

Honoring the Needs and Respecting the Dignity of Our Patients

SUPPORT SERVICES

The health care professionals at Northeast Radiation Oncology Center (NROC) are dedicated to helping foster the healing of all patients and families in their care. They combine their professional expertise with compassion and kindness, and have a deep respect for the spiritual, psychological, social and physical needs of their patients. The support care offered at no cost includes social services, nutritional counseling, exercise physiology, art therapy, pet therapy and general education programs.

Why is nutritional counseling important for people with cancer?

Following a healthful nutrition plan during and after cancer treatment is important to help patients maintain their strength. Therefore, NROC offers nutritional support and counseling free of charge. Our licensed professional dietitian, Mary Klem, M.S., R.D., CSO, LDN, is available to meet with all patients to discuss their particular nutritional needs and to answer questions about how cancer treatments may affect their appetite.

What social services are available at NROC?

Because people with cancer may encounter a variety of personal issues related to the diagnosis and treatment of their disease, NROC provides the services of a licensed professional social worker free of charge. Our social worker, Kathryn Cramer, L.M.S.W., is available to counsel patients and their families regarding the social, psychological and physical challenges they may experience throughout the course of their treatment and follow-up.

What is the exercise program offered at NROC?

We are honored to help support and house the PAISBC (pronounced, Pays Back) program at NROC in Dunmore. A free program to improve quality of life and wellness for cancer patients and survivors, "Physical Activity Intervention for Surviving Beyond Cancer" is led by Abby Peck, M.A., exercise specialist and former Olympic rower. Patients (before, during or after treatment) learn ways to increase energy, reduce pain, improve range of motion, strength and balance, and restore confidence.

How can a pet dog help people coping with cancer?

People dealing with psychological stress that they may experience from the diagnosis and treatment of cancer can benefit from friendly visits of dogs that have been trained as Therapy Pets. Our certified therapy dog visits our centers regularly, and his gentle, friendly greeting helps enhance the healing process for our patients.

How does art therapy help people coping with cancer?

The creativity involved in making art can be a strong healing and life-enhancing experience. One does not need to be "artistic" to benefit from simple art projects that can help reduce stress and anxiety and increase self-awareness and personal insight.

What education programs are available at NROC?

A variety of education and support programs are offered at NROC throughout the year. Programs may focus on specific types of cancer, new treatments, cancer research updates, or other medical, psychological or social topics of interest to cancer patients and their families. We also offer a wide range of cancer informative videos, DVDs, booklets and pamphlets. Our staff at NROC participates with other cancer organizations in our region that provide education, such as the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, American Cancer Society, Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter of Susan G. Komen for the Cure and the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network.