



Radiation Oncology Consultants

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ROC April 2013 Newsletter

Development of multi-disciplinary breast program at Advocate Good Samaritan Cancer Care Center

For the past three months Dr. Arpi Thukral of Radiation Oncology, Dr. Gale England of Breast Surgery, and Dr. Katy Goldsborough of Medical Oncology have been collaborating to create a multidisciplinary breast cancer clinic at the Good Samaritan Cancer Care Center for their patients. Their long-term goal is to be able to have patients evaluated by all three breast cancer specialists at one time. This provides not only convenience to the patient, but integration of care among the three disciplines caring for the patient.



As a first step, these three physicians meet every week to discuss new patients, as well as follow up on existing patients. They review each patient's history, pathology and radiology. They, as a team, then discuss the treatment options for the patient. Nurses, physical therapists, social workers, and genetic counselors will be involved in the breast program in the future. Our physicians will deliver a team approach that combines evidence based medicine with a supportive environment.

In addition, we are pleased to announce that Dr. Gale England, breast surgeon at Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital, will now be seeing her patients in the Advocate Good Samaritan Cancer Care Center, along with our radiation oncologists, Dr. Arpi Thukral and Dr. Michael Stutz. Dr. England is the Medical Director of the Breast Program and a dedicated breast surgeon. She is joined by her nurse, Ginger Diven, who is not only an excellent clinician but also a breast cancer survivor herself. Together, they see patients when they are first diagnosed and provide various surgical options. The patients are then referred to radiation oncology and medical oncology for further discussion of treatment options. Dr. Thukral and Dr. Stutz of the radiation oncology department can provide patients with adjuvant breast radiation using 3-D conformal supine or prone techniques, IMRT via TomoTherapy and accelerated partial breast brachytherapy. Chemotherapy, if needed, is administered in the office of the medical oncologists.