Welcome to the Health Quest Oncology Update.

The goal at Health Quest is to be in the top 10 percent of all programs in regard to quality performance and patient satisfaction. We participate in a number of areas of accredited quality programs using validated survey instruments and databases to measure our performance. The team at Vassar Brothers Medical Center is eager to participate in the American College of Surgeons National Accreditation Program for Rectal Cancer. The certification process is still in development, but will be open to Commission on Cancer-designated hospitals that treat high volumes of rectal cancer patients.

The accreditations, honors and participation in quality programs mean far more than a line on our letterhead or a sign over the front entrance. They represent a commitment to quality and a constant reassessment of performance that helps improve patient services and delivery of care.

We have devoted significant resources to assisting patients diagnosed with colorectal cancer and gastrointestinal malignancies and are proud of the depth and quality of care provided by our team, which includes care providers, support personnel, researchers and genetic counselors.

We use an all-encompassing multidisciplinary approach to facilitate the high-quality care we have committed to providing for our patients.

In addition to our disease-specific multidisciplinary teams, we also offer robust genetic counseling. In this newsletter, you’ll read more about our genetic counselors and their ability to identify hereditary cancer-causing genetic conditions, like Lynch syndrome, which can predispose people to colorectal cancer.

Health Quest brings teams together to discuss patient cases, which streamlines the decision-making process and provides a better treatment recommendation. This keeps patients from having to visit four or five physicians or specialists all over the Hudson Valley who then have to regroup later to develop a treatment plan. At Health Quest, we collect the information, review it, make decisions with patient involvement and then follow through with a coordinated, individualized treatment plan.

Our commitment to provide care and support for patients and their families sets Health Quest apart from other cancer facilities. We look forward to working with you to continue care for patients and families. Call me at 845.483.6920 to discuss surgical oncology referrals.
“We understand the importance of comprehensively assessing patients with cancer from the very beginning,” said Cliff Connery, MD, FACS, FCCP, medical director for the Dyson Center for Cancer Care at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. “Doing so allows for the proper combinations and sequences of treatments to occur right away.”

The multidisciplinary approach used at Vassar Brothers Medical Center utilizes tumor boards, also known as cancer conferences, which allow providers in surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, supportive care, immuno-targeted therapy and other disciplines to come together to design cohesive treatment and recovery plans for patients.

“In addition to our general tumor boards, we’ve recently added disease-specific tumor boards to our team schedules,” Dr. Connery said. “These allow clinicians to concentrate more specifically on their areas of expertise and make recommendations based on the latest, most effective treatment options in their fields. It is also an opportunity for research teams to discuss the most relevant clinical trials for patients.”

The Dyson Center for Cancer Care now has site-specific tumor boards in gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, breast, thoracic, and head and neck cancers.

“Communication is key when caring for cancer patients,” Dr. Connery said.

Dr. Ryan Swan, Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Surgery, emphasizing his point during a recent tumor board.

Upcoming Tumor Board Schedule

Breast and General Board
Every Tuesday, 7:30am
Vassar Brothers Medical Center, Conference Room B

Gastrointestinal Board
First and third Wednesday of each month, 7:30am
Vassar Brothers Medical Center, Conference Room A

Thoracic Board
Second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 12pm
Vassar Brothers Medical Center, Conference Room A

Head and Neck Board
Second Thursday of each month, 7:45am
Vassar Brothers Medical Center, Conference Room C

Urology Board
Fourth Thursday, every other month, 5:30pm
Vassar Brothers Medical Center, Conference Room A

For more information or to register for tumor boards at Vassar Brothers Medical Center, visit vbmc.libguides.com/oncology/CancerConferences

Learn more about cancer care by visiting healthquest.org/cancer.
**Updates in Lung Cancer Research**

In collaboration with Mount Sinai Health System and other regional partners, Health Quest participates in the Initiative for Early Lung Cancer Research on Treatment patient registry trial. This study enables physicians to track information about participating patients’ conditions over time and gather data on how lung cancer progresses, the ways physicians intervene and treat it across different clinical sites, and which treatments yield the best outcomes.

Health Quest also recently partnered with a company to develop and examine the effectiveness of a PD-L1 biomarker liquid biopsy test in identifying certain types of non-small cell lung cancers.

