

Inside this issue:

President's message	1
Message from the Editor	2
Save the Date	2
Who is Pearl Moore?	3
Membership Committee	3
Legislative Update	4-5
HCONS Student Rep	6
Community Outreach	6
HCONS Scholarships	7
ONS Congress	8
Photo Recap	9-11
Board of Directors	12

A message from the President

As the President of the Houston Chapter Oncology Nursing Society (HCONS), it is with great pleasure that I extend a warm welcome to you, our oncology nursing community. Whether you recently became a member or have been a valued member of our organization for many years, we are thrilled to have you join us in person or this virtual space where we can connect, engage, and continue to support one another in our shared commitment to support oncology nurses.

I want to thank you all for allowing me to serve as a President and to be part of an organization that not only gives knowledge back but inspires nursing colleagues to be creative in supporting oncology nursing and the community we serve. I am following in the footsteps of great leaders who motivated and empowered us to pursue the success of the HCONS.

Several opportunities will be available throughout the year to support oncology nursing advocacy through Legislative Initiatives at the state and federal levels. Support education through events to disseminate updates in cancer modalities and attractive grants for oncology nursing research, as well as continue networking and collaborating with the Galveston Bay and the Way Out West (WOW) Chapters for greater accomplishment of our common goals. Follow us in person or on social media and join our events to experience firsthand the power of collective action and community spirit. Together, we are the living embodiment of the change we want to see in Houston and the nation, and we do it with the love and compassion that defines the Houston Chapter Oncology Nursing Society.

With gratitude and commitment, I would like to express my appreciation to every member, past and present, who has contributed to our remarkable HCONS legacy. It is your passion and advocacy that makes all this possible, and I am excited to see the incredible difference we will continue to make together in our oncology nursing community.

Joaquin



From the Co-Editor's Desk: Excited to Be Back!

By Danya Garner, PhD, RN, OCN, CCRN, NPD-BC

I'm thrilled to share that I've returned as co-editor of the Houston ONS Chapter Newsletter alongside the amazing LanAnh Nguyen and Paula Rieger. It's truly an honor to be back in this role and reconnect with our vibrant local oncology nursing community.

A heartfelt thank-you to Paula for graciously taking the lead during my time serving as national president of ONS. Your dedication and steady leadership kept this newsletter thriving, and I'm so grateful to be rejoining such a strong team. I'm in great company with both you and LanAnh, and I look forward to what we'll continue to accomplish together.

May 2025 marks Oncology Nurses Month—a time to celebrate YOU and the impactful, compassionate work you do every day. This issue of the newsletter is packed with great content to help us do just that. Inside, you'll find highlights from the, including HCONS member presenters at the 50th ONS Congress, our 2025 Congress Scholarship recipients, and a Legislative Update to keep you informed and inspired.

We hope this issue brings you pride in your work and in our collective accomplishments. Thank you for all you do!

Warmly,
Danya
Co-Editor

LanAnh Nguyen, Co-Editor
Paula Rieger, Committee Member

50th Annual ONS Congress - *Celebrating Yesterday, Transforming Tomorrow*

Experience the powerful Opening Ceremonies at the 50th Annual ONS Congress that includes our very own Dr. Paula Rieger!

[Click here to view Opening Ceremonies video!](#)



Upcoming Events

- HCONS Spring Academic Scholarships opens April 14, closes May 30, 2025
- HCONS OCN Scholarship opens June 2, closes, June 27
- HCONS Annual Vendor Education Event—September 10, 2025
- ONS Bridge Virtual Conference—September 9 & 11, 2025
- [HCONS Research Grant](#)—Up to \$5,000 for funding annually for investigative nursing projects that affect oncology nursing practice and improve care for those at risk for or experiencing cancer and their families.



Who is Pearl Moore and What does she have to do with ONS?

By Paula Trahan Rieger, DNP, FAAN

A common occurrence in today's world is unfamiliarity who famous people may be. For the young, it is lack of knowledge about those that came before them. Who are the people that made a difference in their organization or professional societies in the beginning? For the older generation, it is knowing who the current popular celebrities or professional luminaries may be. My husband and I try to watch shows such as the Oscars, or Grammys, just so we will know who's who.

