

Memorial Health Care System

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The Effects of Drug Shortages on Cancer Patients

Free series, Strong and Smart: Living Well With Cancer, supports cancer survivors, patients

Chattanooga, TN – A drug shortage epidemic affects more than a half a million cancer patients in the U.S.

Memorial will sponsor a free dial-up seminar on January 18, 2012 at 1 p.m. Eastern when participants will learn about the issues causing an increasing number of drug shortages in the U.S., the effects of shortages on cancer treatment and clinical research, information about drugs in short supply, what is being done to alleviate this problem nationally, and how the Catholic Health Initiatives health system is minimizing disruptions to cancer patients

To register for the free one-hour educational event, call 800-278-7837.

The Effects of Drug Shortages on Cancer Patients is part of the Strong and Smart: Living Well With Cancer series. Participants listen via phone, view presentations online and ask questions of presenting experts.

Presenter Deborah Hood is the national oncology service line director for Catholic Health Initiatives. In addition to a career spanning more than 30 years in health care, she is the board chair for the Colorado Cancer Research Program. Ms. Hood received her bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin and her master's degree from the University of Colorado.

“Drug shortages are a major concern for cancer patients across the nation,” said Joe Robb, executive director of Cancer Services at Memorial. “This seminar will provide a great overview of the drug supply issue and inform participants about action being taken nationally and within our health system to minimize the impact on patients.”

The Strong and Smart: Living Well With Cancer dial-up seminar series is presented by Memorial Health Care System. This education series is offered in collaboration with other Catholic Health Initiatives hospitals. A goal of the series is to make education and information more readily available to a greater number of cancer patients in our community.

Memorial Health Care System is a not-for-profit, faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to the healing ministry of the Church. Founded by the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth and strengthened as part of Catholic Health Initiatives, it offers a continuum of care including preventative, primary and acute hospital care, as well as cancer and cardiac care, orthopedic and rehabilitation services. Memorial is a regional referral center of choice with 4,000 associates and more than 700 affiliated physicians providing health care throughout Southeast Tennessee and North Georgia. Memorial Health Care System is recognized as one of the nation's 100 Top Hospitals® by Thomson Reuters, the health care industry's leading source of information on hospital quality. To learn more, visit www.memorial.org.

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