

For immediate release

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Elizabethtown Community Hospital Welcomes Cecile Lawlor, R.N., N.P.
Chemotherapy treatment to begin this fall

ELIZABETHTOWN, N.Y. (October 9, 2009) Cecile Lawlor, a nurse practitioner and oncology certified nurse, has joined Elizabethtown Community Hospital. Cecile brings experience in hematology and oncology services along with particular expertise in chemotherapy treatment to the position.

Cecile is responsible for the planning and development of the hospital's newly-implemented chemotherapy program, with support from hospital staff and under the guidance of Dr. Jan Duus. Cecile will also be responsible for administering chemotherapy treatments and seeing patients for follow-up visits.

"I feel privileged to be given this opportunity; to get this important program up-and-running and to help patients with their treatment", she said. "This hospital is very progressive and very forward-thinking. A heavy burden will be lifted when patients learn that they don't have to travel far for treatment – it will be an incredible relief to them and to their families."

Cecile brings an extensive background in hematology and oncology care for patients. She has worked as a chemotherapy nurse in both outpatient and inpatient settings for many years. Most recently, she has been working at hospitals throughout the Northeast, such as Beth Israel Medical Center in New York and Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, while on travel assignment.

Cecile attended University of Texas Health Sciences Center, where she obtained her M.S. in nursing with a specialty as adult nurse practitioner. Her chemotherapy experience began at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, where she worked with patients who had undergone bone marrow transplants.

Since that time, her background has allowed her to work in some of the nation's notable healthcare institutions including Mount Sinai Medical Center and NYU Medical Center in New York.

According to Rod Boula, hospital administrator and CEO, the hospital is excited to have Cecile helping to care for its chemotherapy patients. "Cecile's background and experience ensures that we can provide important services like chemotherapy close to home for many patients. Our incredible staff, Cecile and Dr. Duus will ensure that our friends and neighbors will receive excellent care."

About Elizabethtown Community Hospital

Elizabethtown Community Hospital (ECH) is a 25-bed Critical Access Hospital primarily serving local communities that are home to over 30,000 full-time residents, along with thousands of tourists and seasonal residents. In 2008, it treated 730 inpatients and over 4,600 emergency room patients. ECH has a network of primary health care clinics in Elizabethtown, Wilmington and Westport. The hospital maintains a 24-hour emergency room and a large variety of specialty clinics staffed by board certified physicians. The hospital has 196 employees.

Elizabethtown Community Hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission and is licensed and certified by the New York State Department of Health and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The hospital is a member of the Hospital Association of New York State, the Iroquois Health Care Consortium and the Eastern Adirondack Healthcare Network. ECH received its Critical Access Hospital status in 1997.