Given that the 50th anniversary of ONS as a professional organization was celebrated at the ONS Congress this year, I felt a desire to share with our younger members who exactly Pearl Moore is and all that she did for ONS. I first joined ONS in 1985, and Pearl was the CEO. She was like a rock star back then, and members often wanted to have the opportunity of meeting her or better yet, getting their picture taken with her. Pearl was the CEO when I was National President from 2000-2002. This was when I really had the opportunity to get to know her and to learn from her.



Pearl Moore (left) and Paula Rieger (right) in 2002.

Pearl began her nursing career as the director of a hospital school of nursing. Following a difficult year, when her mother was diagnosed with a gastric cancer, she took the opportunity to enroll in the newly started master's program at the University of Pittsburgh for clinical nurse specialists. While in school, she learned about a newly started professional association named the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS). But more on that to follow. She focused on oncology and graduated in 1974. For her "second career", she convinced leadership at Montefiore hospital to start a new role for her as a clinical nurse specialist. She worked hard to educate others on this new role and to "market" it to others to ensure its success. As a clinical nurse specialist, she was doing all the things that she loved for both patients and nurses. Toward the end of her first year, her drive and intelligence were noted by a physician that asked her to coordinate a National Cancer Institute (NCI) site visit for a proposal the hospital had submitted to become part of a brain tumor study group. As Pearl states in her biography in "Building a Legacy: Voices of Oncology Nursing (Nevidjon, 1995)", this began an eight-year odyssey into one of the most challenging yet satisfying jobs she ever had.

In 1982, she segued into her "third" career. Pearl had attended the "original" ONS meeting, held in 1974 during the American Cancer Society meeting in Chicago. The first ONS President, Lisa Begg Marino, asked Pearl to chair the bylaws committee. She then went on to run for treasurer and served for one term. ONS persevered through these early times, renting an office in 1979 and then starting the certification corporation in 1984, following task force work led by Pearl.

By 1982, ONS was ready to hire an Executive Director. Because she loved ONS, lived in Pittsburgh and was ready for a change, Pearl threw her hat into the ring and the rest is history. Pearl served as the CEO of ONS until I came on board in 2006 as she retired and, in partnership with the board, was there to guide many of ONS's "firsts". It was a time of tremendous growth for the organization. We look at ONS as it is now and wonder how it ever got to where it is today, one of the largest specialty nursing organizations in the country.

I can tell you that it came from the vision, passion, dedication, and yes, courage to take steps that often seemed very scary at first. And yet, step by step, these qualities of our early leaders got us where we are today. Pearl was there through it all, guiding the voluntary boards as they supported the conferences, publications, practice and education standards, guidelines and research that helped support the care of patients with cancer and the nurses of today.

Brenda Nevidjon (Ed.) (1995). *Building a Legacy: Voices of Oncology Nursing*. Boston: Jones & Bartlett Publishers.

HCONS Membership Committee

Patty Johnston (Chair), Myra Granada & Katrina Aganekwu

The Houston Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society (HCONS) is proud to provide its members with a strong professional network and opportunities to connect with friends and colleagues. Our chapter fosters meaningful relationships that support career growth in oncology nursing.

As one of the largest ONS chapters in the country, HCONS is home to 811 dedicated members working together to advance the mission of the Oncology Nursing Society throughout the greater Houston area.

For 2025, the HCONS Board has approved

keeping annual chapter dues at just \$15.00.

We are also proud to highlight our collaboration with local schools of nursing, which resulted in the addition of a student nurse interested in oncology nursing to our HCONS Board this past year.

The HCONS Membership Committee values your feedback and welcomes suggestions for improvement. We also encourage anyone interested in joining the committee to reach out to us. Your involvement makes a difference, and we look forward to hearing from you!



