Midwestern Connections

Cancer Treatment Centers of America®
Winning the fight against cancer, every day.®

May 2013 | A Communication for Midwestern Patients and their Family Members | Volume 11, Number 5

CTCA welcomes a new CEO

Gerard van Grinsven

Cancer Treatment Centers of America® (CTCA) announced a change in its executive leadership as part of its ongoing commitment to remain in the vanguard of innovation in healthcare and deliver the best possible care for cancer patients.

Stephen B. Bonner, President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) since 1999, will assume the new role of Executive Chairman effective July 1, at which time Gerard van Grinsven will assume the role of President & CEO.

In his new role, Bonner will continue to serve as the senior executive of CTCA responsible for preparing van Grinsven to succeed him. Bonner will also manage the company's financial relationships, the charitable activities of The Gateway for Cancer Research and the operations of Cancer Nutrition Centers of America. All other corporate functions will report to van Grinsven.

For the past seven years, van Grinsven has served as President & CEO of the Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital in Detroit. During that time, he was widely recognized and applauded for his innovations in clinical excellence, patient satisfaction and facility design. Prior to his tenure at the Henry Ford, van Grinsven held several executive positions with the Ritz-Carlton, Peninsula, and Mandarin Oriental hotel companies.

"I'm eager to join the innovative leaders and stakeholders of CTCA to help expedite their journey to become the leader in personalized and precision cancer care, while making a real and lasting difference in the lives of patients fighting complex or advanced-stage cancer," said van Grinsven.

Patient TSA cards now available

To ease the travel experience for our patients, laminated TSA cards are now available in First Connections at the Concierge desk. Showing this card to airport TSA staff allows patients to discretely communicate their medical condition, allowing security screenings to be done with care and caution.

The following types of cards are available:

Cancer Patient
Cancer Patient with Multiple Drains
Cancer Patient with Port
Cancer Patient traveling with TPN/Pain Pump

The next guided patient outing is Saturday, May 4. Patients will delight in a visit to the Chicago Botanic Gardens, the largest such entity in the country. Lunch will be on CTCA at P.F. Chang's China Bistro.

Contact Guest Services for more information, or to sign up for Guest Services-sponsored outings, call 847-746-6586 For self-guided outings, sign up at the concierge desk in the hospital front lobby.

Expanded fitness offsite

For even more fitness options for guests, the hospital began a partnership with the Zion Park District, just a block west of the hospital. Benefits include: Access to more equipment; a variety of fitness classes; including yoga and Zumba and increased facilities; and amenities including larger locker rooms, concessions, basketball court, jogging track and volleyball court.

Guests visiting the ZPD may pick up a towel with a ZPD visitor pass from First Connections in the hospital front lobby. A disposal bin for used towels is in each locker room at the ZPD. Reminder: shuttles depart from the northwest entrance throughout the day.

Patients and caregivers need only show their name badge to access these services. Hours are weekdays 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturdays 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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Hospital welcomes new clinical staff

Revathi Suppiah, MD

Revathi Suppiah, MD, has joined the staff at Cancer Treatment Centers of America® (CTCA) at Midwestern Regional Medical Center as a Medical Oncologist. Dr. Suppiah firmly believes in the Patient Empowered Care® model and will be a valuable addition to the talented and expert team of clinicians and physicians at CTCA at Midwestern.

Dr. Suppiah most recently worked at Pronger Smith Medical Care in Tinley Park. She has also served Palos Community Hospital in Palos Heights and MetroSouth Medical Center in Blue Island. She completed her Internal Medicine residencies at the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine and Wayne State University/Sinai-Grace Hospital. Her fellowship in hematology/oncology was completed through the Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

Dr. Suppiah is triple board certified in Internal Medicine, Hematology and Oncology by the American Board of Internal Medicine. She holds a membership with the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

"Patient Empowered Care provides patient-centered, comprehensive cancer care to each individual," says Dr. Suppiah of the PEC model. "This provides a dedicated team to each patient from initial consultation to each follow-up visit. It provides better treatment efficacy."

Parking garage scheduled for June finish

The 893-space parking garage on the Midwestern campus is on schedule for completion by the June 7 Celebrate Life ceremony. The new garage will enable Midwestern to complete future expansion efforts that are in the planning process. Please note that with patient safety as a top priority, both patients and caregivers are encouraged to take advantage of the complimentary valet parking and local shuttle service.

Do you know the CTCA House Red Rules?

For patient safety CTCA at Midwestern focuses on four key areas to ensure safety throughout a patient's journey. Known as the Red Rules, these guidelines enable all staff members at Midwestern—from your Patient Empowered Care® (PEC) team to office and support staff—to deliver safe care to you daily.

What are these rules?

1. Proper hand hygiene
2. Two patient identifiers
3. Proper use of equipment and protective devices
4. Timeouts to self-check and check others

Please help out the CTCA at Midwestern team in their efforts to provide the highest standard of care, practice good hand hygiene and keep your patient identification wristband on at all times.

Briefs

Seeking financial help?

Assistance in Healthcare applications are due the last Friday of each month. Awards are considered the second Tuesday of each month. Applications can be turned in at the following First Connections locations: Lobby Front Desk, Lobby Concierge Station, and any Financial Counselor office.

Use current drug card

Guests, please have your current prescription benefits card available when coming to CTCA, especially when getting prescriptions filled at the in-house retail pharmacy. This speeds up service for all and ensures each patient gets the right prescription in a timely manner.

Reiki sessions open

Patients and Caregivers: Are you interested in learning Reiki (a form of gentle, noninvasive, hands-on healing) to help with relaxation and stress reduction for yourself and your loved ones? For more information or to let us know you're interested, please call the Mind-Body office at 847-872-6391.

Pardon our dust

Expansion of the Imaging and Radiation Oncology Department in the lower level of the hospital is complete. Pending inspection by the State, components of the new suite will begin service mid-May. Once fully operational, the project will ease scheduling of scans during busy daytime hours.

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