



WHAT IS A BREAST CANCER NURSE NAVIGATOR?

A Breast Cancer Nurse Navigator can assist breast cancer patients and their families find their way through the complexities of the healthcare system and allow them to focus on their healing. Patients and their families can rest assured that they are not alone at this difficult time and that an advocate is there alongside them from the time of diagnosis through treatment, recovery and on to survivorship.

WHO ARE OUR NURSE NAVIGATORS?

At The SWIM Center for Cancer Care we are fortunate to have two Breast Cancer Nurse Navigators:

- ✓ **Maureen Pelletier, RN, OCN** is an Oncology Certified Nurse with many years of experience as a chemotherapy infusion nurse.
- ✓ **Betsy Rice, RNC** is a Geriatric Certified Nurse with many years of experience as a cancer screening nurse and with working with cancer support programs.

Both are available for every breast cancer patient as well as their families being treated at The SWIM Center for Cancer Care at St. Vincent's. They are integral to our Multi-disciplinary Breast Cancer Program which encompasses the full spectrum of cancer care from education and screening, through diagnosis, treatment, clinical trials, support services and survivorship.

BREAST CANCER NURSE NAVIGATORS LISTEN

- **L**iaison between patient, family, and physicians assuring timely access and coordination of all necessary care.
- **I**nform the patient and family about their eligibility for clinical trials, genetic counseling, and support services.
- **S**upport services include financial, emotional and therapeutic initiatives and are often provided on a one-on-one basis.
- **T**each patients and families about all recommended treatments, reinforcing them and allowing them a better understanding of the treatment plan.
- **E**xpedite scheduling of appointments with physicians, treatment sessions and support services.
- **N**urture the patient and family at this most difficult time in their lives so that they may proceed into survivorship with trust, safety, compassion and knowledge. An individualized survivorship plan is provided at the completion of initial treatment.

HOW TO ACCESS NAVIGATOR SERVICES

**SWIM Breast Cancer Referral Contacts
(203) 576-5181**

**Beeper (203) 576-6000 # 457
breastnavigator@stvincents.org**