Legislative Update

By Terry Throckmorton, PhD, RN

On March 4th, 600+ nurses marched to the Texas Capitol to meet with legislators regarding nursing issues and to request support for bills proposed by the Nursing Legislative Agenda Coalition. Ten of the nurses who attended received scholarships from the Houston Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society (HCONS). Lisa Arriaga, Reena Binu, Dorothy Elrod-Joplin, Maria Guerrero, LanAnh Nguyen, Roselyn Ogunkunle, Natalie Spears, Arielle Sprot, Peggy Tong, and I attended with support by HCONS. Each of us visited with our representative and senator and discussed the NLAC agenda and three issues of concern.



The three issues included keeping the immunization requirements as they are now, prevention of the criminalization of nursing errors, and enforcing the staffing law passed during the last legislative session in 2023. The Nursing Legislative Agenda Coalition has proposed multiple bills to support nursing practice. The first set of bills covers continued funding for nursing education including funds for students. We are fortunate that the amount provided in the last legislative session is already included in the proposed legislative budget. We are asking for some increases and for funding to provide stipends for RNs who precept students. This request was included in the last legislative session but was not funded.

The second set of bills covers improvement of the work environment through enforcement of the staffing bill that was passed last session, prevention of the criminalization of nursing errors, just culture, surgical smoke evacuation, and removing regulatory barriers for APRN practice. The staffing law requires that institutions create a staffing committee composed mostly of clinical bedside nurses. The committee is required to develop a staffing policy which is followed. Currently not all institutions follow the law.

Criminalization of nursing errors has occurred in three states. The Texas Board of Nursing covers nursing practice. Under current law, nurses are reviewed by a committee of their peers (Peer Review) and are then reviewed by the board. The board determines whether there was a simple error or criminal offense which requires intent to harm. If a criminal offense is committed the board refers the case to prosecutors for review. We would like this law to remain as it is.

Under current law, there is no mechanism to remove low level violations of the Nurse Practice Act from a nurse's record. This bill would provide a mechanism to remove low level violations such as forgetting to renew your license from your record after a period of time. It is designed to encourage nurses to complete any remedial education and stay engaged in the profession of nursing.

Surgical smoke has been determined to be a health hazard for the staff who work in the OR. Currently there is no requirement to evacuate the smoke to make the OR a less detrimental environment. This bill would require facilities to protect providers and patients from the dangers of surgical smoke through evacuation.

Currently in the state of Texas, there is a regulation that APRNs must sign, at the cost sometimes of tens of thousands of dollars, a contract with a physician, called a delegation agreement, before they can treat patients. APRNs must renew those contracts every year for their entire careers. If the physician retires or moves, APRNs must stop seeing their patients and close their practices until they can find a new delegating physician. The delegating physician may never see or provide direct care for the APRN's patients or be in the same site or even city as the APRN. This regulation is not obvious when APRNs practice in hospitals but is a clear deterrent to full practice for APRNs in the community. This bill requires that this delegation regulation be removed so that APRNs can practice to the full extent of their education and licensure.

Legislative Update Continued

Complaints filed against APRNs at the Texas Medical Board, or any other licensing agency should be immediately referred to the Texas Board of Nursing, the board with jurisdiction over APRNs. There is interest by physicians and legislators to have these complaints filed with Board of Medicine.

Current law prevents APRNs from prescribing Schedule II medications outside of the hospital and hospice settings. These restrictions prevent APRNs from prescribing needed medications for mental health patients and patients with severe pain in a variety of practice settings, such as palliative and long-term care. It also prevents hospital-based NPs from being able to write timely discharge prescriptions for their patients, contributing to delays in care and increased costs for hospitals. Texas is one of only six states without Schedule II authority for APRNs. Extending Schedule II authority to APRNs will improve continuity of care for patients, increase access, and reduce administrative burdens for and health care facilities.

Dentists in Texas can delegate the provision of anesthesia to CRNAs, so long as the dentist has a permit for the type of anesthesia that the CRNA is performing. However, the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners has recently adopted strict anesthesia permitting requirements, which has had the unintended consequence of also limiting the CRNA's ability to provide dental anesthesia care. The Texas Legislature is being asked to remedy this by removing the requirement that dentists have a permit when the CRNA provides care. This change would dramatically increase access to care by ensuring those dentists without permits are still able to treat patients who need anesthesia.

