



Penn Medicine



## CANCER PROGRAM

# Oncology Social Work

at Penn Medicine Virtua Cancer Program

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## *What is an Oncology Social Worker?*

An oncology social worker is a professional who has specialized training in how a diagnosis of cancer affects a person and his or her family. They understand that there are many aspects of a person's life outside of cancer, and that cancer affects each person in a different way.

## **Empower yourself - We can help**

Oncology social workers provide counseling and other services which can reduce stress for you and your family through all phases of your cancer.

We can assist you with:

- Coping with your diagnosis of cancer and the many emotions you may be experiencing
- Navigating insurance coverage, social security benefits, and disability benefits
- Applying for programs that offer financial assistance or other useful services

We can help you access:

- Home health care, items such as a cane or walker, and referrals for help in the community

We offer:

- Supportive counseling
- Support groups and educational programs
- Referrals to community counseling
- Transportation resources and referrals
- Community resource assessment and referrals, including housing, assisted living, nursing homes, and hospice care

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