

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 1, 2012

Indiana University Health aims to transform cancer care with Via Oncology Pathways

INDIANAPOLIS – As part of their continued drive to transform cancer care throughout the state of Indiana, [Indiana University Health Cancer Centers](#) will implement the Via Oncology Pathways – a platform for standardizing evidence-based medicine – across its cancer programs.

Via Oncology Pathways are treatment recommendations based on published data and information that are tailored to a patient's specific cancer type and stage of the disease. The Pathways cover more than 90 percent of cancer types, including all major phases and modalities of treatment, diagnostics, patient support and end-of-life care. This program also helps identify suitable clinical trials for cancer patients.

In turn, physicians and researchers with IU Health and [Indiana University School of Medicine](#) will join disease-specific committees of academic and community oncologists around the country to establish and update the Pathways database quarterly, based on a review of new evidence and publicly available clinical trial results.

"When we talk about our vision for the future, pathways are a key part of our program's transformation to new models of accountable cancer care," said Doug Schwartzenruber, M.D., system medical director of IU Health Cancer Centers. "The Via Oncology Pathways will ensure that the treatments we offer our patients are based on evidence that supports the highest level of effectiveness with the lowest level of side effects. This approach helps strengthen our network of physician practices and community-based sites by decreasing variability in cancer care while ensuring the highest quality of care and patient safety."

The program will be fully implemented at IU Health sites across the state over the next year allowing oncologists to access the Pathways Portal – an interactive, patient-specific, Web-based decision support and reporting analytics tool. This user-friendly tool also provides evidence-based reviews and full text articles as well as patient education materials.

"We are very excited to have experts from IU Health joining our Via Oncology Pathways disease committees, both as members and as committee chairs," said Peter G. Ellis, M.D., medical director of Via Oncology Pathways. "Their insight and contributions will help us improve and expand our clinical content, and we welcome their collaborative approach."

To date, the Via Oncology Pathways have been adopted at both small community-based cancer centers and large health systems in 11 states. IU Health's involvement will connect two National Cancer Institute (NCI) designated cancer centers: [UPMC CancerCenter](#) in Pittsburgh, which developed Via Oncology, and the [Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center](#) in Indianapolis – a partnership between IU Health and IU School of Medicine. This collaboration will expand the Pathways' capabilities, resulting in the development of several new disease pathways.

###

Media Contacts:

Indiana University Health
Abby Gras, Public Relations Specialist
agras@iuhealth.org
317-963-0833

Via Oncology Pathways
Joseph Vickless, Marketing Manager
joseph.vickless@viaoncology.com
412-365-0726

About Indiana University Health Named among the “Best Hospitals in America” by *U.S. News Media & World Report* for 14 consecutive years, Indiana University Health is dedicated to providing a unified standard of preeminent, patient-centered care. A unique partnership with Indiana University School of Medicine – one of the nation’s leading medical schools – gives our highly skilled physicians access to innovative treatments using the latest research and technology. Discover the strength at iuhealth.org.

About Via Oncology Pathways Via Oncology, a division of D3 Oncology Solutions, provides medical and radiation oncology pathways for all modalities and phases of disease directly to providers. Our mission is to empower providers in today’s evolving health care landscape by offering a tool that providers can use to demonstrate their value to patients, payers and referring physicians.