NLAC is also recommending removing the requirement that NPs be in the same health insurance network as their delegating physician. Senate Bill 654 (85R) eliminated this requirement for Medicaid/CHIP in 2017, but the bill excluded commercial plans. Getting rid of this insurance barrier is necessary to keep pace with the growing numbers of NPs providing primary care in Texas and would increase network adequacy in areas with healthcare provider shortages.

The Texas Board of Nursing recently issued guidance requiring a physician's order for all over the counter (OTC) medication administration by school nurses. The guidance raised concern that families would face a new barrier to healthcare access and would lose parental authority to make decisions for their children's medical care. We are asking the Legislature to remedy this situation by allowing school nurses to provide OTCs based on parent permission to ensure students receive safe and appropriate care they would otherwise receive at home from parents or guardians.

Prior to a rule change by CMS in 2014, schools could only bill Medicaid for services provided to special education students. Now, schools can bill for any service provided to a student enrolled in Medicaid. However, for schools to access those funds, the state must submit a State Medicaid Plan Amendment to CMS. So far, seventeen states have taken advantage of this opportunity. This change would be budget-neutral for the state, and the matching funds would be available for behavioral health services as well.

If you would like to receive legislative updates and/or join the Legislative Committee, please contact me at tathrockmorton@gmail.com.



Excellence in Oncology Nursing Health Policy and Advocacy Award



Terry Throckmorton, PhD, RN is the 2025 recipient of the Oncology Nursing Society's Excellence in Oncology Nursing Health Policy and Advocacy Award which recognizes achievements and involvement in oncology nursing health policy and advocacy. Terry is currently serving as faculty at the University of St. Thomas. She is an active member of the American Nurses Association, Texas Nurses Association District 9, Oncology Nursing Society and Houston Chapter of Oncology Nursing Society. Please join HCONS in congratulating Terry for this much deserved recognition. Thank you Terry for your ongoing leadership as the chair of the HCONS Legislative Committee.

HCONS Student Representative

By Cecilia Ann Darato

Introduction

My name is Cecilia Ann Darato, and I am currently a fourth semester student at the University of Texas Medical Branch School of Nursing. I have always been passionate about healthcare and helping others, which led me to pursue a career in nursing. Outside of school, I enjoy reading books, visiting my family in Colorado to go hiking or snowboarding!

My Nursing Student Experience:

As a nursing student, I have gained hands-on experience in various clinical settings, learning from both patients and experienced healthcare professionals. Balancing coursework, clinical rotations, and extracurricular activities has been both challenging and rewarding. I have particularly enjoyed my experiences during my pediatric clinicals at MD Anderson, which have strengthened my clinical skills and critical thinking. It also exposed me to the oncology field which has been an eye-opening experience.

My Interest in Oncology Nursing:

My interest in oncology nursing stems from my pediatric clinical at MD Anderson but has become quite personal after my grandfather was diagnosed with prostate cancer. I am drawn to the field having experience seeing meaningful patient relationships, the nurses who provide compassionate care, and watching firsthand new clinical trials of inhalation chemotherapy. I aspire to become an oncology nurse who not only supports patients through their treatment journey but also contributes to advancements in cancer care and survivorship.

I am excited about the opportunity to serve as the **Student Board Representative for Spring 2025**, and I look forward to learning from and contributing to the oncology nursing community!



Community Outreach

Sally de la Cruz (Chair) & Rosalyn Jones-Waters

Thank you for your continued support of HCONS' Adopt-a-Family efforts. For the 2024 year, we were able to collect \$3,100 in donations. 2024 Adopt-a-Family funds were donated to Ben Taub Hospital's Oncology department for distribution to families in need by social workers. We were able to support 7 families. Please continue to donate for our HCONS Adopt-a-Family efforts this year. Your donations are collected at the monthly membership meetings with cash, venmo or zelle.

