



**2018 AONN+ ANNUAL REPORT** • [www.AONNOnline.org](http://www.AONNOnline.org)

## ADVANCING ONCOLOGY NAVIGATION AND CARE WITH YOUR SUPPORT

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## AONN+ VISION & MISSION

### Our Vision:

The vision of the Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators (AONN+) is to achieve patient-centered superior quality cancer care coordination through effective navigation from prediagnosis through survivorship/end of life.

### Our Mission:

The mission of AONN+ is to advance the role of patient navigation in cancer care across the care continuum by providing a network for collaboration, leadership, and development of best practices for the improvement of patient access to care, evidence-based cancer treatment, and quality of life.

## LETTER FROM LILLIE

There are 2 emotions that I always experience when I reflect on all that AONN+ has accomplished over the past year: awe and pride.

Certainly, one of the highlights of 2018 was our work on the Commission on Cancer's Clinical Services Standards Revisions Work Group to update the cancer program standards. I'm pleased to report that in 2020, meaningful changes will be introduced that positively impact our work in the navigation and survivorship space.

AONN+ is also affecting change with cancer center leadership. The navigation metrics that we rolled out in 2017 are helping key decision makers understand the value of navigation. What's more, they are ready to embrace the idea of measuring the impact that navigation has on patient satisfaction, clinical outcomes, and return on investment. There's little question that we are moving the profession in the right direction.

Certification is another way in which we are helping to advance the profession. I'm thrilled with the progress that we have made toward achieving American National Standards Institute accreditation for our ONN-CG<sup>SM</sup> and OPN-CG<sup>SM</sup> certification exams. It's a testament to the hard work and dedication of our Certification Task Force.

AONN+ membership continues to grow at an impressive rate as more and more people enter the navigation profession. This is a trend that I predict will continue, and I'd like to share why.

Over the past couple of years, we've noticed an uptick in the number of nonclinically licensed individuals in the field of navigation. This is wonderful and has prompted national discussion around the roles and scope of the practice. It's a conversation that I'm happy to have because it ultimately means good things for our patients and their loved ones.

But there's another reason that I think the practice will continue to grow. Recently, I had the opportunity to talk with some colleagues about the changing role of oncology nurses. There was a time when we would have several interactions with patients throughout the course of a shift: while checking their vitals, when starting and monitoring their IV, and then the periodic visits just to see how they were doing. These regular interactions with patients allowed us to build relationships that enhanced the care experience. Clinical technology and growing demands for nurses' time and professional skill sets have made it almost impossible for these relationships to form.

Herein lies the value of nurse navigation. Unlike nurses and other clinical professionals who are pulled in so many directions, nurse navigators have one job: being with their patients every step of the way from diagnosis to survivorship. In short, nurse navigation has brought the personal touch back to oncology care.

I know that these meaningful interactions with my patients were a highpoint of my career. It's my prediction that we will see more oncology nurses make the transition to nurse navigation so that they too can experience the joy of delivering compassionate care at the bedside. And when that time comes, AONN+ will be ready to welcome them.

As we set our sights on our 10th anniversary in 2019, I would like to thank you for your commitment to your patients, the navigation profession, and AONN+. It's been an honor walking with you on this journey, and I look forward to the exciting advances and opportunities that lie before us in the year to come.

Sincerely,



**Lillie Shockney, RN, BS, MAS, ONN-CG**  
**Co-Founder and Program Director**

Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators  
 University Distinguished Professor of Breast Cancer  
 Professor of Surgery, JHU School of Medicine  
 Co-Founder, Johns Hopkins Medicine's Work Stride: Managing Cancer at Work Program

## AONN+ GOALS FOR 2018

*AONN+'s 2018 goals were ambitious, and meeting them required that we invest significant time and resources. We're pleased to share, however, that the following were successfully achieved.*

Work toward establishing navigation certification as a core component of accredited cancer programs

Continue to formalize healthcare system and alliance partnerships

Conduct "National Evidence-Based Oncology Navigation Metrics: Multisite Exploratory Study to Demonstrate Value and Sustainability of Navigation Programs"

Actively pursue national accreditation for certification

Expand Local Navigator Networks

Grow Academy membership 20% year over year

Increase conference and regional meeting attendance by 15%

Offer certification exams to Local Navigator Networks

Available activities: 23

Total credits available: 48.75

## ADVANCING CHANGE THROUGH NATIONAL APPOINTMENTS



### Continued Work with the Commission on Cancer

AONN+ is now in its third year of membership in the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC), and we are proud to have had a pivotal role in advancing the discussion around navigation and its importance in the oncology care continuum. In 2018, the CoC made a strategic decision to review its standards, with a special emphasis on clinical services, including navigation programs and survivorship care.

As a CoC Fellow representing AONN+, Lillie Shockney, RN, BS, MAS, ONN-CG, AONN+ Co-Founder and Program Director, has been serving on the committee charged with reviewing the standards. Its recommendations for revisions, which were extensive, were submitted to the Commission's Executive Committee in February. Shockney expressed her expectation that the survivorship standard becomes a more meaningful method of supporting cancer patients from the onset of their treatment. She also updated the CoC on the ongoing process to secure accreditation for the ONN-CG<sup>SM</sup> and OPN-CG<sup>SM</sup> certification exams. An announcement from the Executive Committee regarding its decisions on the recommendations is expected in the coming months.

"Quality cancer care cannot be achieved today without effective navigation, patient advocacy, and the combined efforts of a multidisciplinary team working together on behalf of the patient."

—Lillie Shockney, RN, BS, MAS, ONN-CG, Co-Founder and Program Director, AONN+

### AONN+ Participates in National Navigation Roundtable

The National Navigation Roundtable (NNRT) held its second annual meeting on November 29, 2018, in Washington, DC. The NNRT was formed the previous year as part of an effort to address some of the greatest challenges facing navigators and their patients. Themed "Moving the Dial in Patient Navigation," the 2018 meeting featured in-depth panel discussions on the current and future landscape of patient navigation and payment models in navigation. It also showcased the accomplishments of the NNRT's task groups. The NNRT is comprised of more than 50 healthcare professionals from across the country with expertise in oncology navigation. It's been meeting monthly via web and in person to focus on 3 specific goals: establishing an evidence-based/outcome-driven patient navigation model; ensuring there is an activated, trained workforce to implement the model; and establishing policies to support paying for implementation of the model.

## ADVANCING CHANGE THROUGH NATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

### **AONN+ is proud to have several of its members participating in the NNRT. These include:**

- Lillie Shockney, RN, BS, MAS, ONN-CG, AONN+ Co-Founder and Program Director (NNRT Steering Committee, Training and Certification Committee)
- Sharon Gentry, RN, MSN, CBCN, AOCN, ONN-CG (NNRT Steering Committee, Training and Certification Committee, Evidence-Based Promising Practices Committee)
- Tricia Strusowski, MSN, RN (Co-Chair, Evidence-Based Promising Practices Committee)
- Danelle Johnston, MSN, RN, ONN-CG, OCN, AONN+ Chief Nursing Officer and Senior Director of Strategic Planning and Initiatives (Evidence-Based Promising Practices Committee)
- Linda Burhansstipanov, MSPH, DrPH (Co-Chair, Training and Certification Committee)
- Linda Fleisher, PhD, MPH (Evidence-Based Promising Practices Committee)
- Elizabeth Franklin, LGSW, ACSW (Policy and Advocacy Committee)
- Mike Zincone (Evidence-Based Promising Practices Committee)

### **Biden Cancer Initiative Welcomes AONN+'s Danelle Johnston to Its Advisory Committee**

On September 21, 2018, former Vice President Joe Biden and his wife, Jill Biden, EdD, convened the national Biden Cancer Summit in Washington, DC. More than 450 community meetings took place across the country at the same time. It was the first conference by the nonprofit Biden Cancer Initiative, which the Bidens founded the previous year. Both spoke at the meeting, along with researchers, patients, and advocates.

