CancerLinQ Partners With Oncology Nursing Society

Collaboration Builds on Current Efforts to Support CancerLinQ® Practices in Multidisciplinary, Team-Based Approaches to Quality Care

For immediate release
May 4, 2017

ASCO Contact:
Aaron Tallent
(571) 483-1371
Aaron.Tallent@asco.org

ONS Contact:
Aaron Borchert
(412) 859-6393
ABorchert@ons.org

ALEXANDRIA, Va. -- CancerLinQ LLC, a wholly-owned nonprofit of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), has announced a partnership with the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS). CancerLinQ will draw on ONS’s expertise and thought leadership as it continues to provide a robust quality improvement and data-sharing platform to oncology practices and cancer centers. The collaboration builds on the CancerLinQ® Ambassadors Program, which the two organizations launched earlier this year.

"Oncology nurses are playing a critical role in helping their practices integrate CancerLinQ into their daily cancer care," said CancerLinQ LLC Chief Executive Officer Kevin Fitzpatrick. "We are excited to enhance our work with ONS, as oncology nurses become further engaged within the CancerLinQ community across the United States."

With more than 39,000 members and expertise in developing and implementing educational resources and oncology nurse consulting programs, ONS is well positioned to enhance the value of CancerLinQ® through nurse involvement in a way that ultimately benefits cancer patients. In March 2017, CancerLinQ LLC and ONS launched the CancerLinQ® Ambassadors Program which provides on-the-ground support and guidance to CancerLinQ® participating practices on a regional basis. ONS is currently recruiting credentialed nurses from its membership with experience in
quality improvement, informatics, and technology to serve as ambassadors and provide leadership in the field.

"ONS is pleased to partner with our colleagues at ASCO for the implementation and integration of CancerLinQ," said ONS Chief Executive Officer, Brenda Nevidjon, MSN, RN, FAAN. "Oncology nurses have invaluable expertise when it comes to caring for patients and incorporating new programs into practice. Nurses will be integral in the collection and utilization of patient-centered data that will help drive new advances in oncology care in the future."

As an official partnering organization of CancerLinQ, ONS leaders will participate in the CancerLinQ Oncology Leadership Council and other CancerLinQ advisory groups, further strengthening CancerLinQ's goal to engage and grow its network of strategic alliances through coalition building efforts. ONS will also have access to de-identified data from CancerLinQ Discovery™ for research and learning purposes.

CancerLinQ Discovery™, which launched in November, will provide curated, de-identified sets of clinical data for those interested in pursuing hypothesis-driven research. The datasets will be generated from the growing CancerLinQ® database, a real-world, big-data initiative focused on rapidly improving patient care.

With the addition of ONS--and other partnerships with a number of government agencies, professional medical specialty societies, advocacy groups, and life sciences organizations--the use of CancerLinQ Discovery™ to learn from every patient, gather data-driven insights, create new knowledge, and leverage critical input to maximize its utility and usability is well underway. The goal is to attain insights that can improve quality and efficiency of the cancer care delivery system.

The collaboration with ONS is the latest in a series of partnerships that CancerLinQ LLC has entered with thought leaders from a variety of influential organizations from across the wide spectrum of public, private, and not-for-profit sectors. To date, CancerLinQ LLC has publicly announced formal partnerships with the American Society of Radiation Oncology (ASTRO), Cancer Informatics for Cancer Centers (CI4CC), Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association (HOPA), and AstraZeneca, which became the founding enterprise partner with CancerLinQ Discovery™ in November 2016. The goal of these strategic alliances is to create a multidisciplinary, networked coalition of committed leaders for expert guidance and to accelerate the creation of new insights from the CancerLinQ platform that can improve quality, efficiency, and value for the entire cancer care continuum.

CancerLinQ® is supported in part through the Conquer Cancer Foundation, whose generous donors have helped make the system possible. Major supporters include Amgen; Astellas;
AstraZeneca; Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals Inc.; Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; Cancer Treatment Centers of America®; Chan Soon-Shiong Family Foundation; Genentech BioOncology™; HELSINN; Janssen Oncology; Lilly; Raj Mantena, RPh; Novartis Oncology; Pfizer Oncology; Thomas G. Roberts, Jr., MD and Susan M. DaSilva; and Susan G. Komen®.

CancerLinQ® and CancerLinQ Discovery™ are projects of CancerLinQ LLC. For more information on how to participate or partner with CancerLinQ, please visit CancerLinQ.org.

About ASCO:

Founded in 1964, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc. (ASCO®) is committed to making a world of difference in cancer care. As the world’s leading organization of its kind, ASCO represents more than 40,000 oncology professionals who care for people living with cancer. Through research, education, and promotion of the highest-quality patient care, ASCO works to conquer cancer and create a world where cancer is prevented or cured, and every survivor is healthy. ASCO is supported by its affiliate organization, the Conquer Cancer Foundation. Learn more at www.ASCO.org, explore patient education resources at www.Cancer.Net, and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube.