Background
• Oncology Pharmacy Technicians are integral contributors to the care of cancer patients
• In an effort to promote higher quality patient care, the National Community Oncology Dispensing Association, Inc. (NCODA), created the Pharmacy Technician Committee in 2018
• In late 2018, the Pharmacy Technician Committee evolved into OPTA and became its own Association
• OPTA is the first and only association specifically for Oncology Pharmacy Technicians dedicated to supporting and encouraging their professional development
• Focus includes setting the standards for oncology pharmacy technicians
• A growing group of 120+ peers nationwide

Objective
• Create a platform for connecting oncology pharmacy technicians
• Exchange practical information around effective practices
• Develop Quality Standards
• Create an accreditation process for oncology pharmacy technicians

Format
• Monthly OPTA Webinars
• Monthly Leadership Meetings
• Discussion Board engagement
• Regularly scheduled Email Updates: “The OPTA Review”
• Accreditation Initiative

Monthly Webinars
• First Wednesday of each month at 3PM EST
• Three content areas (topics change monthly):
  – Drug Update
  – Peer Presentation
  – Technician Practice in Focus
• Accreditation Update
• Continuing Education resources
• Future engagement opportunities

Initiatives
• Creating an accreditation for certification of oncology pharmacy technicians
• Process underway with growing membership body
• Continuing Education
• Developing oncology pharmacy technician specific courses that support the OPTA Quality Standards
• Networking & Community Building
• Emails, Webinars, Discussion Board
• NCODA meetings: Fall Summit and Spring Forum
• Technician specific sessions

Examples of Content on OPTA Webinars:
Peer Presentation: Gina Buzzell, McFarland Clinic, IA
Technician Practice in Focus: Christine Robinson, Clearview Cancer Institute, AL

Discussion
• OPTA is the leading organization in the professional development of oncology pharmacy technicians
• Complimentary Membership
• Exchange of knowledge and effective practices
• Get involved today to help shape the future
• Continuing to build infrastructure for the following:
  • Continuing Education specific to oncology pharmacy technicians
  • Board Positions for Oncology Pharmacy Technicians
  • Personnel and administration

Information
Link: https://www.ncoda.org/oncology-pharmacy-technician-association-opta/
For Interested Applicants for OPTA:
1. Register for NCODA membership
2. Log-in to NCODA and Apply for OPTA