

# Sharing is Caring

The Cancer Center at Lowell General Hospital

Volume 18  
Fall 2013

## The Cancer Center at Lowell General is Pleased to Welcome Three New Physicians

The Cancer Center at Lowell General Hospital is pleased to welcome William O'Meara, MD, and Klaudia Urbaniak Hunter, MD to Radiation Oncology Associates, PA and Namrata Patel, MD to Cancer Care Associates.

Dr. O'Meara, Dr. Patel, and Dr. Hunter bring years of valuable experience to the Lowell community and are working collaboratively with our incredible team of dedicated physicians and staff to improve and enhance services for our patients.



### William O'Meara, M.D.

Bill O'Meara received his Bachelor of Arts in English from University of Notre Dame in 1992 and complete medical training at Tulane University School of Medicine in 1997. While in medical school, he simultaneously obtained a masters degree in public health. During his time serving as an active duty Navy medical officer at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego he went on to specialty training and completed a residency in radiation oncology in 2006 and a fellowship in stereotactic body radiotherapy in 2007, both at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York.

After finishing training, Dr. O'Meara returned to active duty as a radiation oncologist at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, where he also served as the associate program director for the radiation oncology training program at the National Cancer Institute. Dr. O'Meara separated honorably from the Navy as a Commander and joined Radiation Oncology Associates in 2011.



### Namrata Patel, M.D.

Namrata Patel is board certified in Hematology/Oncology and Internal Medicine who has joined Circle Health. She is practicing at the Cancer Center Associates at Lowell General Hospital's main campus where she is accepting new patients. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine at Stony Brook University Hospital in Stony Brook, NY and her fellowship in Hematology/Oncology at New York University Medical Center in New York, NY. Dr. Patel received her medical degree from

Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, NY. She is fluent in English, Gujarati and Spanish.



### Klaudia Urbaniak Hunter, M.D.

Dr. Hunter graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Liberal Arts and Sciences where she obtained a bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences and a bachelor's degree in Philosophy. She went on to receive her medical degree from the University of Illinois College of Medicine. Dr. Hunter served as Chief Resident at the University of Michigan Department of Radiation Oncology.

## Save the Date!

### Holiday Party

**Tuesday, December 10, 2013**  
**6:30 pm**

**Lowell Senior Center**  
**276 Broadway St., Lowell**

Join us for the Cancer Center Annual Holiday Party! For more information or to register, call: (978) 937-6393

Food • Music

Door Prizes • and much more!

## Caregiving Sites

### [www.caregiver.org](http://www.caregiver.org)

A clearinghouse on brain disorders, caregiver assistance and long-term care public policy.

### [www.caregiver.va.gov](http://www.caregiver.va.gov)

Taking care of the veteran you love can be an incredibly demanding job and the VA wants caregivers to know they don't have to do it alone.

### [www.caregiverresource.net](http://www.caregiverresource.net)

A collaboration of organizations dedicated to providing for the needs and welfare of caregivers.

### [www.medicare.gov/campaigns/caregiver](http://www.medicare.gov/campaigns/caregiver)

Resources, stories and newsletters about taking care of someone with Medicare.

### [www.wellspouse.org](http://www.wellspouse.org)

The Well Spouse Association advocates for and addresses the needs of individuals caring for a chronically ill and/or disabled spouse/partner.

## Thank You to the Over 30 Baseball League

For the past two years the Over 30 Baseball League has played on Mother's Day. Most of the players were concerned that they weren't able to spend time with the women most dear to their heart. They brainstormed ideas so that they could incorporate baseball and the meaning of Mother's Day all in one.

With that in mind, the group decided to make Mother's Day a day to play baseball to raise money for women who suffer from breast cancer. The team sold bracelets and the money collected was donated locally to cancer research and recently to the Lowell General Hospital Cancer Center. In addition, donations from the League support Lowell General Hospital's TeamWalk for CancerCare, in which funds will be used for a book called *Breast Cancer Treatment Handbook* and given to all patients diagnosed with breast cancer. The book, written by Judy C. Kneece, RN, OCN, helps women to understand the disease, treatments, emotions and recovery related to breast cancer. "We are grateful for the men of this League for making this donation possible, what they did for us is truly amazing, their efforts will be appreciated by our patients for years to come," said Maureen Coulter, TeamWalk Advisory Team Member.



## 6th Annual Survivorship Day

On September 13, 2013, the Lowell General Hospital Cancer Center held its 6th annual Survivorship Day event at the Lowell Senior Center. The event was attended by approximately 120 patients and family members as well as the staff from the Cancer Center. This event started six years ago as a "nurse-driven" committee to celebrate the lives of cancer survivors and their families. In the past six years, we have grown tremendously - even having to change locations of the event as we outgrew the Clark Auditorium! As in previous years, we had great food, desserts, raffles, a candlelight ceremony, and most of all, inspiring speakers who shared their stories. We also had a motivational speaker who closed out the evening with her incredible story and her inspirational words of strength and courage.



## Dracut Woman Appreciates TeamWalk Efforts

After being diagnosed with lung cancer last November, Patricia Capozzi of Dracut knows how important the money raised at Lowell General Hospital's TeamWalk for CancerCare event can be. Since being treated at the hospital's cancer center, a portion of the money raised at this event allowed Pat to receive assistance to purchase a wig when she lost her hair as a result of chemotherapy treatments. "TeamWalk funds help patients like me as we are facing cancer," says Pat Capozzi. TeamWalk also covered a diagnostic test that she needed to be performed as well as support programs so that she could feel strong physically and emotionally throughout the journey.

Since the beginning of TeamWalk events, there has been more than \$6 million and helped more than 18,000 patients by paying for medications, nutritional supplements, wigs and prostheses, support groups, skilled nursing visits, transportation, mini-grants, and supportive services to patients of all cancer types.

For the first time at the TeamWalk event this year there will be Team Patty walking in Pat's honor. She strives to volunteer at the event because she wants to give back to the hospital that has provided her with exceptional care and support. "You can't ask for nicer people and that's exactly what you need when you are first diagnosed with something this devastating," says Capozzi.

*Lowell General Hospital's 15th annual TeamWalk for CancerCare takes place Sunday, May 18, 2014.*

## 5 Facts About Hospice

Most hospice care is provided at home

Hospice care is fully covered by Medicare, private insurance, and MassHealth

The Hospice benefit pays for medications and medical equipment related to the illness

Hospice care can include complementary therapies such as music, art, or massage

*Source: National Hospice and Palliative Care*

