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Northwest Georgia Oncology Centers Receives National Recognition as an Oncology Medical Home

MARIETTA, GA (June 2015) - Georgia’s largest and one of the last remaining community-based, independent cancer practices, Northwest Georgia Oncology Centers, P.C. (NGOC), recently received full accreditation from the Commission on Cancer (CoC) as an Oncology Medical Home.

This recognition distinguishes NGOC as one of the nation’s premiere community cancer practices meeting stringent standards including innovative patient-centered care and engagement, expanded access to advanced evidence and team-based care and comprehensive quality improvements to deliver high quality and value to the patient. The value component sets the distinction apart as NGOC excels in providing efficient access to care to minimize inconveniences and costs to the patient and family.

According to Daniel P. McKellar, MD, chairman of the Commission on Cancer, the NGOC team is “part of a newly forming, elite group of Oncology Medical Home practices committed to providing high-quality cancer care.” NGOC delivers cancer care and a strong clinical trial program at nine locations in Northwest Atlanta communities, including its flagship cancer center in Marietta on the WellStar Kennestone Hospital campus.

“A cancer diagnosis is not only physically demanding and medically complex, but also emotionally draining on the patient and their family,” said Dr. Bruce J. Gould, medical
director, NGOC. “As an Oncology Medical Home, we’re proud to be recognized for the efficient and cost-effective access to care, multi-disciplinary care coordination, compassion, and expertise we provide to help navigate our patients through every aspect of the fight.” Dr. Gould also serves as the President of the Community Oncology Alliance (COA), a national advocacy non-profit organization for cancer patients and their oncologists to help protect and foster the community oncology delivery system in the United States and protect patients’ access to quality and affordable care.

“Receiving full accreditation in the program’s inaugural year fulfills our goal of being a benchmark practice for other cancer care providers. We hope to help others to achieve the level of patient-centered care we’ve delivered for years,” added Dr. Gould. “We seek out the most advanced cancer treatments with our extensive clinical trial program and provide patients with a medical home that’s close to home and an alternative than having to go to a hospital for treatment. It’s rewarding to our 21 cancer doctors and team to be a patient care trendsetter as we tirelessly work toward achieving the best possible outcomes for our patients.”

The Commission on Cancer is a consortium of 54 professional cancer care advocacy organizations dedicated to improving survival and quality of life for cancer patients through standard-setting, which promotes cancer prevention, research, education, and monitoring of comprehensive quality care.

NGOC is the largest community-based, independent cancer practice in Georgia. The practice is independent by being physician owned, enabling NGOC to provide comprehensive services and advanced cancer treatments at a lower cost than hospital-owned practices with the extra benefit of easier access to care. This enables NGOC to better control cancer costs and strengthen the access and availability of the most advanced cancer treatments and clinical trials close to home.

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