

Dear Nominating Committee Members:

I would like to nominate Ms. _____ for recognition at Celebration '99. The following information addresses the criteria.

Exhibits Expertise in Professional Practice: Ms. _____ is certified as an Advanced Certified Oncology Nurse by ONS, a certification that requires certification at the clinician level first. She regularly initiates policy changes related to patient care as she develops critical paths. She has a broad base of experience and has been able to make significant recommendations for changes in policy. Her team has been able to shorten stays without increasing unexpected returns.

She has been active in the community serving on the fundraising committee for the March of Dimes for 8 years, the Sprint for Life Ovarian Cancer Race, the community Cancer Risk Appraisal program, a cancer support group and breast cancer support group for 4 years, the prostate and colorectal screening programs for 4 years. She has a masters degree in Nursing and is certified as an Adult Acute Care Nurse Practitioner. She has taught inservices in chemotherapy, and participated in the basic and oncology courses. She served on the Oncology Core Curriculum Planning Committee. She has initiated and participated in research studies related to quality of life issues in patients receiving home care after breast cancer and knowledge of breast cancer screening and detection guidelines in women ages 20-25. In her current position, she routinely develops case management guidelines. In previous positions, she consistently evaluated outcomes for breast cancer patients and used these results to modify plans of care and to educate other groups of nurses on the care of the patient with a mastectomy and the terminally ill patient.

Serves as a Professional Role Model: Ms. _____ is a member of the Oncology Nursing Society at the national and local levels, the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, and Sigma Theta Tau. She is a member of the research protocol review committee, the Medication Process Improvement Task Force, the BNE Peer Review Committee. She has served on the Nursing QI, Oncology Product Line, Bay Valley Hospice Advisory Board, Epidural Analgesia Planning, Patient-Controlled Analgesia, Radiation Safety, and the Cancer committees, plus the Michigan Pain Initiative. She is an excellent mentor, sharing findings and recommendations related to the breast cancer and terminally ill cancer patients. She role models professional practice through voluntary participation on committees that affect the role of the nurse and by serving as a clinical protocol reviewer, adding nursing input to medical protocols.

She has presented at the local and national level on topics such as the terminally ill patient, the postoperative mastectomy patient, and chemotherapy for the Association of Medical Assistants, the Annual clinical cancer Conference, and the Karmanos Cancer Institute. She has been a frequent speaker to community groups on breast health and breast cancer guidelines and consults with physicians on nursing issues related to protocol implementation. She has served as a spokesperson for nursing through her activities at the March of Dimes and through community screening programs such as the prostate and breast cancer screening groups. She served as a lecturer on the topic of the terminally ill patient at Mott Community College and works with medical and nursing students in her current position.

She is an active member of the surgical gynecology team and contributed to the development of policies related to shortened hospital stays for patients and the care required for them. On her own time, she participates on the task force that develops policies related to nursing implementation of medical protocols. She has written numerous materials for nurse and patient education published by the institution for internal and external use and is currently writing an article for publication on the patient having a hysterectomy for the treatment of cancer.

Contributes to the Quality of Health Care: Ms. _____ is a constant advocate for patients. In her role as Clinical Practice Coordinator, she has fought for ongoing support for patients on care paths that facilitate shorter stays. She has served on the Medication Process Improvement Task Force, the Patient-Controlled Planning Committee, and the Pain Initiative Committee. She consistently addresses patient interests in her reviews of clinical protocols (project done on her own time) and suggests alternative strategies that are more supportive of the patients. In so doing, she has helped to improve the process of care delivery for patients on fast track paths. She has brought to the institution innovative approaches to caring for these patients and fights for the inclusion of these methods in patient care. Ms. _____ actively participates in both the nursing research groups and the review team for medical research. She consistently applies the results of these research efforts to the development of policies related to the implementation of

clinical protocols with patients. She also often makes suggestions for the revision of medical policies that are simple and provide better support for patients.

Her political action has been in support of cancer prevention through presentations to community groups for the March of Dimes, the Sprint for Life Ovarian Cancer Race, and community hospitals. She is also politically active within the institution, attempting to make changes to improve patient care. She has enhanced patient access to care through her work with support groups and provision of screening in the community. She maintains very high standards of care and challenges others to do the same. She even takes on unpopular projects when patient care can be improved by her efforts. She has served on the Practice, Cancer, and Radiation Safety Committees, all designed to improve clinical practice. Part of her current role is outcomes evaluation, but she takes the process beyond what is expected of her. She evaluates the effect of both the care paths and the clinical research protocols on the survival and quality of life of the patient.

Commitment to the Profession of Nursing: Ms. actively consults with clinicians in her area and with those in other institutions including St. Joseph's Hospital, the March of Dimes, and the members of the Community Oncology Program on such topics as ovarian cancer, cancer risk, breast cancer, and colorectal screening. She maintains Advanced Oncology Certification with the ONS and actively mentors others to participate in professional organizations and to become certified. She also role models participation in associations such as the March of Dimes and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. She is also a member of STT. She has represented nursing at local, state, and national levels through her participation in community activities and her presentations at conferences on such topics as the terminally ill patient (Genesee Chapter of Medical Assistants and Mott Community College), and multiple community agencies on breast cancer guidelines and chemotherapy. She has served on the Big Valley Hospice Advisory Board and on a fundraising task force for the March of Dimes.

Ms. is an excellent representative of professional nursing. In her daily practice, she quietly role models the characteristics of the professional nurse, taking risks to improve patient care and the work environment, maintaining ethical standards and providing the best possible care. She is very deserving of this award.

Sincerely,