AONN+'s Danelle Johnston, MSN, RN, ONN-CG, OCN, Chief Nursing Officer, Senior Director of Strategic Planning and Initiatives, was named to the Biden Cancer Initiative's 25-member Advisory Committee in fall 2017. In this role, Johnston joins other healthcare providers and medical professionals aiming to transform the way cancer is detected, diagnosed, and treated. A key focus for the committee will be uncovering ways to standardize cancer care, data sharing, clinical trials, and patient navigation. To that end, Johnston is chairing the committee's Patient Navigation Working Group, which is developing a strategy to implement patient navigation programs across the country.

The Biden Cancer Initiative builds on former Vice President Joe Biden's work on the National Cancer Moonshot Initiative by developing and driving implementation of solutions to accelerate progress in cancer prevention, detection, diagnosis, research, and care, and to reduce disparities in cancer outcomes. To fulfill this mission, the initiative is working closely with patients and patient organizations, cancer researchers, cancer centers, research universities, governments, and the private and philanthropic sectors.

## ADVANCING CHANGE THROUGH NATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

### Breaking Down Barriers to Early-Stage Lung Cancer Diagnosis

More than 200 representatives from health organizations, advocacy groups, corporate entities, and health insurers, as well as federal and state agencies gathered in Crystal City, Virginia, on December 10- 11, 2018, for the second annual meeting of the American Cancer Society's National Lung Cancer Roundtable. Launched in early 2017, the roundtable aims to accelerate the nation's efforts to reduce mortality from lung cancer by ensuring that those at high risk for the disease have access to quality screening and timely, patient-centered, state-of-the-art care.

Keynote speaker Susan Curry, PhD, Chairman of the US Preventive Services Task Force, discussed a 2003 National Cancer Policy Board report that she co-chaired, which highlighted the failure of the United States to implement proven interventions that, at the time, could prevent 100,000 new cases and 60,000 deaths from cancer each year. More than 15 years later, many of those neglected opportunities remain, she said.

As AONN+'s representative on the roundtable, Lillie Shockney, RN, BS, MAS, ONN-CG, AONN+ Co-Founder and Program Director, is working with coalition partners to make screening a nationwide priority, increase screening rates among high-risk populations, and ensure that screening is a standard across the country. In addition, the roundtable is addressing the importance of accurate staging and treatment planning, including molecular testing to better identify appropriate therapies.

### Engaging Men with Metastatic Prostate Cancer in Their Treatment

As AONN+'s representative on Us TOO, Lillie Shockney, RN, BS, MAS, ONN-CG, AONN+ Co-Founder and Program Director, is working to develop methods to better engage men with metastatic prostate cancer in their treatment. Established in 1990, the nonprofit was founded by, and continues to be governed by, people directly affected by prostate cancer. Its mission is to better position men and their spouses and partners to make informed decisions about prostate cancer detection and their treatment options. Shockney has been named to a task force that will be creating a comprehensive overview of the shared decision-making process as it relates to those treatment options.

### AONN+ Joins National Cancer Leadership Council

AONN+ joined the Cancer Leadership Council in 2018 and launched the AONN+ Policy and Advocacy Committee. Formed in 1993, the Council is comprised of dozens of patient advocacy organizations, professional societies, and research groups dedicated to ensuring that patients with cancer have access to high-quality care.

Chaired by Elizabeth Franklin, Executive Director of the Cancer Policy Institute at the Cancer Support Community, the goals of the AONN+ Policy and Advocacy Committee are to promote access to comprehensive, timely, affordable, and high-quality cancer care; identify opportunities to advance the patient navigation profession; develop grassroots tools to encourage AONN+ members to engage in public advocacy; and work with allied organizations on policy issues.

"AONN+ is in a unique position as nurse and patient navigators work to understand the day-to-day policy barriers facing cancer patients," says Franklin. "We are thrilled to amplify our collective voice as members of the Cancer Leadership Council and bring the navigation perspective to advocacy discussions."



## ALLIANCES AND PARTNERSHIPS HELPING TO AMPLIFY AONN+'S MISSION



### American Cancer Society Navigators Gain Educational and Professional Benefits Through Partnership

Formed in 2017, this National Alliance Partnership Program brings AONN+ and the American Cancer Society (ACS) together in an effort to advance educational and professional development opportunities for ACS oncology patient navigators. Under this program, ACS oncology patient navigators have access to all AONN+ member resources, including the Oncology Patient Navigator–Certified Generalist<sup>SM</sup> (OPN-CG<sup>SM</sup>) certification exam when requirements are met.

*"AONN+'s collective resources help empower ACS' navigators with the education and skill sets necessary to further their professional competencies," says Lillie Shockney, RN, BS, MAS, ONN-CG, Co-Founder and Program Director, AONN+. "There's little question that certification for oncology navigators is an issue about which both AONN+ and ACS are passionate."*

*"A cancer diagnosis can be the most overwhelming experience a person may ever face in his or her lifetime. The journey can be challenging to patients and their caregivers to manage," says Katherine Sharpe, MTS, Senior Vice President, Patient and Caregiver Support for the ACS. "We are thrilled that ACS patient navigators have access to this wealth of resources through our partnership with AONN+. This partnership supports our navigators in their efforts to help improve the quality of life for cancer patients and their caregivers as they face the psychosocial, emotional, and financial aspects of their cancer experience."*



**SARAH CANNON**

The Cancer Institute of HCA

### AONN+ and Sarah Cannon Formalize Long-Standing Relationship

Since 2015, AONN+ and Sarah Cannon have been united in the mutual desire to accelerate the growth and development of oncology navigation. The 2 organizations formalized the relationship this year with the establishment of a 2-year National Healthcare System Alliance Partnership. Under this agreement, AONN+ will provide Sarah Cannon oncology navigators with access to all member resources, including the professional certification exams when requirements are met. For its part, Sarah Cannon will continue to lend valuable support to AONN+ as it works to grow its Local Navigator Networks; it is also making editorial contributions to a new department in AONN+'s *Journal of Oncology Navigation & Survivorship*<sup>®</sup> (*JONS*).

Additionally, Sarah Cannon is now supporting AONN+ membership by offering navigation-specific continuing education unit content in *JONS*, through AONN+ webinars, and at conferences. A strong example of this was its preconference workshop titled "Implementing and Demonstrating Value in an Oncology Navigation Program," which select Sarah Cannon representatives gave at AONN+'s Ninth Annual Navigation & Survivorship Conference.

## ALLIANCES AND PARTNERSHIPS HELPING TO AMPLIFY AONN+'S MISSION



### Partnership Between AONN+ and Midwest Cancer Alliance Aims to Advance Oncology Navigation

Recognizing the importance of navigation services in oncology, AONN+ and the Midwest Cancer Alliance (MCA), the outreach network of The University of Kansas Cancer Center, are partnering to enhance the skills of MCA-member oncology nurse navigators. The MCA network includes more than 60 patient and nurse navigators across the Midwest.

AONN+ is offering clinical nurses and patient navigators in the MCA system membership in the Academy as well as Oncology Nurse Navigator certification as part of the MCA's ongoing commitment to providing navigation services within their institution and in rural communities. AONN+ and MCA are also collaborating to develop navigation education and resources for MCA navigators.

*"Our partnership with AONN+ is a great addition to the tools and resources Midwest Cancer Alliance offers our medical colleagues," said MCA Executive Director, Hope Krebill, MSW, BSN, RN.*

*"The growth of navigation as a profession is exciting and gratifying. To bring yet another institution on board is further evidence that navigation tactics help institutions reach their goals of providing value-based, effective patient care," said AONN+'s Danelle Johnston, MSN, RN, ONN-CG, OCN, Chief Nursing Officer and Senior Director of Strategic Planning and Initiatives.*



### National Breast Cancer Foundation Sponsorship Supports AONN+ Metrics Initiative

The launch of AONN+'s national metrics initiative in 2018 would not have been possible without the generous support of partners such as the National Breast Cancer Foundation (NBCF). The organization, which is dedicated to supporting women and those with breast cancer through early detection, education, and support services, provided financial backing for this effort. In return, AONN+ is providing NBCF with a number of privileges, including Metrics Task Force—designed research protocols and inclusion criteria, and invitations to live/in-person task force workshops. NBCF will also have visibility on AONN+'s website, social media platforms, and printed display materials.



