

Physician-Led Network Elevates the Quality of Cancer Care



From diagnosis through survival, Great Lakes Cancer Care Collaborative LLC provides a supportive, integrated experience to guide patients on every step on their cancer journey.

The driving mission behind the formation of Great Lakes Cancer Care Collaborative was simple: to provide higher-quality, more comprehensive care for cancer patients.

Achieving that mission, however, was complex. It required strategy, vision, intention, and—most importantly—heart.

“Kaleida Health has already been serving cancer patients in this community for decades,” says President Dr. Victor Filadora. “The leaders within Kaleida Health wanted to create an integrative system that would elevate cancer care to even higher heights.”

Launched in October 2018, Great Lakes Cancer Care Collaborative has done just that. This best-in-class network is comprised of eight regional cancer providers—Cancer Care of Western New York, ECMC, General Physician PC, Great Lakes Medical Imaging, UBMD Physicians’ Group, Western New York Urology, Windsong, and Kaleida Health—who all adhere to the same vision and high standards.

“When we were assembling a



network that would help raise the standards of cancer care in the region, we sought partners who have deep clinical backgrounds and excellent track records of patient care,” says Dr. Filadora.

Great Lakes Cancer Care Collaborative offers care for virtually every type of cancer diagnosis, with the latest modalities for each—from interventional technology and advanced endoscopy to robotic-assisted surgery. Because specialists are already embedded into the system, the coordination of referrals and accessing multiple providers is seamless and efficient. Thanks to shared electronic medical records, a patient’s complete

cancer history is available to any provider with the click of a button.

And, a rapidly growing clinical trials program means patients are privy to some of the most leading-edge treatments known to modern medicine.

Navigating the Journey

Great Lakes Cancer Care Collaborative knows that cancer is a multidimensional challenge—it’s not just about disease management. There are also financial, emotional, spiritual, and even transportation factors along the way. That’s why every patient in the Great Lakes Cancer Care Collaborative system is offered a personal nurse navigator to partner with them along the journey.

“A nurse navigator is with the patient from diagnosis all the way through survivorship, helping reduce the stress of every aspect of care,” says Dr. Filadora. “For example, if a patient is undergoing a treatment that may elicit side effects, the nurse navigator will check in with the patient frequently to monitor their symptoms and coordinate medical attention as needed, ideally before the problem escalates to the point of calling an ambulance or visiting the ER.”

Though the entity of Great Lakes Cancer Care Collaborative is still young, the deep roots of its network providers have allowed the organization to thrive from the beginning.

“By strategically leveraging the existing expertise of our network providers, we’re able to offer incredible value to our patients and our community,” says Dr. Filadora. “Our integrative approach truly takes care of the entire patient, not just the diagnosis.”



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