



*up*close  
and  
personal

An intimate look  
at our approach  
to cancer care



Elmhurst Memorial  
Oncology Services

*Although it feels like it when you are first diagnosed, cancer is not your life. It is just one part of your life. A part we can help with.*



On the cover: Maria and her husband John.

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Our mission is to help every patient live every moment of every day to its fullest

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*Having cancer is stressful enough, so we do everything we can to eliminate unnecessary stress from your life.*

Whether it's taking the time to listen, coordinating the logistics of your care or scheduling appointments, we are here for you. We respect you. We respect your time. And we'll do whatever we can to help you get out there and live life to the fullest.

## *Our Mission*

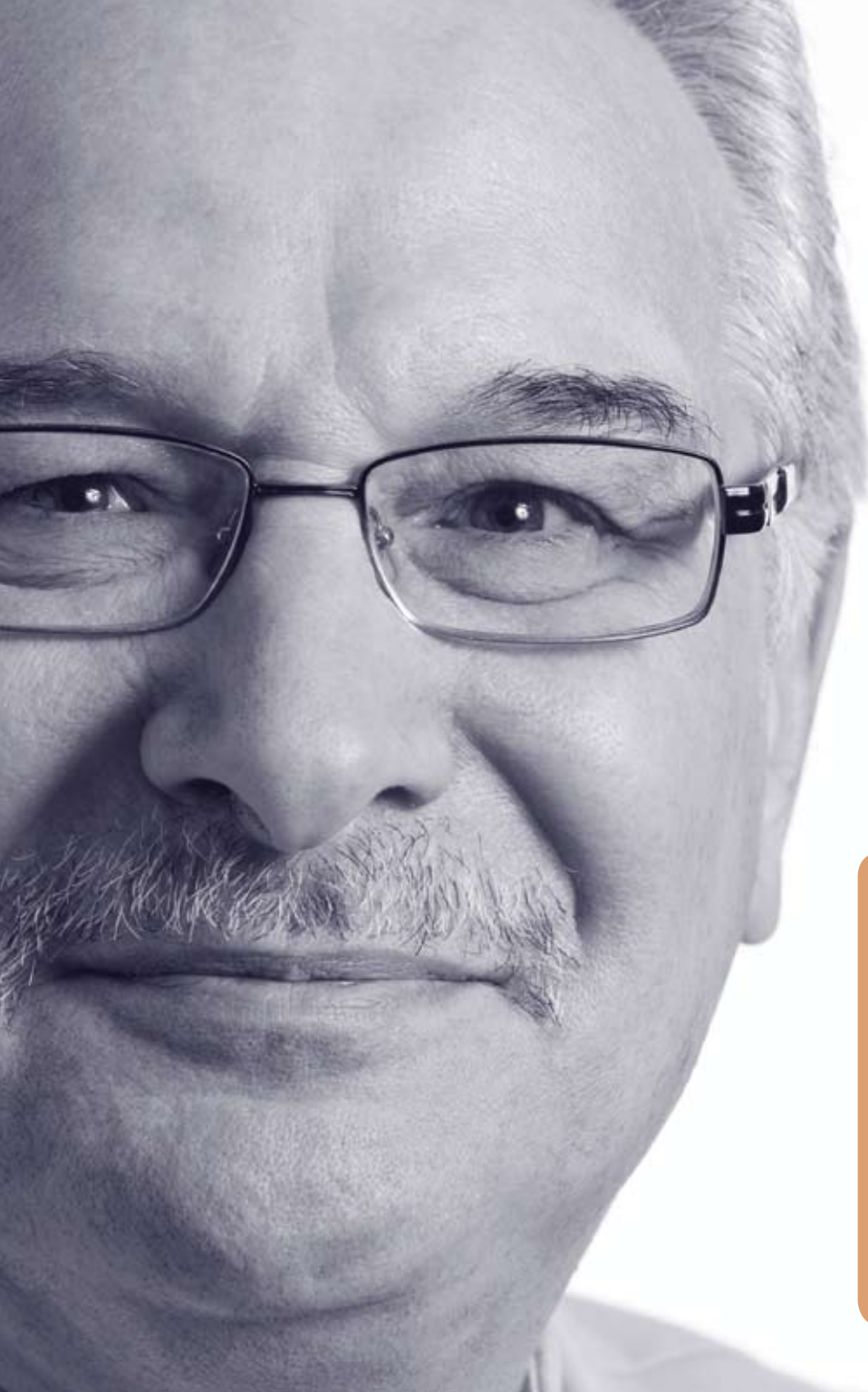
Our mission is to help every patient live every moment of every day to its fullest. We are here to ensure that all patients receive outstanding medical care from board-certified professionals, have access to the latest clinical trials and leading-edge technologies, and receive the emotional support and grounding they need.

