

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DEBORAH K. MAYER, PhD, RN, AOCN®, FAAN—EDITOR

Selection of letters to be published is the decision of the editor. For acceptance, letters must be signed. A letter can appear anonymously if requested by the author. All letters are subject to editing. A letter that questions, criticizes, or responds to a previously published *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing* article automatically will be sent to the author of that article for a reply. This type of collegial exchange is encouraged. Send letters to CJONeditor@ons.org.

Many Oncology Nurses Face the Typology of Illness Journeys

Thank you to Wittenberg-Lyles, Goldsmith, and Ragan for providing a great and informative article, “The Shift to Early Palliative Care: A Typology of Illness Journeys and the Role of Nursing” (vol. 15, pp. 304–310). The typology of journeys is something so many oncology nurses face . . . and now they have a name. I really enjoyed the article.

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Accessing Implanted Ports Remains Controversial

I read the Oncology Nursing 101 feature by Seth Eisenberg, RN, OCN® (vol. 15, pp. 324–326), with great interest. As a graduate student studying to be a nurse

educator, my spring project was the development of a lesson plan about central venous access devices. I referenced many of the same articles as Eisenberg, and I came to the same conclusion: Care recommendations about every aspect of those catheters are conflicted. This is evident even between the two main sources I used, the Infusion Nurses Society and the Oncology Nursing Society. I’m going to continue to make this topic a focus and, hopefully, contribute to improving evidence-based practice.

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Institute of Medicine Reports Are Available Free Online

The National Cancer Policy Forum of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) is now offering its reports at no charge online. The *National Cancer Policy Summit: Opportunities and Challenges in Cancer Research and Care: Workshop Summary* is its latest offering (www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13101).

The report is a summary of a 2010 summit that explored policy issues related to cancer research, implementation of health-care reform, cancer care delivery, and cancer control and public health needs. It contains recommendations for the provision of patient-centered cancer care.

Additional titles from IOM are available at www.nap.edu/moretitles.php?org=IOM.

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