



News Release

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Contact:

Lisa Parro, senior public relations specialist

Adventist Midwest Health

Phone: 630-312-7508; pager: 630-255-6032; Lisa.parro@ahss.org

Cancer programs earn accreditation ‘with commendation’

The cancer programs at Adventist Hinsdale and Adventist La Grange Memorial hospitals earned three-year accreditations “with commendation” from the Commission on Cancer (CoC) of the American College of Surgeons (ACoS).

This prestigious recognition follows an onsite evaluation by a physician surveyor, during which the two hospitals demonstrated compliance with 36 rigorous cancer program standards. Approximately 25 percent of U.S. cancer programs are accredited by the Commission on Cancer. Of that 25 percent, Adventist Hinsdale and Adventist La Grange Memorial hospitals are among only a small group approved with commendation.

“Being accredited by the Commission on Cancer assures our patients and their families that their treatment plan is overseen by some of the most talented, well-educated specialists in the area,” said Michael Quaranta, regional director of radiology and oncology for the Adventist Cancer Network.

Both Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital and Adventist Hinsdale Hospital received certification with commendation, which is very important, added Rick Wright, chief executive officer, Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. Commendation means that the hospitals are providing services above and beyond the normal standards.

“Our high standards of care mean that patients don’t have to leave their community to receive world-class treatment,” Wright said.

Receiving care at a CoC-approved cancer program ensures that a patient will have access to: comprehensive care, including state-of-the-art services and equipment; a multi-specialty, team approach to coordinate the best treatment options; information about ongoing clinical trials and new treatment options; access to cancer-related information, education and support; a cancer registry that collects data on type and stage of cancers and treatment results and offers lifelong patient follow-up; ongoing monitoring and improvement of care; and most importantly, quality care close to home.

That commitment in care is evident in the approach of treating patients at Adventist Cancer Network, Quaranta said. For instance, physicians from different specialties such as oncology, radiology, pathology and surgery along with support staff including nurse, technologists and social workers meet weekly to review cancer cases.

“These weekly meetings are the single most important element that distinguishes our program and the quality of care the patient receives,” said Dr. James Hannigan, medical director of oncology at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. “Patients can have a tremendous sense of confidence in their treatment.”

Added Dr. Donald Sweet, medical director of Adventist Hinsdale Hospital’s Opler Cancer Center: “Each discipline brings a unique approach to the care and management of each patient, so the patient is really the benefactor of all the expertise. Our patients’ care and treatment is equivalent to what a patient would find at an academic center.”

The cancer registry also is an important component of the Adventist Cancer Network’s program. All cancer-related data for each cancer patient diagnosed and/or treated at our facilities is contained within the registry database from time of diagnosis throughout their lifetime.

“We use that information to evaluate our survival outcomes, quality of care and use our data in comparison with available information at the state and national level and with national guidelines,” said Clarissa Moholick, regional manager, cancer data management. “This is a very critical component in understanding how well we are doing as a cancer program relative to what other providers are doing in different parts of the country.”

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Adventist Midwest Health includes Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital, Adventist GlenOaks Hospital, Adventist Hinsdale Hospital and Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. To find a physician, visit www.keepingyouwell.com.