

## KATMAI ONCOLOGY GROUP JOINS SCCA NETWORK



The largest oncology practice in Alaska, Katmai Oncology Group, became the eleventh member of the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA) Network last month.

Katmai Oncology Group offers high quality, personalized, state-of-the art hematology and oncology care in a supportive setting. Since it opened in 1973, Katmai Oncology Group has provided services that were previously unavailable in Alaska. Today, Katmai Oncology Group's experienced medical staff provides cancer treatment, support, education, and information to patients in Anchorage and Soldotna and provides infusion services on the Kenai Peninsula through its weekly outreach clinic.

The Katmai Oncology Group practice includes six board-certified physicians who have expertise in benign and malignant hematology, solid tumors, and post-transplant care; four nurse practitioners; registered nurses with oncology nursing certifications who are specially trained in chemotherapy infusion; medical assistants; laboratory technicians; and other medical support staff.

"We have a long history of providing our patients with expert cancer care," said Jeanne Anderson, MD, senior partner of Katmai Oncology Group. "Joining Seattle Cancer Care Alliance's Network will enable us to offer even greater access to care while providing world-class cancer treatment."

**Ellen H. Chirichella, MD**  
Oncologist  
Katmai Oncology Group



Ellen Chirichella, MD, joined the medical field, and ultimately oncology, after she discovered her strong interest and affinity for metabolic systems of the human body during her Bachelor of Science studies in dietetics at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va., where she graduated magna cum laude. She earned her medical degree at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, Pa., and completed Fellowship training in hematology/oncology at Brown University in Providence, R.I. She is board certified in internal medicine, hematology, and medical oncology.

Chirichella hopes her personal experience with her father's death from cancer during her internship has given her more empathy for her patients. "It is an honor to be with someone during the stressful times of cancer treatment and potentially the end of life," she said. Oncology gives her career the perfect balance, she said, between scientific rigor, medical advancements, and developing strong relationships with her patients.

While she treats all cancer patients, Chirichella has a special interest in women with breast cancer. Outside of her patient care work, she sits on the board of directors for the patient advocacy group Breast Cancer Focus Alaska, and spends time with her husband and growing family.

## In This Issue

Katmai Oncology Group Joins SCCA Network .....	1
Ellen H. Chirichella, MD.....	1
"No Donor" No Problem.....	2
Network in the Community.....	2
Thank You Tove, Welcome Jeannie! .....	3
New Providers in UW/SCCA Colorectal Services .....	3
Events & Conferences .....	4
Resources & Contacts.....	4



Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
UW Medicine  
Seattle Children's