## MEMBERSHIP DEFINED: AONN+ NAVIGATOR COMMUNITY NETWORK

*Now entering its tenth year, AONN+ has grown from a humble group of 96 oncology navigators to a powerful community network of nearly 8,300 members. Together, these industry and stakeholder advocates and nonindustry navigators are working toward the collective goal of enhancing patient care and outcomes through the advancement and growth of the navigation profession.*

Looking ahead to 2019, AONN+'s goal is to grow its membership by 15% (1,066 new members). This is an ambitious target, but not unrealistic based on 2018 enrollment numbers, which far exceeded expectations. To achieve this growth, AONN+ will employ the following tactics:

- Launch a targeted enrollment campaign aimed at cancer center administrators
- Hold focus groups to gain insight from cancer center administrators
- Develop and distribute a video promoting the benefits of membership
- Launch a targeted campaign promoting participation in a Local Navigator Network (LNN)
- Grow both LNNs and health system and alliance partnerships

2018 AONN+  
Membership:

**8,297**

2018  
Growth Goal:

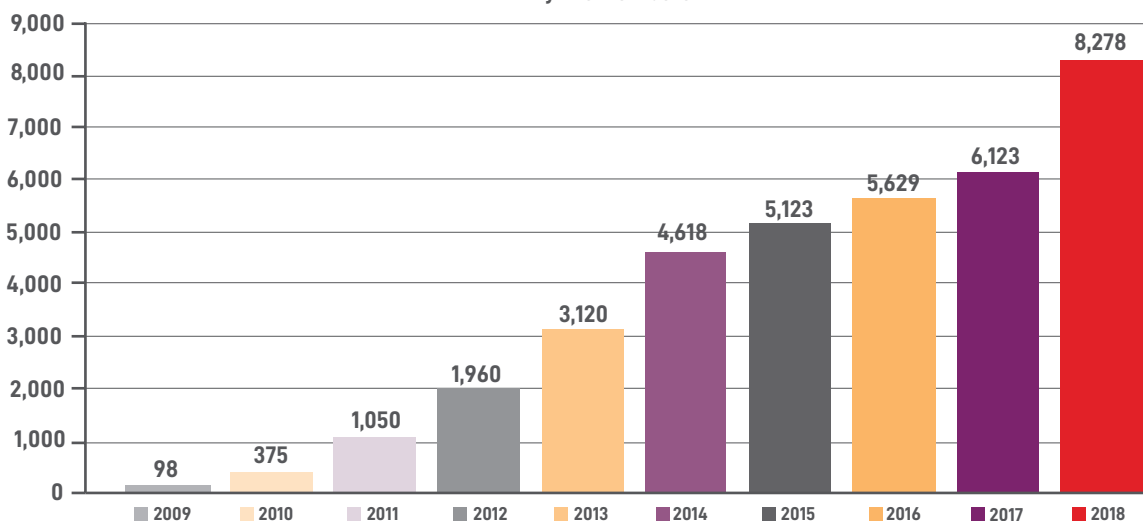
**10.9%**

## AONN+'S NATIONAL CONFERENCE—THE PLACE TO BE FOR NAVIGATORS

*The saying “everything’s bigger in Texas” rang true for AONN+’s Ninth Annual Navigation & Survivorship Conference. More than 1,100 guests traveled to Dallas in mid-November 2018 for several days of education, networking, and fun.*

### Year-Over-Year AONN+ Community Network Members

By the Numbers



### Preconference Workshops Met with Enthusiasm and Strong Attendance

A popular offering this year were the preconference workshops, which were designed to provide attendees with dedicated time to work on enhancing their skills and expertise. These workshops, held during the annual conference, were a direct response to the expressed needs of members.

Taught by AONN+ faculty and representatives from partner organizations, the preconference workshops focused on simplifying the research process, implementing and demonstrating value in navigation programs, and coaching patients toward activation and engagement.



## AONN+'S NATIONAL CONFERENCE—THE PLACE TO BE FOR NAVIGATORS

### 2018 Preconference Workshops:

- *Demystifying the Research Process: Workshop for Patient Navigators, Social Workers, and Administrators*—Presented by members of the AONN+ Assistance for Quality Improvement and Research (AQUIRE) Subcommittee
- *Navigation Executive Leadership Preconference: Implementing and Demonstrating Value in an Oncology Navigation Program*—Presented by representatives of Sarah Cannon, The Cancer Institute of HCA Healthcare
- *Coaching to Patient Activation & Engagement*—Presented by American Cancer Society Patient Navigators

### Dr. Jill Biden Shares Message of Urgency with Conference Attendees

Perhaps no one knows the integral role of the navigator as well as those whose lives have been touched by cancer. Jill Biden, EdD, former Second Lady of the United States and Co-Founder of the Biden Cancer Initiative (BCI), is certainly no exception.

As keynote speaker for the 2018 Annual Conference, Dr. Biden shared with attendees the many ways in which cancer had touched her family and honored navigators for the role they play in the care continuum. “When I think about people who are really changing lives, I think of people like you,” she said. “On behalf of all patients, thank you. You may not know the difference you make in peoples’ lives, but it’s enormous.”

After both of her parents died of cancer, Dr. Biden also suffered the loss of her son Beau, who succumbed to brain cancer in 2015, at age 46. She talked about watching him struggle with the disease, and how much comfort his nurse brought to him, often singing to him at his bedside.

BCI, founded in 2017, builds on former Vice President Joe Biden’s work on the National Cancer Moonshot Initiative, by striving to improve data standards, reduce disparities, provide greater access to clinical trials for all patients, and bridge the gaps between the various branches of the cancer community, among other worthy goals.

As part of the BCI’s efforts to foster collaboration, Dr. Biden has spoken with patients, family members, doctors, nurses, navigators, and others who play a role along the care continuum. One theme that has emerged is the power of navigation to impact outcomes in a positive way. This was a catalyst for the Biden Patient Navigation Working Group, with AONN+’s Danelle Johnston, MSN, RN, ONN-CG, OCN, Chief Nursing Officer and Senior Director of Strategic Planning and Initiatives, as its Chair. The group is striving to implement more effective patient navigation programs across the country.

“You see the need; you know how important you are to the patient’s journey,” Dr. Biden said. “With organizations like AONN+, we’re bridging the gaps.”

In closing, Dr. Biden quoted a poem written by Nancy Louise Peterson, a patient. “I need to tell you. I learned both at the same time, that time is limited and it’s never too late.”

Dr. Biden said this quote rings true not just for patients, but for the entire movement. “This is urgent, but it’s not too late,” she said. “Together we are stronger, we are fiercer, we are more powerful than this disease. We can say ‘Not one more mother; not one more son,’ if we start today.”



## AONN+'S NATIONAL CONFERENCE—THE PLACE TO BE FOR NAVIGATORS

### Building a Culture of Learning and Success

For many, the prospect of conducting and publishing research is daunting if not terrifying. AONN+ is working to take the fear out of this process by creating a nurturing environment in which navigators can learn about the process and make mistakes safely. The success of this approach was evident in the number of abstracts submitted for presentation at the 2018 Annual Conference. In total, 93 abstracts were submitted and 79 were accepted. This is a 48% increase in submissions over the prior year.

"The way in which we approach research and publishing is a distinguishing feature of AONN+," says Danelle Johnston, MSN, RN, ONN-CG, OCN, AONN+ Chief Nursing Officer and Senior Director of Strategic Planning and Initiatives. "We grade submissions against a rubric and if someone doesn't qualify, we work with them to revise their abstract so that it is presentation ready. Publishing is very new for this population, and we want to be an organization that provides them with mentorship and support."

### The Growing Popularity of AONN+'s Conferences

**29.14%**

*the year-over-year increase  
in attendance at the  
2018 Annual Conference*

**858**

*the number of people attending  
the 2017 Annual Conference*

**1,108**

*the number of people attending  
the 2018 Annual Conference*

**53.13%**

*the year-over-year increase  
in attendance at the  
2018 Midyear Conference*

**263**

*the number of people attending  
the 2017 Midyear Conference*

**406**

*the number of people attending  
the 2018 Midyear Conference*

## LOCAL NAVIGATOR NETWORKS

### A Growing Network

The development of Local Navigator Networks (LNNs) continues to be a priority for AONN+. These local and regional networks of navigators help to facilitate communication and education among peers, while improving patient outcomes and survivorship. In 2018, with the addition of 6 new sites, AONN+ saw the number of LNNs grow to 23.

