

Oncology Massage Alliance
July/August/September 2018

Infusion Room and Radiation Room Report Oncology Massage Program



oncologymassage
A L L I A N C E

Table of Contents

Summary.....3

Infusion Room Stories.....4

Monthly Statistics.....6

Summary

The general highlights of the Program are as follows:

- We continue coverage in:
 - Dallas at Texas Oncology Sammons Center;
 - Austin at Texas Oncology - Midtown, Central, North, Round Rock, South.
 - New Braunfels at Texas Oncology - New Braunfels;
 - Houston at North Cypress Cancer Center;
 - Austin Cancer Center North, Georgetown, and Round Rock
 - Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center, Radiation Oncology, Medford Oregon.
- The OMA Board held their meetings July 9; September 17. Discussions centered on the upcoming 2018 Board and Massage Therapist Retreats, 3-year Plan development, and current financial status.
- The OMA Operations Committee met July 31. Discussions included facility updates, planned events, upcoming presentations and the Massage Therapy Retreat in November.
- OMA gave out a full quarterly stipend to 1 therapist in our Houston location; and a half stipend to 1 therapist in our New Braunfels location.
- The third issue of the OMA SPARK online Newsletter (Summer 2018), was published and distributed.
- We added three new therapists: Jennifer Vaughn in Oregon; Anissa Hunter in Houston, and Denise Giovinazzo in Dallas.

Infusion and Radiation Room Stories

Each person we meet in the infusion room has such a special story and each one that we reach out to touches us deeply. By providing compassionate touch and a safe space for that person to simply relax, talk or just close their eyes and feel another's gentle touch is a great honor for us to connect with them and give them hope to just believe in their future. Here are some of their stories.

I worked on a woman on her first day of treatment. Her anxiety was high because she didn't know what would happen. I spent more time with her. Her comment was, "This is so relaxing. I really needed this. I have never had a lot massage before."

One lady reported that she had been longing and wanting to relive a massage in the infusion room for several weeks after seeing a flyer. She was so appreciative to meet an OMA therapist and receive a relaxing foot massage. She had foot pain, which was reduced during and after the massage.

A female patient, 35 years of age, had recent surgery with multiple drains still in place. She was tearful, and said, "I don't know why I'm crying, I've done this plenty of times." Her mother accompanied her, and was also tearful. Support and reassurance was provided. They were both so thankful.

A female patient in her 50's received a foot massage. She'd had a stroke several years ago and her left foot was occasionally numb. She said the massage helped a lot and she felt tingling in her foot, which was an improvement. She was very happy to receive the massage.

I worked on a male patient in his 60's. He has been here several times, but always declined. Today he agreed to a foot massage as his feet were sore. He really enjoyed it and said this was his first massage ever!

A male patient in his 70's has numbness in his hands from carpal tunnel syndrome, and possibly cancer treatment. I used 'holding' and Level 1 pressure for the massage, massaging slowly on each finger and spent time working on the palms as well. He said, "Oh that feels good." as soon as I started. He also said, "It feels like having new hands." He recommended other patients around him to get massaged.

Four infusion room nurses agreed to each receive a 3-minute shoulder massage today. They said it helped relieve the stress in their shoulders and back. One nurse commented, "You gave me the buzz that I needed to continue working and it is a natural and healthy buzz! Thank you."

A female patient in her 40's had 20 lymph nodes removed as treatment for her cancer. She said that she feels better after her massage and is grateful for her progress in healing. She is hopeful as she continues her chemotherapy through next year. She says that massage helps with her chemotherapy and she looks forward to getting a massage each time she comes in for chemotherapy.

I gave a repeat patient, a male in his 70's, a hand massage. He is pretty much non-verbal, and his wife said he was very 'twitchy' and unable to sleep. I gave him slow, repetitive strokes on his hands and arms, and he fell asleep. His wife gave me a hug when I was done.

A female patient in her 50's at first said she wasn't interested in a massage. Then, she decided on a hand massage. After talking to her, I found out she had neuropathy in her feet, and that it was her birthday. So, I offered her a foot massage, also. She thanked me and said it felt amazing.

Monthly Statistics

Since the program began in February 2011, we have been able to touch many people in so many ways. The monthly tables below represent the actual hours OMA massage therapists worked in each of the facilities. Because OMA does not have the funding to achieve our goal of \$25 per hour for our oncology massage therapists, we provide a quarterly stipend based on current funding.