2025 March for Marrow—Team HCONS Saturday, April 5th, 2025

Although the 2025 March for Marrow was canceled due to inclement weather, you can still support Team HCONS by making a donation [here](#) to benefit the Aplastic Anemia and MDS International Foundation. If you registered to walk, your t-shirt and complimentary bag will be mailed to you. Raffle winners will be notified and arrangements made to mail out your winning items. We look forward to your



Fall 2024 Educational Scholarship Recipients

Colleen Jernigan (Chair) & Zandra Rivera

The following members received a \$1,000 academic scholarship for Fall 2024:

Robert Hammond BSN Recipient, Graduating May 2026



I've become very interested in oncology nursing, specifically pediatric oncology. Although there is no cure for cancer, it gives me a sense of pride I've never experienced working for this patient population. Taking their burden away, even if it's just for a few minutes, brings me joy. Pediatric oncology patients are resilient, which fuels my desire to work hard for them. I want to be an oncology nurse because I want to fight for the fighters.

Victoria McClosky MSN Recipient, Graduating December 2025



I truly believe that one of my purposes on this earth is to be an oncology nurse. I've been fortunate to work in various roles, including inpatient, outpatient, leadership, and education. My experiences, along with my own journey through surgeries to remove tumors, have shown me the profound impact oncology nurses can have. The care I received from oncology nurses was phenomenal, and it inspired me to provide the same level of compassion and support. I love teaching and encouraging nurses to go beyond just the physical and informational aspects of care, to also nurture the mental, social, and spiritual needs of patients, offering truly holistic care to patients, caregivers, and colleagues.

Spring 2025 Educational Scholarship Opportunity

HCONS is offering four competitive Spring scholarships for colleagues interested in the care of patients with cancer. Each \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded in June to two undergraduate, one MSN student, and one student pursuing a DNP or PhD. HCONS membership not required to apply. Please note individuals cannot receive the same award more than once (i.e., BSN scholarship, MSN scholarship, or DNP/PhD scholarship). However, as you advance in your educational journey you can reapply to receive a scholarship at the next level:



Application requirements include:

1. A paragraph about your interest in oncology nursing;
2. One letter of faculty support. Must be from the program where you are currently enrolled.

[Click here to apply!](#)

The deadline for submission is May 30, 2025 at midnight. Scholarships will be awarded at the June 18, 2025 HCONS General Membership Meeting.

ONS Congress: Celebrating Yesterday, Transforming Tomorrow

We were honored to offer five \$2500 ONS Congress Scholarships to the following general members:

- Sheila Castro
- Ben Castillo
- Myra Granada
- Esmey Samuel
- Arielle Spratt



Additionally, Kristin Johnson, our immediate Past President was selected to receive the Board scholarship. Each of these participants had the opportunity to attend the upcoming 50th Annual Congress: Celebrating Yesterday: Transforming Tomorrow, offered April 9th-13th in Denver, Colorado.

Please check out HCONS members who presented at ONS Congress this year on the next page.



Thursday, April 10, 2025

2:20 PM - 2:30 PM Poster Monitor 1	Program to Promote Ethical Empowerment of Oncology Nurses Joyce Neumann, PhD, APRN, AOCN, HEC-C, FAAN, MD Anderson, Houston, TX
5:30 PM - 5:40 PM Poster Monitor 17	A systematic approach for oncology subject matter experts utilizing an evidence-based instrument to improve learner engagement and satisfaction. Stella Dike, PhD, RN, OCN, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
12:25 PM - 12:35 PM Poster Monitor 23	Advanced Breast Cancer patient advocates Deliver patient Empowerment: ABCDE pre-intervention qualitative interview analysis Abbey Kaler, MS, APRN, FNP-C, PhD(c), MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Friday, April 11, 2025