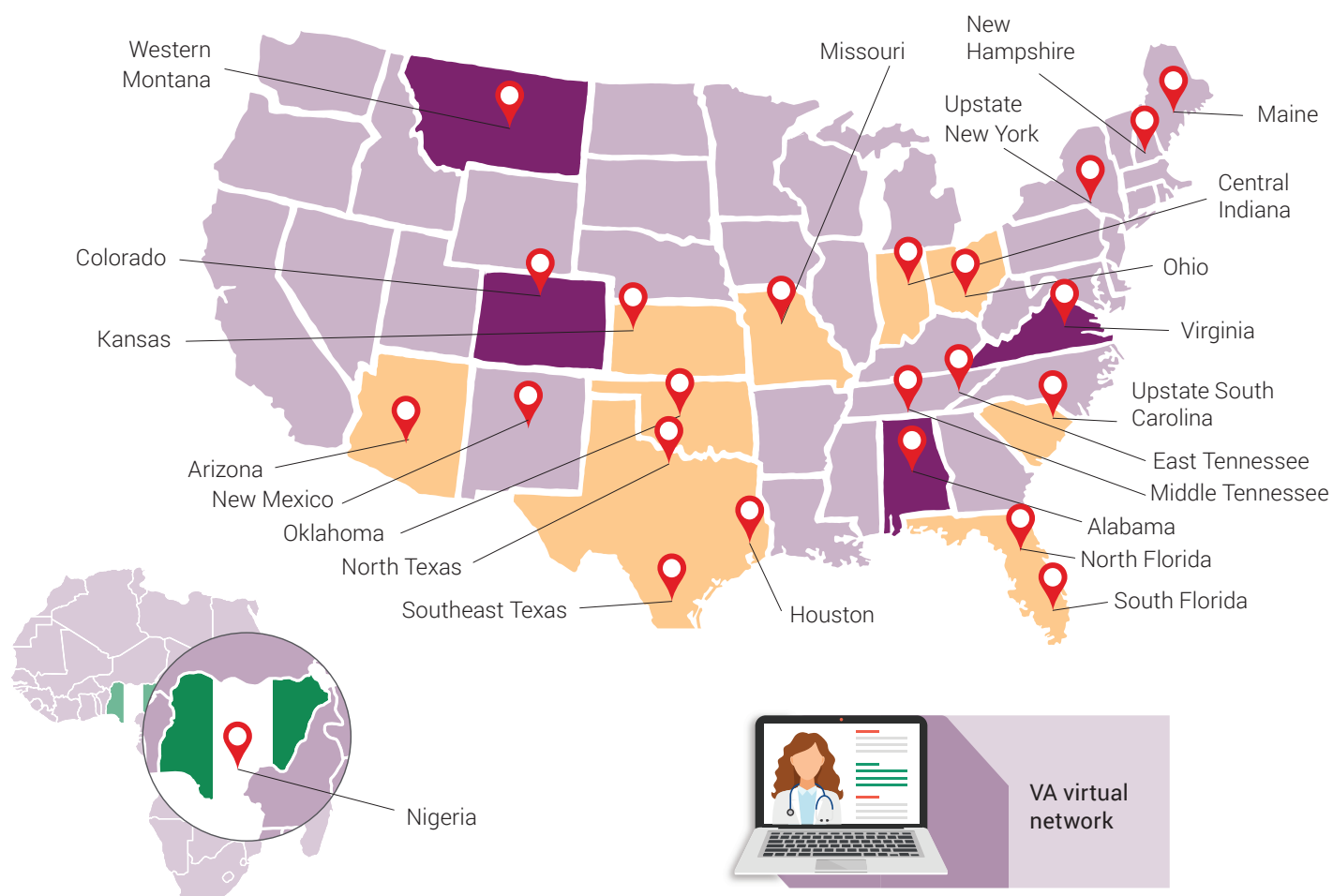
LNNs that joined AONN+ in 2018 include:

- Conquering the Land (Cleveland)
- East Tennessee
- Journey Across Maine
- Middle Tennessee
- New Hampshire
- North Florida

**21** *National Networks*

**2** *International Networks*

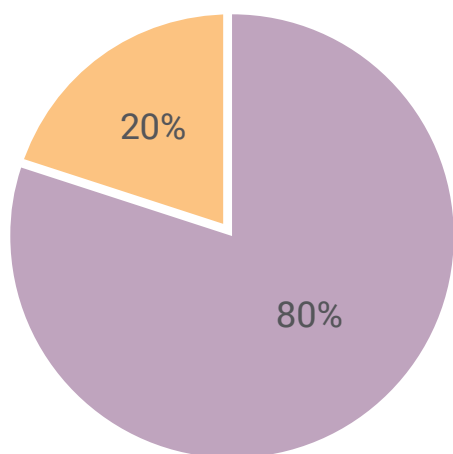
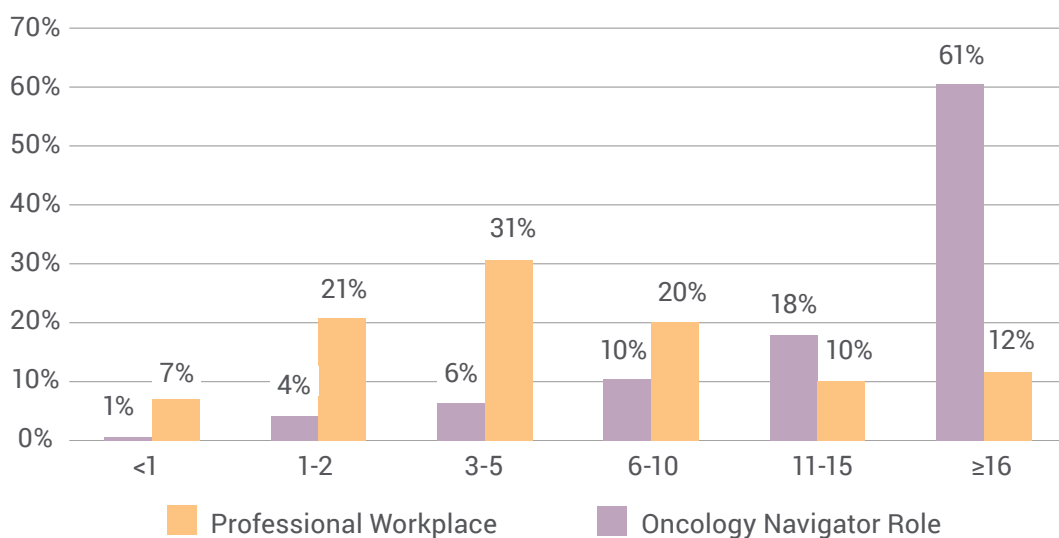
### Coming to a Site Near You: AONN+'s Navigator Networks



## WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE SAYING – KEY RESULTS FROM THE 2018 MEMBER SURVEY

Data and member feedback collected through the annual member survey provides AONN+ with a clear understanding for the health and state of the profession. This information also helps AONN+ leadership develop growth strategies, goals, and initiatives for the coming year. Results of the annual survey are shared with leadership and members at the annual conference.

**OVER  
60%**  
of Members  
Have More  
Than 16 Years of  
Clinical Experience.  
*However, the Majority  
Have Been Navigators  
for Less Than 5 Years.*



**80%**  
of Navigators Participate in  
Tumor Board Conferences

## ADVANCING THE NAVIGATION PROFESSION – COMMITTEE UPDATES

*AONN+’s committees are integral to advancing the Academy’s mission and success. In 2018, there was a significant push by AONN+ leadership to create synergy across these committees to advance the Academy’s body of work. This section of the report serves to highlight each committee’s prior year achievements and goals for the upcoming year.*

### Evidence into Practice Committees

#### Metrics Subcommittee

**Objectives:** Develop standardized metrics in the areas of return on investment, clinical outcomes, and patient experience using all the areas in which navigators practice to provide quality patient care and financial stability for their organizations.

