



Dear Colleague

What's new at Braemar?



Braemar
CANCER CARE

New chemotherapy unit at Braemar opens in the new year.



Anna Goodwin, the warm and personable US-born oncologist says she has loved the country since she was 12. "I always thought it was inevitable I would come here one day."

Dr Goodwin will head Braemar Hospital's day chemotherapy unit, due to open in January 2013.

She says the position fulfills two aims: to work with good people and to work in New Zealand.

Dr Goodwin completed her oncology training at the University

of Alabama Birmingham and worked as an assistant professor at UAB doing research in sickle cell disease for two years before going into private practice for 12 years. She has certification by the American Board of Internal Medicine in medical oncology, palliative care and haematology.

She came to New Zealand three years ago to take up a position as a locum oncologist with the Waikato District Health Board, a position she held until March this year. Following that appointment, she was approached by Braemar to establish the Waikato's first private chemotherapy treatment centre.

“She says Braemar's goal is to reduce the waiting time for treatment and offer patients advice about their options.”

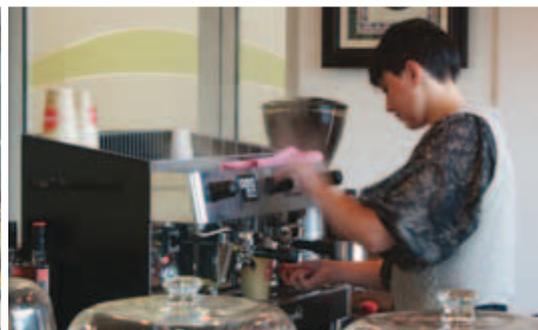
“Sometimes people stay in suspended animation for several weeks on the waiting list for treatment. Before that, they may also have been on the surgery waiting list

for several weeks, so it's not unusual for a lapse of 3-6 months from the time of diagnosis to the start of chemotherapy, or even a discussion around this option.”

Dr Goodwin says her approach to her work today is influenced by the experiences of her many patients. She prefers an integrative approach that incorporates nutrition and exercise. “These are extremely important not only in how long we live but also the quality of our lives.” Her goal, she says, is to put patients at ease and “help them make the best possible decisions for their circumstances as an individual.”

Braemar's new chemotherapy treatment centre will be based in the day hospital wing. Chief Executive Paul Bennett says a strong demand for the service was identified during the hospital's strategic planning process. “Currently patients face a long wait for treatment or a trip to Auckland. This creates a huge strain, not only for the patient but also for their family.”

He said the chemotherapy centre would treat a range of cancers.



Up to 10 patients could be treated a day but that could rise depending on demand. Treatments will include chemotherapy and related supportive care and medical oncology consultation.

Hamilton woman Vicki Naylor, who was diagnosed with breast cancer seven years ago, says she welcomes the move to establish a local private treatment centre.

Mrs Naylor travelled to Auckland for her chemotherapy treatment after she was diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer in the summer of 2006. Following her mastectomy, an oncologist recommended two courses of chemotherapy with different drugs, but only one was funded under the public health system.

"The chance to go private came up so I took it."

She travelled to a private clinic in Auckland every three weeks for six months, relying on friends and her husband to drive her.

"I couldn't drive myself. I would be ill all the way home."

She said other patients were travelling even longer distances.

"It was incredibly stressful. Also, because my oncologist was in Auckland, that meant an added worry if complications developed."

She says the treatment centre at Braemar will alleviate the stress of long-distance travel for people living in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty. It will also mean patients can have surgery and treatment at the same hospital.

Summary of Benefits

- Immediate access to an Oncologist
- No waiting times
- Treatment can begin within days of the first consultation
- Chemotherapy is covered by most health insurance policies
- Access to a full range of chemotherapy drugs
- We can administer drugs that may not be available at public hospitals
- Modern and relaxing environment

Kind Regards,
Pat Bary – Chairman

Dr Anna Goodwin Consultant Medical Oncologist

Qualifications

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Areas of Specialisation

Medical Oncology and
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Specialist Training

- DO 1990 Oklahoma
Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine
Oklahoma State University College
of Osteopathic Medicine, USA
- Am Bd Cert Int Med 1197
(Med Onc)
Certificate of the American Board
of Internal Medicine (Medical
Oncology), USA