6:00 PM - 6:10 PM Poster Monitor 12	The Role of Oncology Nurses in Artificial Intelligence Integration for Enhanced Patient Care and Operational Efficiency Roselyn Ogunkunle, Ph.D, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, OCN, Lone Star Oncology, Houston, TX
7:00 AM - 7:10 AM Poster Monitor 4	Enhancing Oncology Patient Care Through Interprofessional Collaboration: A Multidisciplinary Team Approach Cassandra Green, MSN, RN, OCN®, Houston Methodist Clear Lake, Houston, TX
7:10 AM - 7:20 AM Poster Monitor 15	Utility of Longitudinal Circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA) Detection in patients with various sarcoma subtypes Cissimol Joseph, MSN, AGNP, AOCNP, M D Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
7:30 AM - 7:40 AM Poster Monitor 14	Empowering the Next Generation of Leaders: Nursing Student Board Member Kristin Johnson, MSN, RN, OCN, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM Bluebird Ballroom 3BCD	Fueling the Oncology Nurse Scientist Pipeline through an Academic Medical Center Based Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Oncology Nursing Eileen Hacker, PhD, APRN, AOCN, FAAN, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
6:00 PM - 6:10 PM Poster Monitor 6	Improve Blood Product Administration Compliance Score in the Ambulatory Treatment Center Gina Mendoza, BSN RN OCN, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Sugar land, TX

Saturday, April 12, 2025

7:00 AM - 7:10 AM Poster Monitor 13	Promoting Legislative Advocacy through Multi-Chapter Collaboration Terry Throckmorton, PhD, RN, University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX
7:10 AM - 7:20 AM Poster Monitor 17	Management of Diabetic Oncology Patients in the Infusion Center Carrie Venegas, MSN, RN, OCN, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Sugar Land, TX
7:50 AM - 8:00 AM Poster Monitor 14	Building Confidence Through Simulation: Cell Therapy Administration for the New Oncology Nurse Paola Turner, BSN, OCN, BMTCN, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM Room 505-507	Empowering Inpatient and Ambulatory Oncology Nurses: Through Interprofessional Goals of Care Communication Training Victoria McClosky, BA, BSN, RN, CBCN, U.T. MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM Room 505-507	Isolation Champion Workgroup-The Importance of Infection Control and Nursing Collaboration Jalen Juneke, MSN, RN, OCN, CIC, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
11:35 AM - 11:45 AM Poster Monitor 1	A Mixed Methods Systematic Review of Access and Early Integration of Palliative Care: Characteristics in Non-Hospital Settings Kim Slusser, MSN, RN, CHPN, NEA-BC, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX; University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO
11:55 AM - 12:05 PM Poster Monitor 2	A New Measure of Symptom Burden for Checkpoint Inhibitor Immunotherapy Loretta A. Williams, PhD, APRN, OCN, AOCN, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

HCONS Photo Recap

Light the Night, October 26, 2024, Hermann Square Park, Houston, TX



Texas Nurses Association, District 9, Nursing Celebration 2024, Houston, TX



Award recipients Goley Richardson (left) and Meghan Jones (right).

Texas Nurses Association, Nurse Day at the Capitol, March 3-4, 2025, Austin, TX



HCONS Photo Recap

2025 ONS Congress, April 9-13, Denver, CO



HCONS Photo Recap

2025 ONS Congress, April 9-13, Denver, CO



2025 Friend of the Foundation Award



Cassandra Green, DNP, MSN, RN, OCN is recognized by the Oncology Nursing Foundation with the 2025 Friend of the Foundation Award.

"Being honored as the Friend of the Foundation by the Oncology Nursing Foundation is the highlight of my career. The Foundation supported my educational journey by providing a scholarship toward my doctorate degree, which focused on improving lung cancer screenings in primary care," Green said.

"I once heard a Foundation Board member state that if every oncology nurse gave a little, it would make a huge impact. That reminded me that it takes a village, which needs everyone in it to succeed. To now receive this honor is a heartfelt reminder that my efforts help to champion the extraordinary work of oncology nurses and to inspire future oncology nurses."

2025 HCONS Board of Directors

OFFICERS:

Joaquin Buitrago - President
Rose Moore - President-Elect
Meghan Jones - Treasurer
Peggy Tong - Treasurer-Elect
Mikela Pettigrew - Secretary
Kristin Johnson - Past President



COMMITTEES:

Communications:

Goley Richardson *
Kristin Johnson
Brenda Pesek
Virgina Bayer
Lauren Simpson
Danya Garner
Paula Rieger
LanAnh Nguyen

Community Outreach

Sally de la Cruz *
Roselyn Jones-Waters

Membership:

Patty Johnston *
Myra Granada
Kristina Aganekwu

Legislative:

Terry Throckmorton *

Research:

Meagan Whisenant *
Lori Williams

Nominating/ Scholarships/Awards:

Colleen Jernigan *
Zandra Rivera

Education/Programs:

Joylyn Estrella *
Jermeca Robinson
Kathy Mishaw
Millie Toth
Valerie Stiner
Fran Zandstra
Cassandra Green

Student Representative:

Cecilia Darato

* denotes committee chair

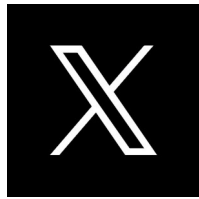
Contact Us!