“Our goal is to track disease progression and assess the value or efficacy of treatment using blood draws instead of repeat biopsies,” said Ernest Roos IV, MD, director of clinical research at Health Quest. “This would allow us to manage patients as accurately and specifically as we can, while controlling how invasive we need to be to inform treatment.”

In the realm of interventional research, Health Quest participates in the A081105 Alchemist trial, a phase III trial comparing the efficiency of the targeted chemotherapy agent erlotinib to a placebo in patients with completely resected epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) mutation-positive non-small cell lung cancer.

**Advanced Notice**

The Health Quest Institutional Review Board recently approved Putnam Hospital Center’s participation in the City of Hope National Medical Center Hereditary Cancer Research Registry (Molecular Genetic Studies in Cancer Patients and Their Relatives).

Through this study, patients with personal or family histories of cancer undergo a broad genetic screening that offers information about their genotype and whether or not they may have heritable mutations associated with cancer.

To review lists of available cancer clinical trials broken down by disease site, visit [healthquest.org/clinical-research/cancer-care.aspx](http://healthquest.org/clinical-research/cancer-care.aspx).

**Additional Clinical Highlights**

At Health Quest, interventional medicine and supportive care clinical trials are ongoing in the areas of breast, head and neck, gastrointestinal, colorectal, and prostate cancers. Noteworthy explorations include:

- A Health Quest breast surgeon examines the usefulness of presurgical massage in reducing the anxiety associated with breast cancer surgery.

- A phase II trial examines the efficacy of brilacidin in reducing the incidence of oral mucositis following chemoradiation for treatment of head and neck cancers.

- Investigators reopened a National Cancer Institute-sponsored trial looking at the efficacy of perioperative chemotherapeutic agents in treating late-stage pancreatic adenocarcinoma.
A Snapshot of Robotic Surgical Techniques

One of the aspects of care that differentiates Health Quest is its commitment to minimally invasive, robotic surgery. As the da Vinci® Surgical System has evolved through the years, we have continually upgraded our systems and brought new technology to the family of hospitals.

Health Quest surgeons have access to the da Vinci® Si and da Vinci® Xi Surgical Systems. The team of physicians typically uses the da Vinci® Xi Surgical System — the latest generation of Intuitive Surgical’s robot-assisted platform — to perform colorectal surgery. The Xi is an advancement over previous generations because physicians can use it to perform complex, multi-quadrant surgeries, ensuring as many people as possible receive the benefit of minimally invasive surgery.

“We utilize the da Vinci® Xi Surgical System during colon and rectal cancer operations in order to reduce postoperative pain, the size of the incision and the length of hospitalization,” said Pranat Kumar, MD, MPH, FACS, colorectal surgeon on the medical staff at Northern Dutchess Hospital and Vassar Brothers Medical Center. “The main goal is to get patients back to their lives and started on chemotherapy, if necessary, as soon as possible.”

Robotic surgical approaches available at Health Quest include robot-assisted colectomy and robotic sphincter-preservation surgery for treatment of rectal cancer. Unlike abdominoperineal resection, sphincter-preservation surgery helps to avoid the need for a permanent colostomy and enables patients to maintain normal bowel function. Additionally, physicians at Health Quest perform robot-assisted transanal minimally invasive surgery, a technique that lets physicians remove early-stage, low-lying rectal tumors and polyps through the anus without removing the rectum.

Managing Complex Metastatic Malignancies

In cases where colorectal, gynecologic and appendix cancers metastasize to the peritoneum, patients have few conventional treatment options. The area isn’t well-vascularized, so the effect of intravenous chemotherapy is limited. At Health Quest, James Nitzkorski, MD, surgical oncologist with the Health Quest Medical Practice Division of Surgical Oncology, performs hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy to remove metastatic lesions and deliver chemotherapy drugs directly to the peritoneum.

During the first stage of this two-stage procedure, physicians remove visible cancerous tissue. Depending on the amount of malignancy present, the operation may involve removing portions of the stomach, spleen and liver, in addition to portions of the peritoneum. The second stage involves injecting heated chemotherapy directly into the abdominal cavity at the time of surgery and washing the abdominal cavity with this liquid to destroy remaining cancer cells.

Candidates for hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy include those who are healthy.
enough to undergo an extensive open operation and lengthy recovery, and whose cancer has not spread beyond the abdominal cavity. The procedure, though not curative, can significantly prolong a patient’s life.