**Chair:**

Tricia Strusowski, MS, RN  
TStrusowski@oncologysolutions.com

#### 2018 Accomplishments

- Navigation Metrics Subcommittee poster at AONN+ 2018 conference
- Created navigation orientation and annual competencies
- Created provider fact sheet on navigation
- Created patient and provider navigation experience survey
- Published and presented education on value-based cancer care and metrics
- Navigation/administrative engagement publication and presentation
- Developed education on value-based cancer care and the AONN+ navigation metrics
- Presented AONN+ metrics at national conferences (Association of Community Cancer Centers, Association of Competition Economics) and how they support value-based cancer care
- Cross-referenced AONN+ navigation metrics with national standards (Commission on Cancer, National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers), Quality Oncology Practice Initiative, Oncology Care Model, and Merit-Based Incentive Payment System Alternative Payment Models (published by Oncology Nursing Society, June 2018)

#### 2019 Goal

- The Metrics Subcommittee’s number 1 priority is to create an evidence-based navigation acuity tool

#### Assistance for Quality Improvement and Research (AQUIRE) Committee

**Purpose:** Provide mentorship support to AONN+ members in areas of quality, processes, improvement, metrics, and reporting.

**Chair:**

Pamela Goetz, BA, OPN-CG  
PGoetz4@jhmi.edu

#### 2018 Accomplishments

- Grew by 3 members, bringing current membership to 7
- Collaborated with the Abstract Review Committee to deliver the webinar, “Writing Abstracts: Everything You Need to Know to Get Started but Didn’t Know to Ask”
- Presented the webinar “Your Elevator Speech Using AIDET”
- Collaborated with the Conference Planning Committee to develop the National Conference Workshop, “Demystifying the Research Process: Workshop for Patient Navigators, Social Workers, and Administrators”

#### 2019 Goals

- Provide ongoing follow-up support to attendees of the 2018 National Conference Workshop
- Develop an abstract on AONN+ navigator needs around conducting quality improvement projects, using metrics, and communicating and publishing results
- Create platform for supporting AONN+ members in the area of research and the quality improvement process
- AQUIRE Committee is seeking new members interested in supporting our mission: *to provide mentorship support to AONN+ members in the areas of quality, processes improvement, metrics, and reporting*

## ADVANCING THE NAVIGATION PROFESSION – COMMITTEE UPDATES

### Evidence into Practice Committees

#### Abstract Review Committee

**Purpose:** Objectively review AONN+ member abstracts and provide feedback for revision, with the greater goal of building momentum and evidence around navigation.

**Co-Chairs:**

Linda Bily, MA, CSA, OPN-CG  
Linda.Bily@stonybrookmedicine.edu

Nicole Centers, RN, BSN, OCN, CBCN, CN-BN  
Nicole.Centers@SarahCannon.com

**2018 Accomplishments**

- Increased abstract submission by 48%
- Accepted abstracts increased by 95% (93 submitted and 79 accepted)
- Committee membership is at capacity and includes many new members
- Presented a webinar for how to grade abstracts prior to call for abstracts
- First abstract rubric from each team was reviewed by committee co-chairs for consistency
- Created a final rubric that includes the poster

**2019 Goals**

- Capitalize on strategic alliances to receive more abstracts from the American Cancer Society, Midwest Cancer Alliance, and Sarah Cannon
- Hold focused webinars to encourage abstract submission from members' research and initiatives
- Develop a robust committee of reviewers comprised of current and new members
- Committee Co-Chairs host table for committee enrollment and engagement at the Midyear Conference
- Increase the number of abstracts received to more than 100
- Increase the number of accepted abstracts to 100 and the number of posters considered to 75
- Consider new evaluation rubric for pharma abstracts
- Put firmer deadlines for submissions into place
- Define guidelines for posters

#### Newsletter Committee

**Purpose:** Produce a quarterly newsletter with a focus on providing concrete tools and resources for quality improvement, research, and metric development that dovetails with the domains of certification for both novice and seasoned navigators.

**Chair:**

Cheryl Bellomo, MSN, RN, OCN, ONN-CG  
Cheryl.Bellomo@imail.org

**2018 Accomplishments**

- Completed the series of *JONS* and website newsletter articles featuring the AONN+ 8 Domains of Knowledge
- Wrote 3 *JONS* and website newsletter articles highlighting the AONN+ committees

**2019 Goals**

- January 2019: publish *JONS* and website article featuring the AONN+ Survivorship Committee
- Write *JONS* and website article featuring the AONN+ Abstract Committee
- Write *JONS* and website article featuring the AONN+ Metrics Committee
- Write *JONS* and website article featuring the Local Navigator Networks

## ADVANCING THE NAVIGATION PROFESSION – COMMITTEE UPDATES

### *Introducing Five New Opportunities to Get Involved with AONN+ in 2019*

#### Technology and Innovation Committee

**Purpose:** Focus on the use of technology to capture data/metrics for evaluation, improve quality in navigation, and provide patient education and navigator resources.

**Co-Chairs:**

Linda Fleisher, PhD, MPH  
FleisherL@email.chop.edu

Michael Zincone  
Michael.Zincone@pfizer.com

**2018 Accomplishments**

- Reviewed applications to the committee and recruited outstanding team representing nursing, patient navigation, hospital, community, and industry
- Launched the committee with a number of planning calls, reviewing previous membership survey findings
- Identified webinar series with options of live meetings at the Midyear and Annual conferences to support AONN+ membership needs
- Key topics discussed for potential webinar series – especially connected to Navigation Metrics – include:
  - Assessing navigation software
  - Becoming part of the decision-making team for IT solutions that support navigation
  - Financial navigation
  - Navigator resources from third-party organizations (ie, advocacy and professional organizations)
- Article in AONN+ Newsletter

**2019 Goals**

- The Technology and Innovation Committee focuses on using technology to support and facilitate patient navigation in 3 ways:
  - Capture data/metrics for evaluation (eg, integration into EMR)
  - Quality improvement in navigation (eg, identifying patients, case review)
  - Patient education and navigator resources (eg, use of smartphones and mobile devices, access to digital health tools)
- We will work with AONN+ members and other committees to address obstacles the nurse navigator community face in standardizing, collecting, and managing the data for the following metrics: patient experience, clinical outcomes, and return on investment.
- The Technology and Innovation Committee will bring value to:
  - Identification of opportunities for problem-solving technical solutions
  - The process of selecting and assessing the value of technology solutions
  - Identification, exploration, and implementation of new technologies that may improve best practices in the navigation role overall
  - Enable AONN+ members to share ideas for high-quality data collection and management of data among members

#### Survivorship Committee

**Purpose:** Provide education and support regarding survivorship programs and sustainable metrics through sharing of best practices.

**Chair:**

Nancy Corbitt, BSN, RN, OCN, CRNI  
NCorbitt@umm.edu

**2018 Accomplishments**

- Relaunching committee
- Committee grew to 13 members, 5 of whom are new
- Nancy Corbitt, BSN, RN, OCN, CRNI, named new chair of the Survivorship Committee
- Refined Committee's Mission Statement: *"Advance survivorship care throughout the continuum by providing resources and evidence-based education to clinical navigator and non-licensed patient navigators"*

- Developed 3 ARS questions for the National Conference
- Wrote newsletter article

**2019 Goals**

- Review the ARS questions for the National Conference
- Develop a 10- to 15-question survey in early 2019/drill down needs
- Develop and present webinar on "Hot Topics"
- Develop and present survivorship session based on needs for next conference
- Collaborate with Technology and Innovation Committee
- Publish articles in JONS
- Development of repository for resources

## ADVANCING THE NAVIGATION PROFESSION – COMMITTEE UPDATES

### Policy and Advocacy Committee

**Purpose:** Use legislative, regulatory, and policy advocacy to protect and promote the practice of oncology patient navigation to best serve individuals and families impacted by cancer.