The three columns for patients, caregivers, and staff touched represent individuals that received massage from our therapists. The “Massage Therapists worked” column represents the number of individual therapists that worked in that facility. The “Total days in infusion room” and “Total days in Radiation Area” columns show how many days (Monday through Friday) that the therapists were in the facility. The “OMA Paid hours” column represents hours that a therapist worked at that location. The Texas Oncology Midtown location continues to be graciously sponsored by Betty Kuhl in honor of her son, Rob Hill since 2011. Therapists at some locations where the facility does not financially support our services receive a financial stipend for his/her hours worked as noted above. The last column “Monetary Support” displays donations used and funding from facilities for services.

OMA is very honored to have such a wonderful team of oncology massage therapists and all of the generous donors without which our work would not be possible. Thank you!

July Statistics

	Patients Touched	Caregivers Touched	Staff Touched	Massage Therapists Worked	Total days in Infusion Room	Total days in Radiation Area	OMA paid hours	Monetary Support
Central TX								
Texas Oncology Midtown	21	1	1	2	6	0	9	\$225.00
Texas Oncology Central	46	0	0	3	9	0	19.75	\$370.50
Texas Oncology North	30	2	0	3	7	0	13.5	\$243.00
Texas Oncology Round Rock	40	0	0	4	10	0	19	\$372.00
Texas Oncology South	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Austin Cancer Center - North	6	0	0	1	5	0	5.25	\$131.25
Austin Cancer Center - Georgetown	3	0	0	1	1	0	2.5	\$62.50
Austin Cancer Center - Round Rock	4	1	2	1	4	0	8	\$200.00
New Braunfels								
Texas Oncology New Braunfels	3	3	0	1	1	0	2	
Dallas								
Texas Oncology Sammons Cancer Center	48	0	0	3	9	0	18	\$450.00
Houston								
North Cypress Cancer Center	13	1	0	1	4	4	8.5	
Oregon								
Asante Rogue Medical Center	12	1	2	2	0	9	16.5	\$422.50
Total	226	9	5	22	56	13	122	\$2,476.75

August Statistics

	Patients Touched	Caregivers Touched	Staff Touched	Massage Therapists Worked	Total days in Infusion Room	Total days in Radiation Area	OMA paid hours	Monetary Support
Central TX								
Texas Oncology Midtown	43	2	0	3	11	0	23	\$575.00
Texas Oncology Central	36	1	4	2	8	0	16.25	\$292.50
Texas Oncology North	32	1	0	3	7	0	14.5	\$261.00
Texas Oncology Round Rock	29	1	0	4	7	0	14.5	\$310.00
Texas Oncology South	14	2	0	1	4	0	8	\$148.00
Austin Cancer Center - North	13	0	0	1	4	0	7	\$175.00
Austin Cancer Center - Georgetown	8	0	0	1	2	0	4	\$100.00
Austin Cancer Center - Round Rock	7	2	0	1	4	0	7.5	\$187.50
New Braunfels								
Texas Oncology New Braunfels	7	2	0	1	2	0	4	\$3.00
Dallas								
Texas Oncology Sammons Cancer Center	44	0	1	3	9	0	18	\$450.00
Houston								
North Cypress Cancer Center	7	2	0	1	4	4	7	
Oregon								
Asante Rogue Medical Center	20	2	3	3	0	14	23.25	\$581.25
Total	260	15	8	24	62	18	147	\$3,083.25

September Statistics

	Patients Touched	Caregivers Touched	Staff Touched	Massage Therapists Worked	Total days in Infusion Room	Total days in Radiation Area	OMA paid hours	Monetary Support
Central TX								
Texas Oncology Midtown	41	2	0	3	9	0	18.5	\$462.50
Texas Oncology Central	43	1	0	3	9	0	19.5	\$371.00
Texas Oncology North	36	0	0	3	9	0	17	\$306.00
Texas Oncology Round Rock	17	0	0	2	4	0	8.75	\$173.50
Texas Oncology South	21	2	0	1	4	0	8	\$144.00
Austin Cancer Center - North	7	0	0	1	4	0	4.5	\$112.50
Austin Cancer Center - Georgetown	4	0	0	1	2	0	3.25	\$81.25
Austin Cancer Center - Round Rock	5	0	0	2	2	0	3.5	\$87.50
New Braunfels								
Texas Oncology New Braunfels	4	1	0	1	1	0	2.25	
Dallas								
Texas Oncology Sammons Cancer Center	31	1	0	3	7	0	14	\$350.00
Houston								
North Cypress Cancer Center	7	2	0	1	4	4	7	
Oregon								
Asante Rogue Medical Center	9	3	1	3	0	11	19.5	\$487.50
Total	225	12	1	24	55	15	125.75	\$2,575.75