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, *Nature Clinical Practice Oncology*, and the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*. She has authored hundreds of articles published in peer-reviewed journals.

"I'm very pleased to have this opportunity and hope that during my tenure as editor, I can contribute to improving the care of women with cancer by encouraging research and disseminating new knowledge that may lead to better treatments and earlier detection for gynecologic malignancies," said Karlan.

At Cedars-Sinai, Karlan is also the director of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology,

and the Gilda Radner Hereditary Cancer Detection Program. She is a professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles.

For more information about SGO or *Gynecologic Oncology*, visit [www.sgo.org](http://www.sgo.org).

## **"Champion in Healthcare" Named by the *Boston Business Journal***



Patricia Branowicki, MS, RN, CNAA, director of Nursing Patient Care Services for Pediatric Oncology at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and vice president for Medicine Patient Services at Children's Hospital–Boston, recently was named a "Champion in Healthcare" by the *Boston Business Journal*. This is the consecutive second year that a Dana-Farber nurse has received this honor.

Branowicki made history in 2000 by becoming the first nurse leader of the joint pediatric oncology program at Dana-Farber and Children's. Since then, she has been instrumental in building a collaborative practice environment between the hospitals. Branowicki also has dramatically improved the experience of families with children facing cancer, especially as they face end-of-life issues.

"Nurses at the bedside have the ability to make changes," says Branowicki. "My role is to listen to their ideas, eliminate barriers, and support the passion and desire nurses have to provide excellent patient care."

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute ([www.dana-farber.org](http://www.dana-farber.org)) is a principal teaching affiliate of the Harvard Medical School and is among the leading cancer research and care centers in the United States.

The Joint Commission has been awarded a contract by the World Health Organization (WHO) to oversee global field testing of the long-planned International Classification for Patient Safety (ICPS). The project has been sponsored by the WHO World Alliance for Patient Safety and is overseen by a panel of international experts.

## **Joint Commission Awarded Contract to Test International Classification for Patient Safety**

The Joint Commission was first approached by WHO in 2005 to coordinate the development of the ICPS in collaboration with a panel of experts. The goal of the project was to create a classification system that optimizes the comparability of patient safety data and information across international borders.

The ICPS is based on the Joint Commission's Patient Safety Event Taxonomy and draws from the National Patient Safety Agency's National Reporting and Learning System in the United Kingdom, the Australian Patient Safety Foundation's Advanced Information Management System, and the Eindhoven/PRISMA-Medical Classification Model from Eindhoven University of Technology and Leiden University Medical Center in the Netherlands. The Patient Safety Event Taxonomy has been endorsed by the National Quality Forum as the U.S. standard.

The ICPS seeks to define, harmonize, and group patient safety concepts according to an internationally agreed upon classification in a way that is conducive to learning and improving patient safety across health systems. The system has been designed to translate patient safety data and information into a common terminology, facilitate the systematic collection of patient safety data and information, enable data to be aggregated and compared, and provide a basis for international analysis. The field-testing effort will determine the extent to which the ICPS reflects the realities and scope of patient safety worldwide, is feasible to implement across disparate healthcare settings, and produces valid and reliable results that can be used to enhance patient safety globally. The ICPS methodology is consistent with the WHO Family of International Classifications guidelines and previous field testing undertaken by the WHO for the International Classification of Diseases.

"The Joint Commission is pleased to have been chosen by WHO to conduct field testing for the ICPS," said Jerod M. Loeb, PhD, executive vice president of the Division of Quality Measurement and Research at the Joint Commission. "This will lead to patient safety strategies that reduce the risk of patient harm."

The official version of the ICPS is expected to be available for global implementation in late 2008. For more information about the ICPS, contact Heather Sherman, PhD, in the Division of Quality Measurement and Research at the Joint Commission at [hsherman@jointcommission.org](mailto:hsherman@jointcommission.org).

### Joint Commission Launches WikiHealthCare™ to Link Health Professionals Online

Frontline providers, healthcare administrators, researchers, and other healthcare professionals across the globe will be able to collaborate with each other to develop performance improvement solutions through the Joint Commission's WikiHealthCare™ application. This free, Internet-based collaborative forum can be accessed at <http://wikihealthcare.jointcommission.org>.

