

October 2, 2019

Michele McCorkle, MSN, RN
Chief Strategy Officer
Oncology Nursing Society
125 Enterprise Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15275

RE: ANA Endorsement of the joint 2019 Position Statement of the Oncology Nursing Society and the Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association titled "Ensuring Healthcare Worker Safety When Handling Hazardous Drugs"

Dear Ms. McCorkle,

The American Nurses Association (ANA) endorses the joint 2019 position statement of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) and the Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association (HOPA) titled "*Ensuring Healthcare Worker Safety When Handling Hazardous Drugs.*"

ANA supports the Oncology Nursing Society and the Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Associations work to identify necessary practices to keep the entire healthcare team and their patients safe when handling hazardous drugs. Following the lead of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; ONC and HOPA have thoughtfully incorporated the most current evidence-based practices into their joint position statement.

The development of a comprehensive hazardous drug program must include the expertise and knowledge of nurses. Policies, procedures, education, training and all safe-handling precautions cannot happen in silos; therefore, ensuring nursing practice is included into the development of these programs is essential. ANA applauds and endorses the work of ONS and HOPA on this important work.

We look forward to the opportunity to further engage with ONS and HOPA regarding implementation strategies. If you have questions, please contact Ruth Francis, Senior Policy Advisor, Nursing Practice and Work Environment, Ruth.Francis@ana.org or (301) 628-5090.

Sincerely,



Debbie Dawson Hatmaker, PhD, RN, FAAN
Chief Nursing Officer | EVP

cc: Ernest Grant, PhD, RN, FAAN, ANA President
Loressa Cole, DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE, ANA Chief Executive Officer