

Joan O’Hanlon Curry, DNP,RN,CPNP-PC,CPON®,NEA-BC,FAPHON,FAONL,FAAN

Senior Director of Nursing, Inpatient Oncology | Dana-Farber Cancer Institute



Joan O’Hanlon Curry, DNP, RN, CPNP-PC, CPON®, NEA-BC, FAPHON, FAONL, FAAN, is a nationally recognized nursing executive with over 30 years of experience in pediatric and adult oncology nursing across some of the nation’s leading academic and NCI-designated cancer centers. She currently serves as Senior Director of Nursing, Inpatient Oncology at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, where she provides strategic and operational leadership for inpatient nursing services and is co-leading the opening of a new 72-bed inpatient unit at a collaborating hospital, a critical first step in preparation for the construction and opening of a new 300-bed inpatient oncology hospital.

Joan’s career spans institutions, including Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, The Children’s Hospital at Montefiore, MD Anderson Cancer Center, and The Mount Sinai Hospital. Her leadership has consistently driven improvements in quality, safety, workforce development, and patient-centered care. At MD Anderson, she served as Administrative Director of Pediatric Clinical Services, overseeing more than 250 employees and a \$20 million budget, and established the Pediatric Acute Cancer Care Center. She also contributed to the institution’s 6th Magnet® designation with distinction.

A passionate advocate for the nursing profession, Joan serves as Chair of APHON’s National Advocacy Committee and is a member of the Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research Advocacy Committee. She has presented at national conferences on advocacy and the critical importance of nurses' engagement in health policy, and has moderated town halls to inspire colleagues to take an active role in shaping the profession's future. She has participated in AONL Advocacy Day for three consecutive years and serves on the FAONL Selection Committee.

Joan’s governance experience is extensive. She completed ten years on APHON’s Board of Directors, serving in the full presidential track as Treasurer, President-Elect, President, and Past President. During her tenure, APHON achieved a 25% increase in membership and expanded its flagship Chemotherapy/Biotherapy Provider Program internationally to Ireland, Brazil, Australia, and New Zealand. She has also held leadership roles with the NY Metro APHON Chapter, serving as Chapter President and Regional Conference Co-Chair.

A published author and educator, Joan's scholarly work includes peer-reviewed publications in the Journal of Nursing Administration and Nurse Leader focused on political astuteness and advocacy in nursing leadership. She has presented at over 25 national and regional conferences and contributed to multiple editions of APHON's Chemotherapy and Biotherapy Provider Curriculum.

Joan holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice in Executive Leadership from Case Western Reserve University, a Master of Science in Nursing from Columbia University, and undergraduate degrees from Pace University and Kenyon College. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, the American Organization for Nursing Leadership, and the Association of Pediatric Hematology Oncology Nurses, reflecting her sustained contributions to nursing leadership, education, and advocacy.