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News

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Dana-Farber, New Hampshire Oncology-Hematology to provide adult cancer care services in Londonderry

Clinic will offer advanced cancer treatments, comprehensive support services and clinical trials

LONDONDERRY, NH—Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, in cooperation with New Hampshire Oncology-Hematology, PA, a regional group practice serving patients in central and southern New Hampshire, today announced its intention to provide adult cancer care services in Londonderry, NH.

The clinic will offer residents of southern New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts the best of academic and community oncology resources in a local setting. Located at 40 Buttrick Road within the Elliot Medical Center in Londonderry, the clinic also will make cancer care easier and more convenient for the more than 1,000 adult residents who live within a 25-minute drive of Londonderry and currently travel to Dana-Farber for their care.

Kathleen Willard, a New Hampshire resident and Dana-Farber patient, says that the Londonderry clinic will be a great benefit to people in the region. “I’ve heard from a lot of people from New Hampshire who have cancer who said that they would love to go to Dana-Farber but don’t because of the travel,” says Willard. “It would be much more convenient to be able to receive the same level of care within a half hour of home.”

The proposed clinic is scheduled to open in fall 2008 and builds on the more than 25-year relationship between Dana-Farber and New Hampshire Oncology-Hematology (NHOH), a collaboration formalized in 2005 with an affiliation agreement. Dana-Farber and NHOH will provide medical oncology and chemotherapy services as well as a wide range of services and programs developed for the unique needs of cancer patients and family members, including pain and palliative care, complementary therapies, psycho-social support, special programs for cancer survivors, and patient advocacy and education services. In addition, patients will have access to hundreds of clinical trials conducted by Dana-Farber.

“Advances in cancer care in the past decade have made it possible today to provide a greater level of care in an outpatient setting,” says Denis Hammond, M.D., one of the founding physicians of New Hampshire Oncology-Hematology. “But cancer care is increasingly complex, and it can require additional services and support for patients and families. Through our enhanced affiliation with Dana-Farber, we can better serve the comprehensive needs of cancer patients in southern New Hampshire.”

Lawrence N. Shulman, M.D., chief medical officer and senior vice president for medical affairs at Dana-Farber, says the clinic draws on the strengths of the two organizations for the benefit of cancer patients. “By bringing together cancer specialists from an excellent community practice and those from a leading comprehensive cancer center, we can develop a conveniently located clinic that will provide a full range of innovative care and services that usually are only available at a regional cancer center.”

New Hampshire Oncology-Hematology, PA, (www.nhoh.com) was founded in 1976 and has more than 100 employees, including 11 board-certified oncologists/hematologists, serving patients from five locations throughout New Hampshire: Concord, Derry, Exeter, Hooksett, and Laconia. NHOH has a vigorous clinical research program at all of its practice sites and is an At-Large-Affiliate of CALGB, a National Cancer Institute-sponsored international cooperative cancer research group.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (www.dana-farber.org) is a principal teaching affiliate of the Harvard Medical School, and is among the leading cancer research and care centers in the United States. It is a founding member of the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center (DF/HCC), designated a comprehensive cancer center by the National Cancer Institute. It has long been rated one of the nation's leading centers for cancer care by *U.S. News and World Report* magazine.

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