

PSONS
PO Box 6725
Lynnwood, WA 98036

The Puget Sound Chapter Of The Oncology Nursing Society

Membership Information



www.psons.org

The Puget Sound Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society

Mission and Purpose

The mission of the Chapter is to promote excellence in oncology nursing and quality cancer care. The purpose of the organization is:

- To promote quality in oncology nursing practice through education, communication, and research.
- To enable oncology nurses to thrive in the current changing health care environment.
- To encourage a proactive stance with respect to professional issues.
- To promote networking among oncology nurses served by PSONS.

Benefits of Membership

Puget Sound Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society provides:

- A framework for information and resource exchange peer support with oncology nurses in different settings.
- A subscription to the quarterly newsletter.
- Free monthly educational offerings (usually held the 3rd Wednesday of each month).
- A membership directory sent to you electronically.
- Eligibility for scholarships to ONS Congress, Institutes of Learning and the PSONS Symposium.
- Eligibility for Research grants.
- Reduced registration fees to the PSONS Annual Symposium.
- Reduced registration for PSONS Conferences.

The Organization

PSONS is composed of approximately 300 members. The membership includes nurses at all levels and stages of professional practice from the novice oncology nurse to nationally recognized experts. PSONS members have a wide range of interests, from prevention and detection to hospice care, and they practice in a wide range of settings.

History

In 1978, with financial support from the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center an intrepid band of oncology nurses formed a special interest group called the Regional (Northwest/Alaska) Oncology Nurses (RONs). RONs included cancer nurses from Washington, Alaska, Montana, Idaho and British Columbia, who wanted to promote excellence in cancer nursing, create opportunities for professional growth, and provide personal support to nurses who care for people with cancer. These nurses traveled hundreds of miles along the I-5 corridor and across international borders to meet quarterly.

In 1985, RONs, now a large active and successful special interest group, became the Puget Sound Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society (PSONS). PSONS has matured into an organization deeply committed to the professional and personal development of its members. It has maintained organizational flexibility and is responsive to changes in the health care community. Individual members have received honors for research, writing and community service. PSONS has provided national leadership and helped ONS to grow.

PSONS Committees

Puget Sound Oncology Nursing Education Cooperative

- Led by an Advisory Committee of local oncology nurse leaders representing Puget Sound health care organizations, this Committee plans, coordinates and provides a four day oncology course for nurses new to the specialty of oncology.
- The intent of this course is to provide new oncology nurses with a platform of basic core knowledge in the nursing care of people with cancer and to standardize basic oncology education of clinical nurses in the Puget Sound Region.

Education Committee

- Plans, coordinates and sponsors regularly scheduled educational programs throughout the year.
- Organizes and presents regular reviews of clinical practice issues in the newsletter.

Government Relations Committee

- Educates members on local, state and national issues pertaining to health care, oncology practice and cancer prevention.
- This committee functions primarily through e-mail and virtual meetings. The work of the committee entails sharing information with others and encouraging participation in government activities and community outreach.

Nominating Committee

- Supports and encourages the continuing leadership of PSONS by assembling a slate of officers for each election.

Membership Committee

- Recruits members and established communication with new members.
- Publishes an annual membership directory.

Communications Committee

- Publishes the award winning quarterly newsletter on topics of interest to the membership including letters, articles, and events.
- Coordinates and maintains the web page.

Research Committee

- Promotes the PSONS research mission.
- Coordinates educational programs about various aspects of cancer research.
- Facilitates cancer nursing research through grants.

Symposium Committee

- Plans the annual symposium.
- Facilitates the annual business meeting.
- Selects the McCorkle Lectureship recipient. The lectureship was developed in recognition of and gratitude to Dr. Ruth McCorkle, who played a key role in developing both the Regional Oncology Nurses, and the advancement of the Puget Sound Chapter. The McCorkle Lecture is a regular feature of the annual Symposium.

It is awarded to a PSONS member (past or present) in recognition of her or his significant contribution to cancer nursing, high standards of practice, and holistic approach to patients and families, across various settings.

PSONS Membership Application

Puget Sound Chapter Oncology Nursing Society

**PO Box 6725
Lynnwood, WA 98036**

**Phone: 425-771-4189
Fax: 425-771-4189**

Last Name _____ First _____ Middle _____

Educational/Professional Credentials: _____

Please mark preferred mailing address: _____ Home _____ Business

Home Address:

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone () _____

E-mail _____

Legislative Dist. _____

Business Address:

Institution _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone () _____

Fax _____

New _____ Renew _____ ONS # _____ ONS SIG _____

ONS and PSONS by-laws require that chapter members must also be member of ONS.

For questions or an ONS application, call (425) 771-4189

Employment: Full Time ___ Part Time ___ Not Employed ___

Patient Population: Adult ___ Pediatric ___

Career Area: Patient Care ___ Administration ___ Research ___ Education ___

Highest Degree: Diploma ___ Associate ___ Bachelor ___ Master ___ Doctorate ___

Specialty: Chemo ___ Biologics ___ Radiation Therapy ___ Home Care ___ Surg ___

BMT ___ Hospice ___ Other _____

Membership Categories: Please check one category

Active Membership for Registered Nurses: One year \$35.00 ___ or Two years \$70.00

Senior \$17.50 ___ Open to individuals who qualify for Active membership and who have reached the age of 65 years or older.

Student \$17.50 ___ Open to individuals enrolled full time in a nursing education program leading to eligibility for licensure as an RN or an RN enrolled in a degree program.

Associate \$35.00 ___ Open to healthcare professionals who do not meet the qualifications for other categories of membership. Associate members receive full benefits but cannot vote or hold elected office.

Dues must accompany this application. Chapter membership runs 12 months from the time that your dues are received. No partial payments, please. Make checks payable to PSONS and detach form and mail to address listed above.

You can also initiate or renew your membership on-line at www.psons.org