When people hear the "c" word, it sets off a rollercoaster of emotions. We understand that. We know that cancer not only affects patients but also families and friends as well. So we provide a setting where patients feel comfortable expressing their emotions and concerns. We're here to present all of your options, and provide highly personalized care that enhances your quality of life.



*María*

“There were many, many times that Dr. Gil and Gina went above and beyond for me. They would call me at home...visit me in the hospital...take the time to explain things to my sisters in Spanish...I know they are my care team, but they feel like my friends.”



“The first time you walk through those doors, your head is reeling. Ours are not. So our job is to help you make sense of it all. We will help you take care of the details, break down the barriers and make an informed decision about what to do next.”

Gerald Kozuh, M.D.  
Oncology/Hematology  
Elmhurst Memorial Oncology Services

## *We care for you the way we would want to be cared for*

We look at things from two perspectives – scientifically and personally. What does that mean exactly? It means we always go the extra mile to help you understand the differences in the science and what it means to you in your everyday life.

You will have a physician and a nurse who are intimately involved in your care from the start and who are on call 24/7. They also work very closely with the infusion nurses and have a support team who is completely committed to the quality of care you receive.

**WE KNOW THAT X, Y AND Z WILL HAPPEN** because they are part of the process everyone goes through. So we anticipate certain things ahead of time, and we sit down and discuss them with you. We always encourage you to think about your different options, and then we make sure the necessary resources are lined up ahead of time.

**THINK OF US AS YOUR PERSONAL NAVIGATORS.** Since we have such strong community ties and professional networks, we can make sure you see who you need to see when you need to see them. By keeping the lines of communication open between all the different departments and facilities, we can help remove any barriers that might come up. We do this because we think your time is much better spent enjoying life with your family and friends than it is trying to navigate the healthcare system.



## *Bruce*

After 7 months of sleepless nights and excruciating pain, Bruce Swift was unable to convince his primary care physician that he had more than a pinched nerve in his hip. Due to a series of fortuitous events, however, Dr. Kozuh found out about Bruce's condition and called him. After being diagnosed with Stage IV Lymphoma, Bruce began treatment immediately. Ask Bruce, a professional painter, how he's doing today and he'll tell you, "My cancer is chilling out and I'm back to climbing like a monkey."

## *We bring advanced care (and caring) to the neighborhood*

Elmhurst Memorial Oncology Services has been serving the community for more than 20 years. Our multiple locations make it easier for us to provide community outreach, and easier for you to receive consistent, quality care close to home.

Our affiliation with the Cancer Center at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital ensures that you receive a complete continuum of care with the same leading-edge procedures you would receive at a university hospital. The American College of Surgeons approved the Center as a Comprehensive Community Cancer Program, which means we have access to the least invasive surgical solutions, clinical trials and the most innovative therapies, including new FDA-approved drug therapies. Thanks to Elmhurst Memorial Hospital's affiliation with Northwestern Memorial Hospital, we also have access to the latest research.

**ALL OF OUR OFFICES SHARE ONE PHILOSOPHY** with a dedicated care team who shares the same values and understands that truth, compassion and respect are every bit as important as the expertise we bring to the table. We also know that we're just one small part of your support network, and that the most important person in this relationship is you.