“It’s an excellent palliative surgery,” Dr. Nitzkorski said. “It can be years before cancer recurs, so we can give years to people who had only months to live.”

An Emphasis on Collaborative Care

Every week, physicians from a variety of disciplines, including oncologic, colorectal and thoracic surgeons; radiation oncologists; radiologists; and pathologists; and members of the nursing team come together for a tumor board to discuss challenging cases. Clinicians share their thoughts, come to a consensus about how to move forward with treatment and fine-tune care plans in accordance with national guidelines.

“Patients receive the knowledge they need to make informed decisions,” said John Choi, MD, FACS, chief of General Surgery at Vassar Brothers Medical Center, and director of General Surgery and minimally invasive colorectal surgeon on the medical staff at Northern Dutchess Hospital and Vassar Brothers Medical Center. “By offering holistic services, including supportive care medicine, sometimes referred to as palliative services, and a survivorship program, delivered by a multidisciplinary team, we help to ensure patients receive care for body and mind, and have access to all of the services they need close to home to treat every stage of cancer.”

For more information about Health Quest’s colorectal cancer services and team, visit healthquest.org/cancer/colon-cancer.aspx.

Nationally Recognized Programs

The American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer acknowledges the high-quality cancer care delivered at Putnam Hospital Center and Vassar Brothers Medical Center. The organization has designated Putnam Hospital Center an accredited Community Cancer Program and Vassar Brothers Medical Center a Comprehensive Community Cancer Program.

Commission on Cancer-accredited hospitals employ a multidisciplinary approach to care, offer comprehensive services and have access to quality reporting tools, such as the National Cancer Database.

“Participation in the National Cancer Database helps to ensure our outcomes meet or exceed national averages,” said Pranat Kumar, MD, MPH, FACS, colorectal surgeon on the medical staff at Northern Dutchess Hospital and Vassar Brothers Medical Center. “It allows us to standardize our care and provide measures of our quality that aren’t based on subjectivity, but rather on analytical, quantifiable data.”

Looking to the future, the Vassar Brothers Medical Center team plans to apply for recognition through the American College of Surgeons National Accreditation Program for Rectal Cancer. This certification, which is still in development, will be open to Commission on Cancer-designated hospitals that treat a high volume of rectal cancer patients.

In addition, Vassar Brothers Medical Center and Putnam Hospital Center have both been recognized by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC) through the American College of Surgeons. This accreditation is given to organizations that undergo a strict evaluation process and comply with national quality standards for treating women diagnosed with breast disease. The achievement is a strong testament of their commitment to providing high-quality breast care to patients and families in the Mid-Hudson Valley.

The commitment to delivering high-quality breast care continues with Vassar Brothers Medical Center surgeon recognition by The American Society of Breast Surgeons Mastery of Breast Surgery℠. The program is designed to help surgeons document their clinical performance of breast procedures, as well as their care of breast cancer patients and patients at risk for breast cancer.

Vassar’s surgeons also participate in the STS National Database™ for quality improvement and patient safety.
New Faces on the Cancer Care Team

With these recent additions to the cancer care team, Health Quest makes it easier for patients who have cancer to access the vital services they need.

Supportive Care Medicine

Lisa T. Sager, MD

After graduating with a degree in medicine from the State University of New York Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, Dr. Sager went on to receive double board certifications in hospice and supportive care medicine, and family medicine.

Dr. Sager is experienced in skilled nursing facility-based care and currently works at the Dyson Center for Cancer Care at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie.

Phyllis L’Estrange, ANP-C, MA, MS

A certified adult nurse practitioner, L’Estrange graduated with a degree in nursing from Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh before pursuing double master’s degrees in health advocacy and nursing.

Her background includes work in supportive care and chronic pain management. She recently earned a certificate from Drexel University for her advanced study in holistic hospice and supportive care.

L’Estrange currently works with Dr. Sager and the rest of the Supportive Care Medicine team at the Dyson Center for Cancer Care at Vassar Brothers Medical Center.

Contact Us

HQMP Medical Oncology
845.483.6001

HQMP Surgical Oncology
845.483.6920

HQMP Radiation Oncology
845.483.6350

Dyson Breast Center
(Surgery)
845.214.1840

Mammography or Screening
845.790.8855

Infusion
845.483.6329

HQMP Supportive Care Medicine
845.431.5699

Liver and Pancreas Center
845.483.6003

TTY/Accessibility: 800.421.1220
Clinical Research

Ernest E. Roos IV, MD

Dr. Roos comes to Health Quest with a background in clinical research as well as healthcare management and policy.