Registered users on WikiHealthCare can discuss solutions, edit existing solutions, and create new solutions that are available to the entire healthcare community. The ap-

plication currently is being pilot tested. The first quality improvement topics that have been posted to the site address smoking cessation counseling programs and smoke-free hospital campuses. The site and its content focus areas are expected to grow over time. Development of the site was funded, in part, through a research grant from the Smoking Cessation Leadership Center at the University of California, San Francisco.

"The key to successful collaboration is participation," says Scott Williams, PsyD, associate director in the Joint Commission's Department of Health Services Research. "We encourage users to make edits, contribute ideas, identify new performance improvement topics, and make suggestions that they believe would improve the organization or enhance the functions of the site."

Although WikiHealthCare is sponsored by the Joint Commission, the content developed on the site is nonproprietary, open source information. Participation in this collaborative forum has no impact on an organization's accreditation status because all users participate as individuals, not as representatives of their organization.

### Crossfit Workout Challenge Raises More Than \$500,000

On September 29, more than 850 people in 60 cities across the United States participated in one of the most grueling workouts ever devised—the Crossfit Fight Gone Bad Challenge—to raise money for Athletes for a Cure, an initiative of the Prostate Cancer Foundation. More than 4,000 donors supported the cause by contributing \$273,000 in pledges. Thanks to a matching funds grant from Safeway, the event raised more than \$546,000 in just four hours.

The Crossfit Fight Gone Bad workout consists of five exercises (i.e., a medicine ball throw, a deadlift, a box jump, a military press, and a rowing machine), each completed for one minute with a one-minute rest between sets. The full-body workout is designed to be completed until exhaustion; in fact, many professional athletes have failed to complete even one set. Participants in the Fight Gone

Bad Challenge solicited pledges based on the number of sets they completed. The challenge took place in facilities ranging from a garage in Texas to the high-tech F.I.T. Center in Los Altos, CA.

Chris Devlin participated in honor of his 84-year-old grandfather who had been diagnosed with prostate cancer five years ago and is now cancer free. Devlin said, "It's events like this and groups like Athletes for a Cure who've made the difference between me losing my grandfather and having him around to see his grandchildren grow up. I am so proud to have the opportunity to show him how much he means to me by competing in something as difficult as Fight Gone Bad."

Athletes for a Cure is a fundraising and awareness program that assists athletes in raising money for better treatments and a cure for prostate cancer. For more information, visit [www.athletesforacure.org](http://www.athletesforacure.org).

### Joint Commission Resources Issues a Call for Presentation Proposals

Joint Commission Resources (JCR) is now accepting proposals for presentations for the 2008 Annual National Conference on Quality and Safety. This marks the first time that JCR, a not-for-profit affiliate of the Joint Commission, has issued a call for presentations for its 22nd annual national conference.

Presentations at the November 2008 conference in Chicago, IL, will focus on best practices in compliance with the national patient safety goals to promote a culture of quality and safety improvement in healthcare organizations. Proposals should address new processes, technologies, and tools that provide creative, innovative methods for addressing quality and safety issues. All proposals should be submitted for consideration by January 5, 2008.

After the proposals are reviewed, presenters will be invited in May and June 2008.

Additional information about the conference and proposal guidelines can be found at [www.jcrinc.com/NatlConf2008Presentations](http://www.jcrinc.com/NatlConf2008Presentations); by contacting Leslie LaBelle, associate director of conferences, JCR, at 630-792-5435; or by e-mail to [natlconf2008@jcrinc.com](mailto:natlconf2008@jcrinc.com).

### Bravo! Job Well Done! Pat Yourself on the Back!

Have you been awarded recently for your dedication and commitment to oncology nursing? Have you been appointed to a new leadership position at your institution? Are you helping to coordinate an event that is particularly relevant to oncology nurses? If so, the *Oncology Nursing Forum (ONF)* wants to share these and other achievements with its readers.

ONF accepts news of member accomplishments for People and Events. Submissions can include a recent photo and should be less than 250 words. For more information, contact Associate Editor Diane M. Otte, RN, MS, OCN®, via e-mail at [otte.diane@mayo.edu](mailto:otte.diane@mayo.edu) or [ottedm@charter.net](mailto:ottedm@charter.net).