Facebook:
Houston ONS
Chapter



Instagram:
@Houston_ONS



Twitter:
@Houston_ONS

Website:

<https://communities.ons.org/houston/home>

Email:

Group_admin@hcons.org

Mailing address:

PO Box 66121
Houston, TX 77266

Thank you to our monthly meeting sponsors!

ONS HOUSTON CHAPTER
Monthly Chapter Meeting
January 15, 2025

A First-Line Treatment Option for Adults With Anemia Due to Lower-Risk MDS

Reblozyl
(luspatercept aavv)
for myeloid (MDS) - 75mg

SPEAKER: MinhAnh Nguyen, MSN, FNP-C
Clinical Nurse Consultant
Bristol Myers Squibb

LOCATION: Ruth's Chris Steak House
5433 Westheimer Road Suite 100
Houston, Texas 77056

SCHEDULE: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM Registration/Networking
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM Membership Meeting
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Program

REGISTER HERE!
or use QR Code

RSVP ASAP: Maximum participants = 50

Friendly Reminder:
\$Donations will be collected for Adopt-A-Family \$

Thank you to our program host: Bristol Myers Squibb
Krystal DeMeza

ONS HOUSTON CHAPTER
Monthly Chapter Meeting
January 29, 2025

LIBTAYO
(tisagenlecleucel)
for B-cell (CLL) - 1200mg

FDA Approved Across Multiple Indications

SPEAKER: Jeanelle King, PA
Sunrise, Florida

LOCATION: Maggiano's
2019 Post Oak Boulevard
Houston, Texas 77056

SCHEDULE: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM Registration/Networking
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM Membership Meeting
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Program

RSVP by January 27, 2024
Register via HCONS Virtual Community Site:
<https://tinyurl.com/fr8kd568>

RSVP ASAP: Maximum participants = 80

We will collect \$5 (HCONS members) and \$10 (non-HCONS members) for Adopt-A-Family (cash, check, Venmo or Zelle)

Thank you to our program host: REGENERON
Diamond Roberts:

ONS HOUSTON CHAPTER
Monthly Chapter Meeting
February 19, 2025

Leveraging Real-world Insights to Inform Patient-Centered Care: Modern JAKi Strategies in Individualized Myelofibrosis Management

SPEAKER: Prithviraj Bose, MD
Associate Professor, Department of Leukemia
MD Anderson Cancer Center

LOCATION: Maggiano's Little Italy
2019 Post Oak Boulevard
Houston, Texas 77056

SCHEDULE: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM Registration/Networking
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM Membership Meeting
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Program

REGISTER HERE! **RSVP by Sunday, February 16th**

RSVP ASAP: Maximum participants = 60

Friendly Reminder: We will collect \$5 (HCONS members) and \$10 (non-HCONS members) for ADOPT-A-FAMILY (cash, check, Venmo or Zelle)

Thank you to our program sponsor: Clinical Care Options, LLC

ONS HOUSTON CHAPTER
Monthly Chapter Meeting
February 26, 2025

ZIHERA for the Treatment of Adults with Previously Treated, Unresectable or Metastatic HER2-Positive Biliary Tract Cancer

ZIHERA
(lapatinib-trisulfate)

SPEAKER: Mark Davis, PA
Texas Oncology

LOCATION: Palm Restaurant
1201 Fannin, Suite 129
Houston Texas, 77002

SCHEDULE: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM Registration/Networking
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM Membership Meeting
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Program

REGISTER HERE! by Friday, February 21st

RSVP ASAP: Maximum participants = 65

Friendly Reminder: We will collect \$5 (HCONS members) and \$10 (non-HCONS members) for ADOPT-A-FAMILY (cash, check, Venmo or Zelle)

Thank you to our program Sponsor: Michael Forté Jazz Pharmaceuticals

ONS HOUSTON CHAPTER
Virtual Chapter Meeting
March 5, 2025

Are You Up to Date on the Latest Data on HER2-Targeted Antibody-Drug Conjugates for HER2-Expressing Solid Tumors?

