

Hematology-Oncology Associates

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***** For Immediate Release *****

Hematology-Oncology Associates of CNY Celebrates their 20th Year of Participation with the National Cancer Institute

Hematology-Oncology Associates will celebrate their 20th year of participation with the National Cancer Institute, as the only Community Clinical Oncology Program (CCOP) in Central New York!

The National Cancer Institute initiated the Community Clinical Oncology Program in 1983 to bring the benefits of clinical research to cancer patients in their own community. During the past 20 years, through their CCOP, the physicians, staff and patients of Hematology-Oncology Associates of CNY have had the opportunity to contribute to the improvement of cancer care and prevention in our community. In addition to finding new and more effective treatments for cancer, cancer control and prevention trials have also played an integral role in the program. The major focus in these prevention trials includes the avoidance or reduction of cancer related side effects, quality of life improvements, and the prevention of cancer itself.

In 1986, the physicians at Hematology-Oncology Associates felt that having access to these studies through a CCOP would be a valuable asset to our community. Dr. Jeffrey Kirshner, partner in the practice and principle investigator for the program states, "We all felt that our patients would be best served in their own community and wanted to provide them with access to investigational trials and new drugs without having to travel. Despite having a University

Medical Center, there was little in the way of cancer control and prevention trials in the area. We were able to have access to a broader range of cancer treatment trials.”

Both Hematology-Oncology Associates and the CCOP have undergone many changes since their inception. The practice now has 11 full time physicians that include two radiation oncologists. In 2003, the CCOP staff expanded when the practice moved into its state of the art, cancer treatment facility at Brittonfield Parkway in E. Syracuse. The practice’s accrual in these clinical research trials continues to increase and their commitment to high quality research remains as strong as ever. According to Dr. Kirshner, “The experience we’ve gained through our CCOP has improved the overall quality of care we deliver to our patients throughout central New York.”

The practice currently has over 120 active clinical trials. Hematology-Oncology Associates is one of fifty Community Clinical Oncology Programs in the nation. There is only one other CCOP in New York State and that is located on Long Island.

Hematology-Oncology Associates of CNY is proud to be able to offer the Central New York Community state-of-the-art cancer treatment and prevention programs without having to travel far from home. Through the CCOP mechanism, Hematology-Oncology Associate’s staff and patients can continue to contribute to the improvement of cancer care and prevention in Central New York.

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