

Introduction to Oncology for the Healthcare Provider

Thursday, March 5, 2026
UPMC Hillman Cancer Center, Remote Attendance

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, participants should be able to:

1. Define the pathophysiology of malignant disease and factors that can increase a person's risk of developing cancer.
2. Discuss the role of different treatment modalities in the management of patients with cancer.
3. Identify supportive care, symptom management, and psychosocial needs of patients with cancer.
4. Recall proper guidelines surrounding those who are administering or receiving antineoplastic therapy or immunotherapy.
5. Recognize the signs, symptoms, and diagnostic criteria needed to manage the patient experiencing an oncologic emergency.

Schedule

7:30 am	Microsoft Teams login	
8:00 am	Welcome and Overview	Amy DiMaggio, MSN, RN, OCN
8:10 am	Pathophysiology of Cancer	Maura Miller, DNP, CRNP, FNP-BC, OCN
9:05 am	Overview of Cancer Treatments	Ketura Miller, BSN, RN, OCN
10:05 am	Break	
10:15 am	Safe Handling Measures and Responsibilities for Antineoplastic Therapy and Biotherapy	Lynne O'Connor, MSN, RN, OCN
10:40 am	Psychosocial Needs of Cancer Patients, Families, and Caregivers	Colleen Johnston, MSW, LCSW
11:20 am	Lunch	
12:00 pm	The Use of Blood Products in Patients with Cancer	Linda Lakdawala, DNP, RN, CPAN
12:35 pm	Neutropenia and Thrombocytopenia	Alyssa Owens, PA-C
1:10 pm	Break	
1:20 pm	Pain Management and Nausea and Vomiting	Laura Davis, RN, OCN
2:05 pm	Oncologic Emergencies	Amy DiMaggio, MSN, RN, OCN
3:00 pm	Adjournment	

Faculty Listing

*Laura Davis, RN, OCN
Senior Professional Staff Nurse
UPMC Hillman Cancer Center*

*Amy DiMaggio, MSN, RN, OCN
Clinical Education Specialist
UPMC Hillman Cancer Center*

*Colleen Johnston, MSW, LCSW
Palliative Care Social Worker
UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside*

*Linda Lakdawala, DNP, RN, CPAN
Advanced Clinical Education
Specialist
UPMC Shadyside*

*Ketura Miller, BSN, RN, OCN
Nurse Educator, Central PA
UPMC Hillman Cancer Center*

*Maura Miller, DNP, CRNP, FNP-
BC, OCN
Clinical Education Specialist
UPMC Hillman Cancer Center*

*Lynne O'Connor, MSN, RN, OCN
Advanced Clinical Education
Specialist
UPMC Hillman Cancer Center*

*Alyssa Owens, PA-C
Physician Assistant
UPMC Hillman Cancer Center*

Contact Hours

In support of improving patient care, the University of Pittsburgh is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

The University of Pittsburgh has been authorized by the American Academy of PAs (AAPA) to award AAPA Category 1 CME credit for activities planned in accordance with AAPA CME Criteria. This activity is designated for 5.5 AAPA Category 1 CME credits. PAs should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation.

The maximum number of hours awarded for this Continuing Nursing Education activity is 5.5 contact hours.

To receive 5.5 continuing education hours, the learner must record attendance, attend the entire activity, and complete the activity evaluation.



JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER™
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

Audience Disclosure

The information presented at this program represents the views and opinions of the individual presenters, and does not constitute the opinion or endorsement of, or promotion by, the UPMC Center for Continuing Education in the Health Sciences, UPMC / University of Pittsburgh Medical Center or Affiliates and University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Reasonable efforts have been taken intending for educational subject matter to be presented in a balanced, unbiased fashion and in compliance with regulatory requirements. However, each program attendee must always use his/her own personal and professional judgment when considering further application of this information, particularly as it may relate to patient diagnostic or treatment decisions including, without limitation, FDA-approved uses and any off-label uses.

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

No members of the planning committee, speakers, presenters, authors, content reviewers and/or anyone else in a position to control the content of this education activity have relevant financial relationships with any companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.