SCHEDULE: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM Zoom Login
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM Membership Meeting
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Program

Thank you to our program host: MED LEARNING GROUP
Christine Perillo & Savannah Brown

ONS HOUSTON CHAPTER
Monthly Chapter Meeting
March 19, 2025

"Trauma-Informed Strategies for Oncology Care."

SPEAKER: BARBARA OFFNER, RN, DNP, CRNI
Executive Oncology Nurse Educator
Gilead Sciences - Oncology

LOCATION: Ruth's Chris Steak House
5433 Westheimer
Houston, Texas 77056

SCHEDULE: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM Registration/Networking
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM Membership Meeting
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Program

REGISTER HERE!

RSVP ASAP: Maximum participants = 50

Friendly Reminder: We will collect \$5 (HCONS members) and \$10 (non-HCONS members) for ADOPT-A-FAMILY (cash, check, Venmo or Zelle)

Thank you to our program Sponsor: Sarah Jones GILEAD Oncology TRODELVY

ONS HOUSTON CHAPTER
Monthly Chapter Meeting
March 26, 2025

RevuForj
(revumenib) tablets
Once-Daily Dose

A Clinical Overview of Safety and Efficacy

SPEAKER: Lisa Burke, BSN, RN, CPHON, BMTCN, RN
Syndax, Chanhassen, Minnesota

LOCATION: Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen
1001 Avenida De Las Americas,
Houston, Texas, 77010-6035

SCHEDULE: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM Registration/Networking
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM Membership Meeting
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Program

REGISTER HERE!

RSVP ASAP: Maximum participants = 60

Friendly Reminder: We will collect \$5 (HCONS members) and \$10 (non-HCONS members) for ADOPT-A-FAMILY (cash, check, Venmo or Zelle)

Thank you to our program Host: Ellen Kurtz-Hammond Syndax

ONS HOUSTON CHAPTER
Monthly Chapter Meeting
April 16, 2025

Immunotherapy in the Treatment of Small Cell Lung Cancer

SPEAKER: Alan Rodney
INTERNAL MEDICINE - HEMATOLOGY & ONCOLOGY
Texas Oncology Duke Slayton Cancer Center

LOCATION: Ruth's Chris Steak House
5433 Westheimer Rd., Houston, Tx 77056

SCHEDULE: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM Registration/Networking
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM Membership Meeting
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Program

Please RSVP HCONS

RSVP ASAP: Maximum participants = 60

Friendly Reminder: We will collect \$5 (HCONS members) and \$10 (non-HCONS members) for ADOPT-A-FAMILY (cash, check, Venmo or Zelle)

Thank you to our program host: AstraZeneca
Brandon Villafano

ONS HOUSTON CHAPTER
Monthly Chapter Meeting
April 23, 2025

"HER2 Expression Informs Clinical Decision-Making in HR+/HER2-low and HER2-Ultralow mBC" AND "A Newly Approved Trop2-Directed ADC for Adults With Previously Treated HR+/HER2- Metastatic Breast Cancer"

SPEAKERS: Jan Davis, APRN
Utah Hematology Oncology, PC
Ogden, Utah

LOCATION: Vic and Anthony's Steakhouse
1510 Texas Avenue
Houston, TX 77002

SCHEDULE: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM Registration/Networking
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM Membership Meeting
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Program

Please RSVP HCONS

RSVP ASAP: Maximum participants = 60

Friendly Reminder: We will collect \$5 (HCONS members) and \$10 (non-HCONS members) for ADOPT-A-FAMILY (cash, check, Venmo or Zelle)

Thank you to our program host: AstraZeneca
Samantha Deloach