CTCA launches Tulsa-based accredited oncology fellowship; Expands to role of teaching hospital

Tulsa, Okla., December 2, 2014 – Cancer Treatment Centers of America® in Tulsa (CTCA) received accreditation for a hands-on instructional, medical oncology fellowship program through the American Osteopathic Association (AOA).

The CTCA® medical oncology fellowship will begin in July of 2015 under the direction of CTCA Medical Oncologist Dr. Simeon Jaggernauth, who will serve as program director. Additionally, Drs. Theodore Pollock, George River, Sagun Shrestha and Deepu Madduri will provide faculty support for the fellows, while maintaining their adjunct status through Oklahoma State University Medical Center (OSUMC). The program is approved for four fellows, each with a two-year commitment. Applicants can be made through the Electronic Residency Application Service or through OSUMC.

“The new accreditation for our own medical oncology fellowship establishes CTCA as an educational partner in the oncology field,” said Richard Haldeman, president and CEO of the Tulsa hospital. “Expanding our role as a teaching institution will open up new opportunities for research. It will also have a positive impact on the state of Oklahoma, as there are currently only two oncology fellowship programs in Oklahoma — one through the University of Oklahoma and one with Oklahoma State University. CTCA is proud to join these prestigious institutions with our own fellowship program to bring more top-notch physician talent to our communities.”

For the past several years, CTCA has offered a medical oncology fellowship along with five other fellowship programs through affiliation with OSUMC. These include Gastroenterology, Nephrology, Pulmonology, Plastic Surgery and Pain Management. CTCA also offers several residency rotations along with internships, including:

- General Surgery Residency Rotation affiliated with OSUMC;
- General Surgery Residency Rotation affiliated with the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center; and
- Medical Student Rotations.

(For more details on the fellowship program CTCA in Tulsa offers click here: CTCA fellowship program.)

“For cancer patients, this fellowship program means that more physicians will be exposed to our patient-centered ‘Mother Standard® of care’ model,” explained Dr. Simeon Jaggernauth, who will lead the new oncology fellowship. “Our patients are fighters and we rally around them with while delivering compassionate, integrative cancer care.”

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The CTCA hospital in Tulsa includes more than 200 physicians and allied health providers and close to 800 staff members. The hospital offers medical oncology, radiation oncology and surgical oncology services along with a 24-hour infusion center for chemotherapy and on-site interventional radiology, imaging, stem cell transplantation, immunotherapy, pulmonology, gastroenterology, respiratory therapy, genetics, pathology, nutrition, naturopathic medicine, rehabilitation and chiropractic services, just to name a few. Weekend clinic appointments are also available.

“We are honored to have the chance to continue to train new physicians in our patient-centered culture,” added Zack Varughese, CTCA senior vice president of oncology services, who worked on the extensive application process with CTCA Drs. Jaggernauth, Pollock, Panicker and Shrestha; Jeffrey LaBoeuf of the Osteopathic Medical Education Consortium of Oklahoma; and Gary Slick, DO, who is executive director of the American Osteopathic Board of Internal Medicine. “We continue to value our relationship with OSU, and our new fellowship program will enhance our ongoing partnership with the school’s osteopathic programs.”

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About Cancer Treatment Centers of America®
Cancer Treatment Centers of America, Inc. (CTCA) is a national network of five hospitals that specialize in the treatment of patients fighting complex or advanced-stage cancer. CTCA offers an integrative approach to cancer treatment that combines surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy with nutritional counseling, naturopathic medicine, mind-body therapy, and spiritual support to enhance quality of life and minimize side effects during treatment. The company serves patients from all 50 states at hospitals located in Atlanta, Chicago, Philadelphia, Phoenix and Tulsa. Known for delivering the Mother Standard® of care and Patient Empowerment Medicine®, CTCA provides patients with comprehensive information about their treatment options so they can participate in their treatment decisions. For more information about CTCA, go to www.cancercenter.com.