**Chair:**

Elizabeth Franklin, LGSW, ACSW  
 EFranklin@cancersupportcommunity.org

**2018 Accomplishments**

- Developed policies and procedures to guide the committee's activities
- Cancer Leadership Council
- Wrote drug pricing letter
- Wrote physician fee schedule letter
- Patient Navigation Legislation
  - Signed CMS-1693-P, a letter from member organizations of the Cancer Leadership Council expressing their reservations regarding proposed revisions to Medicare payment for evaluation and management services in 2019 and other recommended changes
  - Signed statement issued by cancer patient and provider organizations regarding the final rule permitting the expansion of association health plans, which would limit coverage access for those with preexisting conditions
  - Published corresponding statement of support for cancer patients in light of final rule permitting the expansion of association health plans
- Developed and gave "Hot Topics" presentation

**2019 Goals**

- Develop guiding principles statement for patients and professionals
- Webinar ideas
  - Advocacy 101
  - Specific policy issues (eg, copay accumulators, step therapy, prior authorization, etc)
- Potential patient access survey

### Clinical Trials Committee

**Purpose:** Provide education and support to navigators to promote clinical trials to their patients and institutions.

**Co-Chairs:**

Lavinia Dobrea, MS, RN, OCN  
 Lavinia.Dobrea@stjoe.org

Lucy Gansauer, MSN, RN, OCN, CCRP  
 Gansauer@gibbscc.org

**2018 Accomplishments**

- Fully recruited Clinical Trial Committee members
- Held monthly committee calls with co-chairs
- Held 2 full committee calls
- Held first in-person meeting at the AONN+ Annual Conference
- Confirmed committee goals
- Gave 2 AONN+ presentations
- Wrote and published 2 JONS articles
- Ongoing networking
- Ongoing awareness of clinical trials

**2019 Goals**

- Create committee unity by:
  - Getting to know our members and their skill sets/interests
  - Having regular committee calls
- Create awareness for the committee by:
  - Publishing research in AONN+ publications. Topic ideas include:
    - "Top 5 Questions from Navigators About Clinical Trials"
    - "Using Nonprofit Trial Matching Associations"
    - Networking with other organizations
    - Participating in projects in the private sector (ie, Takeda and Novartis)
- Create and give educational presentations to members. Ideas for topics include:
  - "How to Implement Clinical Trials as Part of Your Navigation Program"
  - "Clinical Trials – Navigator Engagement"
- Develop toolkits for clinical trials
- Develop and present clinical trial workshops

## ADVANCING THE NAVIGATION PROFESSION – COMMITTEE UPDATES

### Conference Planning Committee

**Purpose:** Provide relevant and high-value conference agendas and speakers that will enhance and develop members' professional growth and development.

#### Co-Chairs:

Penny Daugherty, RN, MS, OCN, ONN-CG

Penny.Daugherty@northside.com

Peg Rummel, RN, MHA, OCN, ONN-CG

Margaret.Rummel@uphs.upenn.edu

#### 2018 Accomplishments

- Developed agenda for Midyear and Annual conferences
- Successful Midyear Conference with highest attendance for a Midyear Conference
- Wrote Statement of Purpose for contacting speakers outlining committee members' responsibilities
- Committee responsible for establishing goals and objectives for all sessions
- Changed format of conferences based on feedback from members
- Developed 3 preconference workshops for Annual Conference
- Built integrative therapy tracks into conference format

#### 2019 Goals

- Develop 2019 conference agendas for Midyear and 10th Annual conferences
- Plan something special to commemorate 10-year anniversary
- Continue to diversify conference topics to meet needs of the organization
- Collaborate with other AONN+ committees for presentations at conferences



### AONN+ Conference Planning Committee Co-Chairs

Penny Daugherty, RN, MS, OCN, ONN-CG

Peg Rummel, RN, MHA, OCN, ONN-CG

## DEMONSTRATING THE VALUE OF NAVIGATION

*AONN+ has launched a national, multisite study aimed at quantifying the value of services in terms of patient outcomes and institutions' bottom lines.*

A collaboration between AONN+, Chartis Oncology Solutions, LLC, and the American Cancer Society, the study evaluated the validity and reliability of 10 navigation metrics (Figure 1).

**Figure 1. 10 Study Metrics**

Domain	Metric	Domain	Metric
Care Coordination/Care Transition	Barriers to care; measuring the number and list of specific barriers to care identified by navigator per month	Psychosocial Support Services/Assessment	Social support referrals; measuring number of navigated patients referred to support network per month
Care Coordination/Care Transition	Diagnosis to initial treatment; measuring the number of business days from diagnosis (date pathology resulted) to initial treatment modality (date of 1st treatment)	Survivorship/End of Life	Palliative care referral; measuring number of navigated patients per month referred for palliative care
Operations Management/ Organizational Development/ Health Economics	Navigation caseload; measuring number of new cases, open cases, and closed cases navigated per month	Patient Advocacy/Patient Empowerment	Identify learning style preference; measuring the number of navigated patients per month whose preferred learning style was discussed during the intake process. The group agreed this should be included if we can identify a validated tool
Operations Management/ Organizational Development/ Health Economics	Measuring the number of navigated patients readmitted to the hospital at 30, 60, and 90 days	Professional Roles and Responsibilities	Navigation knowledge at time of orientation; measuring percentage of new hires who have completed institutionally developed navigator core competencies
Psychosocial Support Services/Assessment	Psychosocial distress screening; measuring the number of navigated patients per month who received psychosocial distress screening at a pivotal medical visit using the National Comprehensive Cancer Network distress screening tool	Research/Quality/Performance Improvement	Patient experience/patient satisfaction with care; measuring patient experience or patient satisfaction survey results per month. The group determined use of CCHAPS (Community-wide Children's Health Assessment & Planning Survey) for measuring patient satisfaction

"By standardizing metrics under the AONN+ domains, navigators can measure the impact they have with patients from initial diagnosis to survivorship and end of life," says AONN+'s Danelle Johnston, MSN, RN, ONN-CG, OCN, Chief Nursing Officer and Senior Director of Strategic Planning and Initiatives, and a Co-Principal Investigator for the study. "These metrics are designed to be used by all organizations and programs to demonstrate the efficacy and sustainability of their programs."

Data were collected from November 2018 through April 2019 at 8 sites across the country (Figure 2).

"The data will help us produce an implementation toolkit, which other sites may use to support their efforts to track navigation metrics," says Lesley Watson, PhD, study Co-Principal Investigator and Principal Scientist in the Statistics and Evaluation Center at the American Cancer Society.

Preliminary findings of the study, National Evidence-Based Oncology Navigation Metrics: Multisite Exploratory Study to Demonstrate Value and Sustainability of Navigation Programs, will be presented at AONN+'s Midyear Conference in May 2019.

**Figure 2. Study Site Participants**



## AONN+ AND ASTELLAS PARTNERING ON ACUITY TOOL

*The term “acuity” is commonly used in healthcare literature, but the concept is often misunderstood or used incorrectly.*

“A patient’s ‘acuity’ refers to attributes that can be used to stratify care needs and navigation requirements,” says AONN+’s Danelle Johnston, MSN, RN, ONN-CG, OCN, Chief Nursing Officer and Senior Director of Strategic Planning and Initiatives. “Once you have an accurate way to quantify and prioritize patients’ needs, you can make predictions that aid in the allocation of resources.”

Once patient needs can be quantified and prioritized, a practical method for allocating resources, measuring effectiveness, and determining outcomes can be defined. “A navigation-specific acuity tool is needed to reliably assign acuity to any given patient,” Johnston says.

In pursuit of this goal, Astellas US LLC has collaborated with AONN+ on the development, standardization, and validation of an evidence-based, oncology navigation–specific Acuity Tool.

When finalized, the tool will be able to determine the level of support cancer patients may need from their oncology team. In turn, this will help them better understand their disease, treatment options, and next steps, and empower greater engagement in their care along their journey.

The Acuity Tool is targeted for release by the end of 2019 and will be based on AONN+’s previous standardization work in 2017 to introduce 35 evidence-based navigation metrics.

