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Our Officers are list on Nursing Network under [About Us](#).

Cancer & Health Awareness

- ♥ [Prevent Cancer Month](#)
- ♥ [Gallbladder and Bile Duct Awareness Month](#)
- ♥ [Lactose Intolerance Month](#)
- ♥ [Feeding Tube Awareness Week](#) – 5-9
- ♥ [World Cancer Day](#) – 4
- ♥ [Rare Disease Day](#) – 28

See the ***Education and Resources*** section on [our website](#) for more resources related to this month's awareness.

Resource of the Month

[American Institute for Cancer Research \(ACIR\)](#) funds research on nutrition and cancer. It is a wealth of information on reducing cancer risk with diet and other modifiable actions. It's a perfect website for cancer prevention month and a great resource for you and your patients. Take some time to check it out.

Take Action to Prevent Cancer

As Navigators, no matter what your specialty is, February is a time you can take action. Here are just a few suggestions:



1. Contribute to the [We Can, I Can](#) campaign for [World Cancer Day](#).
2. Promote cancer prevention at your hospital and in your community. You can order educational materials from your American Cancer Society rep or download materials from many of the cancer websites (see our [resources](#)).
 - ★ Submit a short post for your hospital social media site.
 - ★ Set up a table at your hospital/facility with cancer prevention materials.

Member Spotlight

In October we started a monthly member spotlight to showcase the diverse skills of our chapter officers as well as some of our local oncology navigators. This month's spotlight shines on Audrey Thompson, our Program/Vendor Liaison.

Audrey Thompson BSN, RN, OCN, ONN-CG
Oncology Inpatient Nurse Navigator
Baylor Scott & White Medical Center- McKinney

Being a Navigator means...

I feel that it is an honor to be a Navigator and at times be so intimately involved with patients who trust you so completely and only know your first name.

Having been in Oncology for many years, I now believe I was preparing for this role. It takes time to understand how to look beyond what's right in front of you and to reach out a little further to be sure you are providing the best for patients.

What do you enjoy most about your job as Navigator? The people I have met. This includes

patients, colleagues, Physicians, all ancillary staff and basically anyone who plays a role in making navigation succeed.

I also enjoy the diversity of navigation. Sometimes I educate, sometimes I provide support, other times I am the one being educated.

What special skills do you bring to your job, including hidden or visible talents and past work/life experience?

I would say being creative is my skill. My mind is always thinking about the next idea that can positively influence how we navigate and care for patients. This can be in the form of finding new and additional resources to coordinating events for patients and families to attend where they can forget about cancer for a while.

Another value is knowing that what I knew yesterday may not be true today. We are in an Oncology Explosion of new information and it's fast and furious. We as navigators must stay on top of current topics and trends.

Are there any tips, resources and/or words of inspiration or advice you would like to share with other Navigators?

Keep learning every single day. I can honestly say that I have learned more from patients I have navigated than I would have ever been able to learn on my own. I am able to take the information and share with others.

Have there been any events that you participated in related to Navigation that you would like to share? If so please see additional questionnaire below:

- ♥ I facilitate a Monthly General Education/Support Meeting
- ♥ I facilitate a Prostate Support Group
- ♥ I facilitate a Patient Family Advisory Council
- ♥ I provide Cancer Education in the community
- ♥ I am a member of AONN+ Nationally and locally
- ♥ I am a member of ONS nationally and locally
- ♥ Coordinate our Colon Cancer Awareness Luncheon
- ♥ Coordinate 2 Survivorship events per year
- ♥ Attended AONN+ in 2016
- ♥ Attended ONS Congress in 2017.

Any other comments you would like to add:

Take Care of yourself! We as navigators sometimes forget the toll it can take if you don't release and recharge. I think talking with other navigators is so helpful in understanding what and why we do what we do. I say this because how many times have you been asked by someone "What does a Navigator do"? My response is "What don't we do"?

It's also a fact that no 2 navigators function exactly the same. We are unique and bring our own personalities and characters in how we interact with people. That's what makes us such a special group of people!!!!

Save the Date

World Cancer Day is February 4th.



The next **AONN meeting** will be **Tuesday March 6th at 6:00 pm**. Details to be

announced at a later date. The other meetings this year are scheduled for June 5th, September 4th and December 4th. More details to come.

Dress in Blue for Colon Cancer is Friday March 2nd. Get your **BLUE** on!