Once he graduated from UAG School of Medicine, Dr. Roos went on to work as a research physician, studying movement disorders at Columbia University for four years. He then obtained a Master of Public Health degree and transitioned into the healthcare startup world, in which he helped physicians improve documentation management in order to obtain better outcomes for patients. Dr. Roos also spent time working in liability management and treatment as an in-house physician consultant.

Dr. Roos’ background supports his new role as director of clinical research at Health Quest, where his mission is to empower patients to be involved in their own healthcare and provide them access to rigorous clinical trials.

Surgical Oncology

Al Haitham Al Shetawi, MD, DMD

Dr. Al Shetawi brings a wealth of knowledge and skills to the Surgical Oncology team. After completing his degree in medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Yeshiva University, Dr. Al Shetawi completed a six-year residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery, followed by a fellowship in head and neck surgical oncology.

During his training, Dr. Al Shetawi also presented work inclusive of his specialties at national meetings for various medical societies and was published in peer-reviewed journals.

Dr. Al Shetawi specializes in the surgical management of tumors located in the skull, face, neck, jaw, throat, thyroid, parathyroid and salivary gland, as well as advanced head and neck reconstruction.

Medical Oncology

Margaret McCabe, FNP, APRN, MSN

McCabe graduated with a degree in nursing from Hunter College. She went on to obtain a Master of Science in Nursing and certification as a family nurse practitioner.

For almost three decades, McCabe has worked in the nursing field, caring for patients within the oncology world. She joined Health Quest Medical Practice in April 2017.
At Health Quest, the Pathology team aids in the diagnosis and treatment of many conditions, including cancer.

“In addition to offering in-house diagnostics, we review the pathology of patients originally cared for at other hospitals, making sure those who have had biopsies or blood draws elsewhere receive the same high-quality treatment as all Health Quest patients,” said Daniel Cruser, MD, chair of Pathology at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. “That includes providing intraoperative evaluations when necessary, typically for patients who have cancer.”

At multidisciplinary tumor boards, pathologists provide case reviews, share microscopic imaging and help plan treatments for each patient. Detailed pathology information, which may include tumor descriptions and disease staging, help surgeons determine the tumor margin and make surgical decisions. After tumors are removed, pathologists continue their work, performing molecular analysis to gather information about tumor DNA and identify opportunities for targeted therapies.

Specialists in the Laboratory

Like other medical professionals, pathologists frequently subspecialize. Their areas of expertise can include clinical informatics, cytopathology and molecular genetic pathology. The American Board of Pathology recognizes 11 pathology subspecialties. Many pathologists choose to focus on genetics, a field that supports oncology’s movement toward therapies targeted to individual patients and cancers.

“We analyze tumors for evidence of microsatellite instability — an important factor in cancer treatment — and perform other molecular analysis as necessary,” Dr. Cruser said. “For patients with metastatic disease, we evaluate samples for mutations in specific genes, which have treatment implications for oncologists.”

These tests, and pathologists’ interpretation of them, increasingly inform treatment decisions. They may also indicate a need for increased scrutiny for the patient’s family members and ongoing surveillance for other cancers. For example, in the case of colorectal cancer,
Medicine is a team sport, and in Pathology, we have a great group assembled. We’re ready to help our colleagues with whatever they need to treat their patients.”

Daniel Cruser, MD, Chair of Pathology at Vassar Brothers Medical Center

Tumors associated with the hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer gene frequently run in families, and carriers of the gene have about an 80 percent chance of developing the disease, as well as an increased risk for developing other diseases, such as ovarian cancer. That knowledge helps guide surveillance and may ultimately improve outcomes.

“We’re finding that there are subsets of patients who do better or worse with certain therapies based on their genetic makeups,” Dr. Cruser said. “Others may need to be monitored more closely, as they’re at an increased risk of recurrence or development of other tumors.”

Ready When Needed

Whether it’s during surgery or treatment planning, pathologists stand ready to assist and advise their colleagues.