## LOOKING TO GENOMICS EDUCATION TO ADVANCE OUTCOMES

*Since the link between certain genetic markers and increased cancer risk was discovered several years ago, more and more cancer programs are adding genetic counseling to their services. This move isn’t universal, however, and some people aren’t receiving the education they need to make treatment decisions for themselves.*

It’s a problem that AONN+ is hoping to tackle through a new initiative called “Building Relationships in Delivering Genetic/Genomic Education (BRIDGE).” The program, which is still in development, is being co-chaired by Jennifer Klemp, PhD, MPH, MA, CEO/Founder of Cancer Survivorship Training, Inc, and Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Clinical Oncology, Director of Cancer Survivorship, and Co-Program Leader for Cancer Prevention and Survivorship at the University of Kansas Cancer Center, and Frank dela

Rama, RN, MS, AOCNS, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Oncology/ Genomics Cancer Care, Palo Alto Medical Foundation. It aims to use educational interventions to best connect oncology nurses and patient navigators to cancer genetics/genomics professionals with the goal of ensuring that patients have access to the most current emerging technologies. AONN+ hopes that through this effort, patients will experience an enhanced level of care and quality of life.

## PARTNERSHIP WITH PFIZER – PATIENT NAVIGATION IN CANCER CARE 2.0

### Pfizer Oncology Toolkit Valuable for Administrative, Oncology Teams

*As the healthcare landscape has evolved over past decades, navigators have defined and validated the effect of their role on outcomes. Establishing baseline competencies and certifications for oncology navigators—centered on their roles, responsibilities, education, knowledge, and evidence-based best practices—ensures consistent patient care.*

In support of this objective, Pfizer Oncology's Patient Navigation in Cancer Care 2.0 toolkit examines the history and evolution of navigation, core competencies, current models of navigation, and the navigator's role along the cancer care continuum.

This valuable resource, developed with the support of a dedicated Advisory Committee comprised of AONN+ leadership, explores the importance of administrative engagement and outlines standardized metrics for the development of a successful—and measurable—navigation program.

The toolkit will be distributed by Pfizer through their sales and clinical educational team. All navigators are encouraged to use and share this toolkit with their administration and oncology teams to support their commitment to making a difference in the lives of patients and shaping the future of value-based cancer care.

In addition, Pfizer speakers are presenting "Navigating the Cancer Care Continuum in the Context of Value-Based Cancer Care" to interested programs. This presentation aligns with the toolkit, which is distributed at these talks.

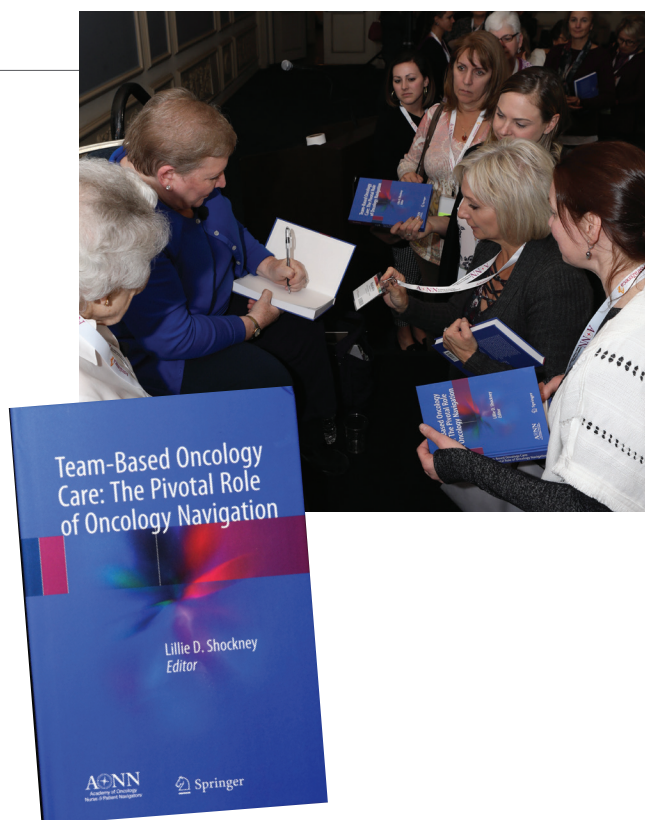
### AONN+ Publishes First Navigation Book

After a broad collaborative effort by AONN+ navigators, *Team-Based Oncology Care: The Pivotal Role of Oncology Navigation* was published in April 2018.

This book is the first of its kind to educate and support professionals in developing a new navigation program or improving one they have created.

In nearly 20 chapters contributed by 10 nurse navigators, the book addresses what cancer centers need to know to develop and implement an oncology navigation program; how to understand and successfully meet and exceed the Commission on Cancer accreditation standards linked to navigation; and ways to expand or improve a current navigation program and demonstrate its value using reliable measurable results.

*Team-Based Oncology Care: The Pivotal Role of Oncology Navigation* is available as a print or electronic book from Springer Publishing.



## AONN+ TAKES STEPS TOWARD ACCREDITATION

The demand among navigators for AONN+'s certification exams continues to grow, with 265 individuals taking the exam in 2018 alone. This is an increase of 129% over 2017.

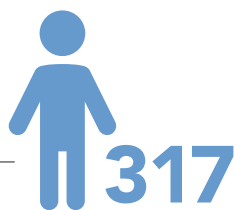
Now that the exams are established and gaining traction among navigators, AONN+'s next step is to obtain American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accreditation. The charge is being led by AONN+'s Certification Task Force chairs and the hope is that it will be achieved in 2019.

ANSI accreditation will signify that people who successfully pass AONN+'s certification exams have completed a prescribed course of study designed specifically to meet predefined industry requirements. Furthermore, it signifies that AONN+ has met, and continues to meet, standards for quality improvement.

To achieve ANSI accreditation, the Certification Advisory Commission must demonstrate that AONN+'s certification programs comply with the ANSI accreditation standard, which contains requirements for a certificate program attesting to (among other requirements) an instructional design plan, valid and reliable assessment of intended learning outcomes, a passing standard established through a criterion-referenced method, and a system to monitor and manage the use of the certificate. The accreditation standard also sets forth requirements related to the certificate program's organizational structure and administration, management (including required policies and procedures), records, and document control systems.

Once secured, ANSI accreditation will be retroactive to include all past participants in AONN+'s certification exams.

The demand for certification is growing among oncology navigators; as a result, AONN+ is seeing the number of people taking and passing these exams rise steadily each year.



**Number of Oncology Nurse Navigator–Certified Generalist<sup>SM</sup> certified to date\***



**Number of Oncology Patient Navigator–Certified Generalist<sup>SM</sup> certified to date\***



**Number of Oncology Nurse Navigator–Certified Generalist Thoracic<sup>SM</sup> certified to date\***

**\*Total number of navigators certified to date - 507**

## 2018 HERO OF HOPE

### Glioblastoma Survivor and Advocate Named 2018 Hero of Hope

Jessica Morris, founder of the nonprofit, OurBrainBank, was named the 2018 Hero of Hope Patient Award recipient during AONN+'s Ninth Annual Navigation & Survivorship Conference in Dallas.

A self-described "natural-born campaigner," Morris created the organization, which supports people with glioblastoma, after she was diagnosed with it herself in January 2016. She later launched the free OurBrainBank app, which allows patients to digitally track and manage their symptoms and share that data with cancer researchers. It also helps connect users with prospective clinical trials.

Glioblastoma is the most common form of adult brain tumors and the most aggressive, with an average survival of about 14 months. Treatments may slow the progression of the cancer and reduce its signs and symptoms, but there is no cure. The late US Senators John McCain and Ted Kennedy died from the disease, as did Beau Biden, the son of former Vice President Joe Biden and Jill Biden, EdD.

"Take each day as it comes. Today, I feel great, so today, I am cured," Morris said after receiving the award. "I don't know what's going to happen tomorrow. But today, particularly having won this award, I feel great."

Morris accepted the Hero of Hope Patient Award on behalf of everyone with glioblastoma and said it will bring much needed attention to the disease. Speaking to the relative shortage of funding for uncommon cancers, like glioblastoma, Morris said that although these cancers are rare, they are "incredibly complex, incredibly aggressive." She believes that research that helps to find a cure for glioblastoma may have a far-reaching impact on treatments for other forms of cancer as well.



