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CINJ Nurses are Recognized During National Oncology Nurses Month

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ) hosted a number of events last month in recognition of National Oncology Nurses Month. The 2009 Nurse Day Distinguished Lecture Program included the Elizabeth Gibby Osborne Lecture and the Oncology Nursing Excellence Awards, which are given to a pair of outstanding nurses at CINJ. The event aims to acknowledge the CINJ nursing staff for the great strides it continues to make in caring for, communicating with and educating patients and their families. Featured during the lectureship portion of the event was Nessa Coyle, RN, PhD, FAAN, director of the Supportive Care Program at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Coyle presented "Nursing's Contributions to Palliative Care," which focused on relieving suffering and achieving the best possible quality of life for patients and their caregivers. Along with the lectureship, the other highlight of this year's celebration was the awarding of the third-annual Oncology Nursing Excellence Awards. Advanced Practice Nurse Jacquelyn Lauria, RN, MS, NP-C, AOCNP, and Research Nurse Clinician Lien Huzzy, RN, BSN, OCN, captured this year's honor for being leaders in the area of patient care and education. Both women were recognized for their collaborative efforts with fellow nurses, doctors and other team members, and were heralded as champions for promoting oncology nursing as a profession. Kathy Morris, RN, BSN, OCN and Chia-Chun Lu, RN, OCN also were nominated. The lectureship and Nursing Excellence Awards are underwritten in part by the Elizabeth Gibby Osborne Lecture and Scholarship Fund.

Head of Urologic Oncology at The Cancer Institute of New Jersey Marks 500th Robotic Prostatectomy

Marking a unique milestone in prostate cancer surgery, the leader of urologic oncology at The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ), Isaac Kim, MD, PhD, recently completed his 500th robotic prostatectomy at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, the Flagship Hospital of CINJ. Robotic prostatectomy allows a surgeon to control a set of robotic arms that hold the surgical instruments used to remove the patient's cancer. Unlike traditional prostate surgery that results in a six-inch scar, patients that undergo this precise and minimally invasive surgical technique are left with incisions smaller than a quarter. Dr. Kim, assistant professor of surgery at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, notes the procedure allows for additional precision, reduced blood loss, shorter hospital stays and faster recovery for the patient. During this four-year stretch leading up to the 500 mark, none of the patients received blood transfusions and the average hospital stay was 1.2 days. Dr. Kim's achievement also includes surgeries done via a new, enhanced technique known as Athermal Intrafascial Robotic (AIR) prostatectomy, which he developed. In the AIR procedure, the nerve that controls a man's ability to have an erection is better preserved by sparing over 90 percent of the tissues that surrounds the prostate as compared to 40 to 50 percent in the conventional open or robotic radical prostatectomy. Dr. Kim says by undergoing the AIR prostatectomy, patients are able to regain sexual function and bladder control more quickly. It also reduces incontinence.

LIFE 10th Anniversary Event Delivers Big Names and Big Dollars for Breast Cancer Fight

Twenty-eight LPGA pros including World Golf Hall of Fame members Beth Daniel and Karrie Webb, top ranked players Angela Stanford, Morgan Pressel, Brittany Lincicome, Helen Alfredsson, Laura Davies and LPGA commissioner Carolyn Bivens, came together for the 10th anniversary LIFE (LPGA pros In the Fight to

Eradicate breast cancer) Event hosted by LPGA veteran Val Skinner on May 18, 2009. The event, noted as the biggest single-day golf event fundraiser for breast cancer initiatives, raised another \$500,000 for breast cancer programs. LIFE has raised close to \$6 million for the breast cancer fight since its inception in 2000. Held at the Ridgewood Country Club in Paramus, New Jersey, the LIFE Event benefits The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ) and Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Key programs supported by the initiative include the LIFE Center at CINJ and CINJ's BioCONNECT, which is a high school biology curriculum that teaches genetics using breast cancer as its focus. Other programs include Susan G. Komen for the Cure's® nationwide interactive and mobile tour known as Komen on the Go™. LIFE Event partners include: The Joe Plumeri Family, EmblemHealth, Guy Carpenter, QualCare and Roche. Other notable supporters are: Assured Guaranty, Marsh, Centocor Ortho Biotech, Inc., ACE Group, GUND, Inc. and Lincoln Mercury.



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