### **WE PROMISE TO:**

- Provide state-of-the-art service
- Participate in clinical trials to bring you the most advanced care possible
- Combine scientific knowledge with emotional wisdom
- Give you the information you need to make an informed decision
- Respect your time, your feelings and your input
- Do everything we can to enhance your quality of life

"I often meet with patients after they have seen the doctor just to ask, 'Are there any questions that I can answer for you?'"

Joyce Howard, R.N., M.S.  
Nurse Specialist for Dr. Kozuh  
Elmhurst Memorial Oncology Services



"I can't change a patient's diagnosis, but I can work with them to make sure the cancer doesn't define them."

Carlene Porter, R.N., N.P.  
Nurse Practitioner for Dr. Eisner  
Elmhurst Memorial Oncology Services





“Patient education is really important, so we schedule time exclusively for that purpose.”

Amaryllis Gil, M.D.  
Oncology/Hematology  
Elmhurst Memorial Oncology Services

“We often provide things that may be helpful to our patients during their treatments, such as high-fiber cereals or lotions.”

Gina Chorley, C.N.P.  
Nurse Practitioner for Dr. Gil  
Elmhurst Memorial Oncology Services

## *What to expect on the road ahead*

We want our patients to be our partners. So we spend a great deal of time educating you and preparing you for your specific treatment protocol. We also believe that the more aware you are about your treatment and its potential side effects, the less stressful it will be. You will know what is “normal” and what is not so you can take the appropriate steps. It’s all about helping you stay in control of the situation.

We often put together personalized information packets that are tailored to your specific needs. And we always make certain that you have our contact information should you need to reach us for any reason. The more advanced a condition becomes, the bigger your multidisciplinary team becomes so we make sure that everyone is in the loop and on the same page – from your primary care physician to your radiologist.

**YOU ARE THE PILOT. WE ARE YOUR CO-PILOTS.** We always make sure that you’re informed and that you know what all of your choices are. After all, the only way you can truly make an informed decision is if you have all the facts. The same is true for us. If your chemotherapy and/or radiation aren’t improving your quality of life, we need to know so we can sit down and explore your options together.



## Keiko

Even though Keiko’s mother had breast cancer, she did not believe it could happen to her. But it did. She was only 35 when she discovered an abnormality in her right breast during a self-exam. When an ultrasound and biopsy confirmed she had breast cancer, Keiko was terrified, but determined. She participated in clinical trials, maintained a positive attitude, and received ongoing support from Dr. Gil and Gina. Now that she has survived cancer, Keiko, her husband and her son, Kohei, are riding high.

## *We treat the person, not the diagnosis*

While there are certain things we can anticipate, no two people are going to have the same reaction to the news that they have cancer, or to the treatments they receive. That's why developing a relationship with you is so important to us. First and foremost, we are human beings relating to other human beings. Then we are healthcare providers. We care about your well-being, and we are committed to doing our absolute best to ensure that you receive the care you deserve.

**WE RESPECT CULTURAL AND SOCIAL DIFFERENCES**, and work with you and your family to the best of our abilities. If you don't want to receive a certain treatment, we will respect your wishes. If you want to explore more natural options, we'll support you in that decision. If you don't want anyone to know about your condition, we won't tell them. However, we will encourage you to do so, because having the support of friends and family makes a huge difference in your recovery and in the quality of your life.

As our patient, you always come first. We are completely honest and forthright with you – and we will not keep you in the dark, even if a family member asks us to do so. You have a right to know what is happening with your body, and as your healthcare providers and advocates, we have a responsibility to tell you.

### **OUR PERSONALIZED CARE INCLUDES:**

- Bilingual services in English and Spanish
- Access to a language line with translators in 169 languages
- Genetic testing, when necessary
- Rapid response ensures that your primary care physician is on top of things
- Contact information for your primary care team
- In-depth education regarding nutrition and other important care factors
- Resources for emotional, sexual, social and spiritual counseling
- Personalized information packets with vital contact information

### *Patti*

“I was devastated when I got the news, and totally freaked out at the thought of losing my hair. If it wasn't for Dr. Gil and Gina suggesting I go to Naturally Yours to check out the wigs, I probably would have never had chemo. They were both really fabulous.”