“We have great, close working relationships with our fellow providers,” Dr. Cruser said. “Anything they need is just a phone call away. Medicine is a team sport, and in pathology, we have a great group assembled. We’re ready to help our colleagues with whatever they need to treat their patients.”

That team is expanding to welcome new members who share the same drive for informed medical decision-making, including pathologist Stephen Hooper, MD, who recently joined Health Quest.

“Dr. Hooper is board-certified in anatomic and clinical pathology, as well as hematopathology,” Dr. Cruser said. “He adds to our expertise in the diagnosis of leukemias and lymphomas.”

Meet the Pathologists

Daniel Cruser, MD
Chair of Pathology, Vassar Brothers Medical Center
Medical Director, Health Quest Medical Practice Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Anatomic and Clinical Pathology; Hematopathology

Laszlo Csury, MD
Anatomic and Clinical Pathology; Cytopathology

Stephen Hooper, MD
Anatomic and Clinical Pathology; Hematopathology

Ryan McKnight, MD
Anatomic and Clinical Pathology; Cytopathology

David Quinn, MD
Anatomic and Clinical Pathology
A Closer Look at Cancer Risk

As knowledge of genetics advances, so do capabilities in the area of genetic testing. At Health Quest, those abilities are used to better understand and anticipate cancer risk.

Health Quest’s experienced genetic counselors specialize in hereditary cancer risk. Jonathan Clyman, PhD, CGC, and Mariana Niell-Swiller, MS, CGC, genetic counselors with Health Quest, work with patients to determine if their particular risks are inherited, and if so, discuss the steps to take to help monitor their ongoing health.

“Patients may be referred directly to us based on their personal or family history of cancer,” Niell-Swiller said. “We serve as a resource — not only for patients, but also for providers with questions about who would benefit from a referral to genetic counseling or what course of action to take when a patient’s family history reveals a possible pattern of cancer occurrence.”

When to Refer

Having a personal history of cancer, a family history of cancer at a young age, multiple people in one family with the same type of cancer, a history of rare cancers and specific ancestry are all indicators of potential inherited cancer and reasons physicians may consider referring patients to a genetic counselor.

“Physicians should talk with patients about their concerns regarding cancer, especially inherited cancer, and should feel free to call us with any questions,” Clyman said. “Genetic testing is a fast-moving field, and new genes and tests are being discovered all the time. We may be able to test for something now that we couldn’t test for in the past.”

If you have questions about genetic counseling at Health Quest or would like to refer a patient, call 845.483.6667.

A Word About Lynch Syndrome

Lynch syndrome is an inherited disorder that raises a person’s lifetime risk of developing cancer, including colorectal and stomach cancer. According to research, it is linked to between 3 and 5 percent of all colorectal cancers occurring in the United States.

Genetic screening can determine if a patient has Lynch syndrome by looking for mutations in their MLH1, MSH2, MSH6, PMS2 or EPCAM genes. Screenings can also be performed on tumors to determine whether or not Lynch syndrome could have played a role in their development. This information helps physicians guide patients to appropriate screening schedules based on their personal risks.

“Indicators for Lynch syndrome include incidents of uterine or colon cancer at an early age, as well as a family history of these types of cancers,” said Jonathan Clyman, PhD, CGC, genetic counselor with Health Quest. “Family history is always the starting point, and while it isn’t unusual to have a family history of colon cancer, these patterns raise a red flag that may signify a need for a closer look.”

Meet the Genetic Counselors

TTY/Accessibility: 800.421.1220
The People Behind Personalized Care

Featured below are some of the many team members who make up our multidisciplinary oncology team and bring personalized care to cancer patients.

Julia Halligan, RN, OCN

Nurse navigators provide vital services to patients with cancer, guiding them through treatment from the initial diagnosis to the final round of therapy and beyond.

In this role, Julia Halligan, RN, OCN, gastrointestinal cancer and melanoma nurse navigator at Vassar Brothers Medical Center, facilitates communication between subspecialists and helps patients overcome any barriers to care, such as lack of transportation or language challenges.

“I am an advocate for patients and want them to utilize us for whatever they need,” Halligan said. “It’s important for patients to feel comfortable and confident in the decisions they’re making in regard to their treatment and care.”

Halligan can connect patients with appropriate specialty treatments, such as hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC), which delivers heated chemotherapy directly to a patient’s abdomen during surgery. With her help, patients have access to a greater network of care and the supportive services necessary to address their full spectrum of needs.

