



## PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

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### **Tammy Walker Cancer Center receives ASCO QOPI® re-certification**

(October 27, 2022) - The Tammy Walker Cancer Center's Medical Oncology and Hematology Department has received a three-year re-certification from the American Society of Clinical Oncology's Quality Oncology Practice Initiative (QOPI®). The voluntary program is an effort to help medical oncology practices assess the quality of care they provide patients using nationally recognized standards.

To become QOPI® Certified, practices have to submit to an evaluation of their entire practice and documentation standards. The QOPI® Certification Program staff and task force members then verify through an on-site survey that the evaluation and documents are correct and that the practices meet core standards in areas of treatment, including:

- Creating a safe environment—staffing, competencies and general policy
- Treatment planning, patient consent and education
- Safe ordering, preparing, dispensing and administering chemotherapy
- Monitoring after chemotherapy is administered, including adherence, toxicity and complications
- Treatment planning
- Staff training and education
- Chemotherapy orders and drug preparation

- Patient consent and education
- Safe chemotherapy administration
- Monitoring and assessment of patient well-being

“A significant portion of QOPI® Certification revolves around creating a culture of performance improvement,” said Melanie Leepers, cancer program manager at the Tammy Walker Cancer Center. “This includes analyzing our efforts documented in patient records to evaluate the quality of treatments received, including symptom management and consideration for a patient’s overall health. This information is then used to drive our performance improvement initiatives focused on patient safety and outcomes.”

The Tammy Walker Cancer Center’s Medical Oncology and Hematology Department was first certified by QOPI® in 2018. Nearly 300 practices around the United States are currently QOPI® certified.

“Practices that re-certify demonstrate passion for quality care,” said ASCO Chair Monica M. Bertagnolli, MD, FACS, FASCO. “By opting to dedicate time and resources toward this certification, they exemplify what all providers should strive for, in not just meeting guidelines and standards, but exceeding them.”

The QOPI® Certification Program is dedicated to innovative quality improvement programs. For more information please visit: <https://practice.asco.org/quality-improvement/quality-programs>.

**About the American Society of Clinical Oncology and the Association for Clinical Oncology:**

The American Society of Clinical Oncology (the Society) and the Association for Clinical Oncology (the Association) are committed to making a world of difference in cancer care. The Society and the Association represent nearly 45,000 oncology professionals who care for people living with cancer. Through research, education, and promotion of the highest-quality patient care, the Society works to conquer cancer and create a world where cancer is prevented or cured, and every survivor is healthy. The Association works to ensure that all individuals with cancer have access to high-quality, affordable care; that the cancer care delivery system supports oncology providers in their delivery of optimal cancer care; and that our nation supports federal funding for cancer research as well as efforts centered on cancer prevention, drug development, and clinical trials. Learn more about the Society at [www.ASCO.org](http://www.ASCO.org), explore patient education resources at [www.Cancer.Net](http://www.Cancer.Net), and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#). Learn more about the Association at [www.ascoassociation.org](http://www.ascoassociation.org).

**About QOPI Certification Program LLC**

QOPI® Certification Program, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Association for Clinical Oncology (the Association) and an affiliate of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (the Society), is dedicated to recognizing exemplary commitment to safety and quality in oncology patient care. Practices that have achieved QOPI® Certification have scored well on key QOPI® quality measures and have met chemotherapy safety standards established by the Society and the Oncology Nursing Society in various areas of treatment and chemotherapy safety.