“My philosophy of care is simple: Do the right thing and then do it again. And again. And again. In other words, do the right thing all of the time, and your patients will benefit. In other words, do the right thing all of the time and your patients will benefit.”

Robert Eisner, D.O.  
Oncology/Hematology  
Elmhurst Memorial Oncology Services

## *We are driven by people, not numbers*

This is not just our job. It's our life. And because we are a small private practice, our first priority is and always will be the patient, and at the end of the day patient care cannot be directed by profit.

**WE HAVE SMALL WAITING ROOMS FOR A REASON.** We do not want a lot of people sitting around in our waiting rooms for long periods of time. For one thing, it's disrespectful. For another, it keeps you here when you should be out there living life and connecting with the people who love and support you day in and day out.

Because we're a small private practice, the right hand always knows what the left hand is doing. We also have an open line of communication between our practice, your other caregivers and the Cancer Center at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital. Combine that with the fact that your physician and nurse work so closely together, you can rest assured that you're receiving a level of care that is second to none.



“No matter how many questions I ask, Dr. Eisner and Carlene are always there to answer them. I feel really fortunate to have them in my life.”

*Eileen*



## *Clinical trials provide new possibilities*

Elmhurst Memorial Hospital is affiliated with Northwestern Memorial Hospital and has been approved as a Comprehensive Community Cancer Program by the American College of Surgeons. Because of this partnership, we can offer clinical trials to many of our oncology patients.

Participating in clinical trials is a great option for some patients and can be an ideal first line of treatment; especially since most of the studies offered at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital are phase III clinical trials that compare the safety and effectiveness of a new treatment against the current standard treatment.

Patients who participate in this type of research have the chance to enhance symptom management and quality of life for themselves and others. These trials provide vital information – information that's needed to develop new standards of care.

The Cancer Center at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital usually has several clinical trials open for enrollment for a variety of diagnoses, including breast, colon, gastric, lung, prostate and renal cell cancer. A designated nurse will assist all patients through every step of the process, from informed consent to treatment and follow-up appointments.

### **CLINICAL TRIALS CAN:**

- Provide more treatment options
- Contribute to cancer research by helping others with the same condition
- Provide access to treatment that could be safer or more effective and is not otherwise available
- Gives you a sense of control over your situation and your healthcare options



*Karen*

“In 1999, my mother’s cancer spread and metastasized in her bones. She was told to prepare for the end. Instead she went to Dr. Kozuh, who helped her enjoy a wonderful quality of life until April 2007. He and Joyce then supported us as we transitioned mom to home care and then hospice. They were an amazing source of strength.”

From left to right: Lauren, her grandfather Robert and her mother Karen.

## Healing-edge care with leading-edge technology

At Elmhurst Memorial Oncology Services, we not only reach out to you with open arms, open hearts and open minds, but we also reach out with some of the latest technology and most advanced medical care available. Should you need surgery, skilled surgeons will strive to use the least invasive procedure. By using the latest CT image-guided techniques and equipment, much of the healthy tissue is unaffected, which means you stay healthier and feel better.

In addition to being equipped with state-of-the-art equipment, the Cancer Center at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital uses the latest treatment techniques. Your dedicated team of specialists has access to the latest diagnostic and treatment technologies, such as intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) capable linear accelerators, to ensure that you receive exceptional care. IMRT allows delivery of radiation with a high level of accuracy using CT guidance and 3D models. The Cancer Center at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital has two IMRT accelerators to ensure that a patient's treatment is never interrupted.

The added advantage is that all of this care is close to home, so ongoing support for you and your family is just minutes away. If you'd like to know more about how Elmhurst Memorial Oncology Services can give you a healing edge, please don't hesitate to call us.



# FPO

Gerald Kozuh, M.D.  
Oncology/Hematology

Specialties:

- Hematology
- Oncology
- Oncology/Hematology

### GIVE YOURSELF AN EDGE WITH ACCESS TO:

- A reference laboratory that's associated with the Mayo Clinic
- The leading treatment techniques in radiation therapy
- New FDA-approved drug therapies
- Multiple Infusion Center locations
- Access to the latest diagnostic and treatment technologies

BUSINESS CARD



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