Phyllis L’Estrange, ANP-C, MA, MS

Supportive care at Health Quest extends beyond medicinal care. The Supportive Care team focuses on improving both the physical and emotional quality of life for patients.

Phyllis L’Estrange, ANP-C, MA, MS, is a member of the Supportive Care team at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. She helps patients manage the symptoms and stressors that accompany life-threatening illnesses, performs physical examinations and health assessments, identifies patient challenges, and aids in the continuous evaluation of treatment plans.

“My goals are to help relieve pain and other symptoms triggered by chronic and long-term illnesses, and to clarify treatment goals and options that are available,” L’Estrange said. “Everyone in the Supportive Care department works together and spends time making sure that each patient’s quality of life is the best it can be.”

L’Estrange appreciates the amount of time she gets to spend with patients and hopes to continue raising awareness about the benefits of supportive care.

“Supportive care is a part of medicine that is underutilized,” L’Estrange said. “However, it’s something that can benefit all patients.”
Accreditations

American Society of Breast Surgeons - Mastery of Breast Surgery
American Society of Clinical Oncology®
American College of Radiology - Radiation Oncology Accredited Facility
Castle Connolly Top Doctors 2016
CEO Cancer Gold Standard™
Commission on the Accreditation of Medical Physics Education Programs - Residency Program in Radiation Oncology Physics
Commission on Cancer - a multidisciplinary program of the American College of Surgeons
Lung Cancer Alliance
National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons
STS National Database™
Health Quest plans to screen 80 percent of its employees for colorectal cancer by 2018 as part of the nationwide “80% by 2018” initiative created by the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable (NCCRT). “The initiative has been enormously successful, but we have much more to do to make sure everyone has an equal chance of being screened for this highly preventable and curable cancer,” said Richard Wender, MD, chief cancer control officer, American Cancer Society. “Working together, we can knock colorectal cancer off its perch as the second leading cause of cancer-related death.”

Health Quest is doing its part by spreading awareness among its employees.

“More than 200,000 lives in the United States can be saved by 2030 if 80 percent of eligible individuals are screened for colorectal cancer by 2018,” said Julia Halligan, RN, OCN, gastrointestinal cancer and melanoma nurse navigator with Health Quest. “It’s a simple way for us to contribute to health and well-being in the future.”
The annual Vassar Brothers Medical Center oncology teaching event is an opportunity for clinicians in the Mid-Hudson Valley to learn about the latest leading-edge technologies and therapies used locally to treat patients with cancer.

“When you’re raising the bar on care in the community, education is critically important,” said Cliff Connery, MD, FASC, FCCP, medical director for the Dyson Center for Cancer Care at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. “Continuing education online and reviewing journals are helpful, but sometimes it’s best to sit in a classroom environment and engage in a live presentation. Attendees have the opportunity to ask questions and hear answers directly from our experts.”

At this year’s event, immunotherapy and supportive care were among the most popular topics discussed. “Every year, we have to whittle down a list of multiple topics that attendees suggest to us,” said Sandi Cassese, MSN, RN, CNS, vice president for oncology services at Health Quest. “There is a lot of interest in the event, and we encourage local medical professionals to put it on their calendars early if they plan to participate.”
Upcoming Events

Join us for one of our upcoming events. If you can’t visit us, our Oncology teams can meet you and your colleagues in your area for a dinner and case review. If you are interested in setting up time to speak, please contact Susan Morse, practice manager, HQMP Oncology, at smorse1@health-quest.org or 845.483.6388.

Breast Cancer CME

Thursday, October 5, 2017
This is a half-day course during which a faculty of clinicians at the forefront of the field will present a broad review of the management of breast cancer in women. The topics covered mirror the practical issues encountered in everyday clinical practice.

Dinner, Meet and Greet, and Discussion

All are invited to bring an interesting case to share. A projection screen and computer will be provided. Hosted by the oncology group at Vassar Brothers Medical Center.

Wednesday, October 18th - Kingston - Special Focus on Breast, also an opportunity to meet our new Head and Neck Surgeon, Dr. Al Haitham Al Shetawi, location TBD

Tuesday, November 14th - Rhinebeck - Multidisciplinary approach to the cancer patient and interesting case review, location TBD

Visit vbmc.libguides.com to learn more about our upcoming CME events.