### Recognizing Professional and Personal Excellence

Within the oncology field, there are select individuals and organizations doing exceptional things to advance patient care. AONN+ celebrates these efforts and is proud to honor the recipients of its 2018 annual awards:

#### Lifetime Achievement Award

Lillie D. Shockney, RN, BS, MAS, ONN-CG  
Co-Founder and Program Director  
Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators

#### Outstanding Local Navigator Network Award

Virginia Cancer Patient Navigator Network

#### Ambassador Award

Pam Goetz, BA, OPN-CG

#### Putting Evidence into Practice Award

Linda Burhansstipanov, PhD

#### Organizational Recognition Award

Miami Cancer Institute

#### Oncology Navigator Excellence Award

Ashley Marks, RN, BSN, OCN, CHPN

## AONN+ PUBLICATIONS

Among the many benefits of AONN+ membership is access to the Academy's vast publication library. This wealth of printed and digital resources exists to serve members' varied needs—from enhancing their own knowledge base to providing valuable information and resources to help patients navigate through their cancer experience.

### Our Publication Library Includes:

The **Journal of Oncology Navigation & Survivorship® (JONS)** features original research, best practices, case reports, and expert interviews that empower oncology nurses and patient navigators with the knowledge they need on the job. *JONS* also serves as a platform through which these professionals can share new knowledge and ideas. In addition to the print and online versions, highlights from the latest issue are e-mailed to AONN+ members twice a month. *JONS* is circulated to more than 7,000 members. [www.JONS-online.com](http://www.JONS-online.com)

**CONQUER®: the patient voice** is the AONN+ premier forum for patients with cancer. *CONQUER* features articles written by and for patients with cancer, survivors, nurse navigators, and other oncology team members. This magazine addresses the issues that patients, their family members, and caregivers face every day in an easy-to-read format. Issues include interviews with patients with cancer, information on access to care, and articles on lifestyle topics such as nutrition, stress management, personal finance, and legal and employer issues. *CONQUER* also features patient stories that are nominated for the AONN+ Hero of Hope Patient Award, which is presented at the AONN+ Annual Conference. All stories are compiled in a special issue of *CONQUER* at the end of the year. *CONQUER* is circulated to 140,000. [www.conquer-magazine.com](http://www.conquer-magazine.com)

**The Oncology Nurse-APN/PA® (TON)** features articles written by and for oncology nurses, and specifically addresses the issues nurses and their colleagues face every day in clinical practice. Content includes news on the latest research findings, results of large clinical trials, interviews with thought leaders, articles of interest to student nurses, and lifestyle features (nutrition, stress management, personal finance, and communication/time management skills). Each issue offers a continuing education activity that readers can complete to earn free continuing education credits through industry partners. *TON* is circulated to more than 16,891 oncology nurses. [www.TheOncologyNurse.com](http://www.TheOncologyNurse.com)



## HEADING THE CHARGE – AONN+ LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



**Lillie Shockney, RN, BS, MAS, ONN-CG**

Co-Founder and Program Director  
Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators  
University Distinguished Professor of Breast Cancer  
Professor of Surgery, JHU School of Medicine  
Co-Founder, Johns Hopkins Medicine's Work Stride:  
Managing Cancer at Work Program



**Linda Burhansstipanov, MSPH, DrPH**

Founder, Native American Cancer Research Corporation  
President, Native American Cancer Initiatives, Incorporated  
Pine, CO



**Pam Goetz, BA, OPN-CG**

Oncology Survivorship Coordinator/Navigator  
Johns Hopkins Medicine  
Sibley Memorial Hospital  
Washington, DC



**Linda Fleisher, PhD, MPH**

Senior Scientist, The Center for Injury Research  
and Prevention  
Adjunct Associate Research Professor, Cancer  
Prevention & Control  
Fox Chase Cancer Center  
Philadelphia, PA



**Ted A. James, MD, MHCM, FACS**

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
Chief, Breast Surgical Oncology  
Co-Director, Linsey Breast Care Center  
Vice Chair, Academic Affairs  
Department of Surgery  
Boston, MA



**Elizabeth Franklin, LGSW, ACSW**

Senior Director, Policy & Advocacy  
Cancer Support Community  
Washington, DC



**Danelle Johnston, MSN, RN, ONN-CG, OCN**

Chief Nursing Officer and Senior Director of Strategic  
Planning and Initiatives  
The Lynx Group  
Cranbury, NJ



**Sharon S. Gentry, RN, MSN, CBCN, AOCN, ONN-CG**

Breast Nurse Navigator  
Novant Health  
Derrick L. Davis Cancer Center  
Winston-Salem, NC



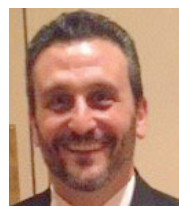
**Jennifer R. Klemp, PhD, MPH, MA**

Founder/CEO, Cancer Survivorship Training, Inc.  
Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of  
Clinical Oncology  
Director, Cancer Survivorship  
Co-Program Leader Cancer Prevention and Survivorship  
The University of Kansas Cancer Center  
Kansas City, KS



**Elizabeth Glidden**

Patient Navigator  
George Washington University  
South Atlantic Division | American Cancer Society, Inc.  
Washington, DC



**Michael Zincone**

Pfizer Oncology  
Strategic Alliances  
Glenmoore, PA

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

### Committed to Financial Stewardship

AONN+ values the trust of its sponsors, partners, and members, and works diligently to ensure that all resources and funds are managed responsibly and in a way that will directly benefit members and the navigation profession at large.

Annual revenues—which are comprised largely of membership dues and sponsorships—allow AONN+ to develop educational materials and programming, build networks, and generate new knowledge and tools that navigators at all stages of their career need to grow professionally. A percentage of these revenues also sustain the infrastructure necessary to support AONN+'s robust offerings.

At all times, AONN+ strives to demonstrate the highest standard of accountability, effectiveness, efficiency, and transparency in its day-to-day operations.

### A Venue for Knowledge and Engagement

AONN+ provides its corporate partners with a host of platforms through which they can engage and share new knowledge with oncology professionals and patients. These include:

- Qualitative and quantitative market research, including advisory boards, surveys, and focus groups
- Live events, including local meetings and webinars (either branded or unbranded), as well as annual and regional conferences with multiple sponsorship opportunities
- Steering committee, focus group, and advisory board management services (either single- or multistakeholder)
- On-demand resources, including web presentations and materials, and downloadable resources
- Marketing support through custom or repurposed patient education materials and unbranded nursing resources, as well as branded custom communications and nonclinical monographs

The financial statements shown above were issued by BDO, USA, LLP, a Delaware limited liability partnership and the U.S. member of BDO International Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee. BDO has audited the accompanying financial statements of the Academy of Oncology Nurse Navigators, Inc. (AONN), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2018, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows, for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

### 2018 Financial Overview

In 2018, AONN+ paired an effective financial management strategy with revenues from members and sponsors to grow its program portfolio. Annual revenues were increased by 8.4% in 2018, and AONN+ finished the year with 6 months of expenditures in reserve. The ratio of current assets (\$2,822,410) to current liabilities (\$1,273,337) is 2.22, slightly down from 2.38 last year.

AONN+ anticipates that the Academy will continue on this upward trajectory as the demand for navigators increases and the need for professional and educational resources grows.

#### OPERATING REVENUE 2018

Corporate Sponsorships and Membership Dues	\$3,656,735
Donated Services	\$175,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,832,335</b>

#### OPERATING EXPENSES 2018

Conference, Convention, Meeting	\$1,354,691
Freelance Projects, Digital, Production, Editing	\$321,015
Honoraria	\$163,338
Insurance	\$31,903
Management Fees	\$1,600,000
Donated Services	\$175,600
Paypal & Bank Fees	\$2,374
Printing & Copying	\$23,206
Registration Processing Fees	\$28,873
Supplies	\$6,032
Travel	\$118,944
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,825,976</b>

#### OPERATING PROFIT

Operating Profit	\$6,359
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