

Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers

4715 Arapahoe Avenue, Boulder, CO 80303; 303-385-2000; Director: John Fleagle, MD

Beginning with this issue, the editors of *Community Oncology* bring you profiles of practices from around the country. Each of these community practices has a valuable contribution to offer our readers, sharing their best methods for the delivery of quality cancer care. This month we are profiling the Rocky Mountain Cancer Center in Boulder, Colorado, where patients in the infusion room can gaze out large picture windows at the magnificent Flatirons, the distinctively-shaped foothills rising above this town of 100,000.

We'd like to hear from you about your practice and some of the special features that make it distinctive. For more information on how your practice can be profiled in a future issue, go to our Web site at www.CommunityOncology.net/profile and fill out the entrant's form.

We are part of Colorado's largest and most comprehensive provider of cancer care, with 20 locations and 70 physicians throughout the state. At our Boulder location, we have 8 doctors seeing 150 patients per day.

Our facility is part of the Tebo Family Medical Pavilion, Colorado's newest state-of-the-art cancer treatment center, designed in partnership with Boulder Community Hospital. At the complex, we offer patients high-level cancer care, the latest imaging equipment, clinical research studies, and a variety of support services.

Specialties represented

Recognized nationally by the

Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons, the Center's staff is of the highest caliber. Our board certified and highly experienced surgeons provide patients access to the latest interventions. Other physician specialists such as urologists, pathologists, and gastroenterologists round out a comprehensive panel of practitioners who are committed to providing local access to a full range of cancer services.

Imaging technology

PET/CT Imaging

Our center features a new PET/CT scanner—the only one in Boulder County. This leading-edge technology helps us diagnose cancer earlier and better define the tumor stage.

The exquisite accuracy of the combined PET/CT scanner decreases the need for multiple tests.

Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)

Our new linear accelerator with IMRT is particularly useful in our treatment of prostate, and head and neck cancers.

Image-Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT)

IGRT's ultraprecise targeting exposes less healthy tissue surrounding the tumor to radiation, significantly reducing side effects.

Research

Together with Boulder Community Hospital, Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers (RMCC) provides the broadest access to clinical research in Colorado. We received the 2006 Clinical Trial Award from the American Society of Clinical Oncology in recognition of our ongoing efforts to improve cancer care through access to clinical research studies. RMCC was one of just 12 oncology practices nationwide to be honored.

Over the past few years, we have taken part in studies evaluating 23 of the last 29 cancer-fighting drugs approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.

Support services

At RMCC we have created a supportive and healing environment for patients and family. Friends and family members are encouraged to



The Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers staff in Boulder, Colorado.

© 2008 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Commun Oncol 2008;5:46-47

WE INTRODUCED to Colorado a program called the Seven Levels of Healing®, an educational curriculum that helps patients and their family members learn how to navigate their journey through cancer as skillfully and effectively as possible. The program helps patients find meaning, hope, and practical solutions at every step along the way. Seven Levels of Healing is offered free to patients and community members touched by cancer. It comprises a series of seven mini-workshops addressing everything from basic information and education about cancer to the value of connecting with others and relating to one's body as a "garden." In addition, participants focus on emotional healing, the power of the mind to influence experience, the exploration of one's goals and deepest sense of purpose, and the nature of spirit.

bring foods from home, share conversation with others in the dining room, and spend the night in their loved one's room.

Our patient-focused philosophy is supported by the Center's beautiful architecture and a variety of services that span the full range of practical and emotional needs. Financial counselors on staff coordinate with patients to assist them in meeting the expenses of treatment and applying for pharmaceutical assistance programs. The Center's social worker provides cancer-related counseling, helps connect people with support groups and various community resources, and assists patients with applying for co-pay assistance and grants for medical and non-medical needs.

Support groups presently offered or in development at the Center include a general cancer support group;



Warm woods and soft lighting help patients feel at ease.

ACS's Look Good . . . Feel Better Program; and support groups specifically for young women, people with lung cancer, children of patients, and women and couples living with breast cancer. We offer yoga classes and special guest lectures on topics ranging from nutrition to meditation and community caregiving.

Our Resource Center offers personal assistance with Internet re-

THE TEBO CENTER is home to Colorado's first Cancer Resource Navigator, a joint effort with the American Cancer Society (ACS) and Boulder Community Hospital. The Cancer Resource Navigator helps patients obtain transportation to and from appointments, fit and obtain wigs and prostheses, receive cancer-related information, and access community resources.

search, two computers for patients and family members to use, a lending library, and a full range of patient information booklets. Those needing a space for reflection or relaxation can walk outside to a small meditation garden complete with a serene waterfall fountain.

We also offer a number of complementary therapies to aid healing

Staff at a Glance

- 8 physicians
- 8 nurses
- 1 nurse practitioner
- 1 physician assistant
- 1 genetic counselor
- 1 pharmacist
- 1 social worker
- 1 oncology liaison
- 6 medical assistants
- 2 PET/CT radiation technicians
- 1 research coordinator
- 2 practice administrators
- 1 patient financial counselor
- 10 schedulers/medical records technicians
- 3 receptionists
- 20 volunteers

and recovery. All services are evidence based, integrated with conventional care, and provided by certified and licensed practitioners whose expertise includes working with those who have cancer. Services include:

- Massage
- Acupuncture
- Healing touch/therapeutic touch/Reiki
- Wellness and integrative care consultations with a nurse
- Nutritional counseling with a registered dietitian.

As we grow, we plan to add tai chi classes as well as art and music therapy.