Cowtown Oncology Nursing Symposium is March 9-10 at TCU in Ft. Worth

★ **The New Frontier: Updates in Hematological Cancers** March 9, 2018

★ **8th Annual Cowtown Oncology Nursing Symposium** Saturday, March 10, 2018

The 28th Annual Interdisciplinary Breast Center Conference

March 9-14
Las Vegas, NV

Advanced Practice Oncology Summit

April 6-7
Ft. Worth, TX

AONN+ Mid-year Conference

May 4-6
Boston, MA

The Oncology Nursing Society's Annual Conference

May 17-20
Washington, DC

ONA Navigation Summit

June 14-16
Chicago, IL

AONN+ Ninth Annual Navigation & Survivorship Conference

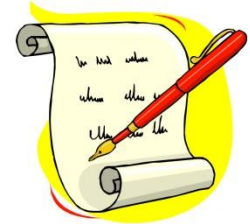
November 15-18
Dallas, TX
Hilton Anatole Dallas

Additional resources:

- [Conferences](#)
- [Oncology Live Education](#)

Share your Knowledge

Love to write? Have something to say? Then consider sharing your expertise and experience. Here are 5 opportunities to consider:













1. [CONQUER: The Patient Voice](#)
2. [Journal of Oncology Navigation and Survivorship \(JONS\)](#)
3. [Oncology Nurse Advisor](#)
4. [ONS Voice](#)
5. [PearlPoint: Pearls of Wisdom](#)

Also consider writing for your hospital blog or newsletter. Blogs and short newsletter articles are good ways to start writing. [Contact us](#) at DFW Oncology Navigators if you want to publish a short blog (500 words or less) related to local Oncology Navigation.

Need Online Continuing Ed?

- 📖 [Academy of Oncology Nurse and Patient Navigators \(AONN\)](#)
- 📖 [ASCO University: Cancer topics CME](#)
- 📖 [Abbott Nutrition Health Institute](#)
- 📖 [Cancer and Careers](#)
- 📖 [CDC Learning Connection](#)
- 📖 [Coram CEs for RN, RD and SW](#)
- 📖 [InPractice \(Partnered with ONS\)](#)
- 📖 [Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Professional Education](#)
- 📖 [MD Anderson Oncology Professional Education](#)
- 📖 [Medscape Oncology CME](#)
- 📖 [My CME: Oncology Nurse Advisor article](#)

-  [National Comprehensive Cancer Network \(NCCN\)](#)
-  [Nurse.com](#)
-  [Nurse CEU.com](#)
-  [OncoLink](#)
-  [Oncology Nurse Advisor](#)
-  [Oncology Nursing Society \(ONS\)](#)
-  [Pearls Review](#)
-  [Philips Learning Center](#)
-  [Radiation Oncology](#)
-  [Texas Board of Nurse Examiners](#)



Some of these may require you to be a member or may have a fee

Don't forget...

If you haven't already:

Like us on Facebook
@dfwoncologynavigators

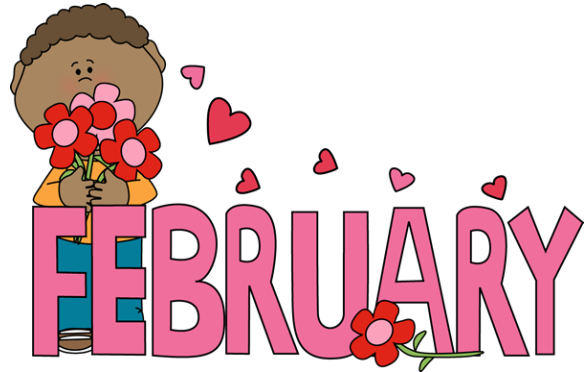


AND...

Sign up for our website, [DFW Oncology Navigators](#), on [Nursing Network](#). It's easy, costs nothing and will only take a few minutes:

1. First join Nursing Network at www.nursingnetwork.com Please include your specialties and where you are employed.
2. Then "follow **DFW Oncology Navigators**. By signing up you help us keep track of our local community of Navigators. Not sure if you signed up already? Go to our site [membership](#) and check. If you are not a member but getting correspondence from us it's because you are on a list that was created when you were sent an invitation to join.

Happy February!



Gwen Spector RN, BSN, COCN
Webmaster for North Texas Navigator
Network and DFW Oncology
Navigators.