



Foundations of Cancer Disease Sites, Part B

COURSE SYLLABUS

2019

Course Facilitators: Donalda MacDonald and Komal Patel

Course Authors: Donalda MacDonald and Komal Patel

Course Offering: de Souza Institute

Course Format: eLearning

Contact Information: Donalda MacDonald- donalda.macdonald@desouzainstitute.com
or Komal Patel – komal.patel@desouzainstitute.com or
416-581-7884

Prerequisite: Foundations in Oncology Nursing Practice

Registration: Required

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This online course continues to build on the Foundations of Oncology Nursing Practice introducing 20 additional cancer disease sites in total. In Part B, we will be covering another 8 sites, reviewing thyroid, laryngeal, oral, esophageal, primary liver, gastric, pancreatic and skin cancers. Oncology patients receive care from all health care settings - including acute care teaching hospitals, tertiary care centres, general hospitals and community care. Given the increasing complexity of this growing patient population, caring for people with cancer and their families involves a particular set of advanced skills and knowledge from a variety of health care professionals.

This course will introduce participants to essential concepts in solid tumours under the groupings of endocrine (thyroid), head & neck (oral and laryngeal) and gastrointestinal tumours (esophageal, gastric, primary liver and pancreatic) as well as skin cancers. Fundamental information to those who work with oncology patients and their families will be provided. For each type of cancer, a case study will evaluate the learning.

Although participants can complete the various components of the course at their own pace, the course must be completed in **8 weeks from the time you register** for the course.

Domain of Practice	Treatment and Delivery of Evidence Based Care
Learning Hours	12.5 hours
de Souza Credit	0.25 credits

B. COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Describe the anatomy and normal physiology of each cancer disease site.
- Describe the etiology and epidemiology, and identify the risk factors for each disease site.
- Review the pathophysiology of each cancer site.
- Describe the process for diagnosis specific for each site.
- Review any screening recommendations for each cancer site, if applicable.
- Describe the staging for each cancer disease site including prognostic indicators where available.
- Discuss treatment modalities currently being utilized for each site.
- Review the nursing considerations for each disease site.
- Describe follow-up care for each site and survivorship issues, if applicable.

C. MODE OF LEARNING

The main mechanism to facilitate learning in this course will be eLearning.

eLearning

eLearning, offered through the de Souza eLearning center, will cover the following activities: the application of knowledge, self-directed reading assignments. The eLearning environment fosters a self-directed approach for participants to progress through the modules at a convenient time, either at home or work. The suggested division of learning hours will be provided, but they are a guide. Each participant will have to adjust the time spent on each site according to their need and clinical background.

- **Learning and application:** Sections and modules are developed by de Souza education team to reflect the latest knowledge in cancer disease sites. The content is up to date and the learning format is interactive.
- **Readings** are intended to enhance the eLearning content surrounding key topic areas.
- Technical support will be provided throughout the course.

D. MODES OF EVALUATION

As part of the evaluation process, you are required to complete the following:

- A baseline evaluation: this survey assesses your knowledge, attitude, confidence, and learning methods before you begin the eLearning modules for the course.
- eLearning modules/sections, required readings, and tests.
- Participants will be tested on their knowledge after each module or section via an online assessment. Participants must receive at least 70% on each module test. (**Note:** there is a maximum of two attempts per test in each section)
- Post evaluation survey

When you have successfully met all the above requirements, you will receive an email containing instructions on how to download your certificate of completion, and will receive credit towards obtaining your de Souza designation.

E. TIME REQUIREMENT AND EXPECTATIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS

To be successful in completing this course, you are encouraged to set aside 2 to 3 hours each week to complete each section as learning is self-directed. The total learning hours for this course is 12.5 hours.

Disease Site	Suggested allotment of time spent on module
Endocrine	
Thyroid	2.0 hours
Head & Neck	
Oral	1.5 hours
Laryngeal	1.5 hours
Gastrointestinal	
Esophageal	1.5 hours
Gastric	1.5 hours
Primary liver	1.5 hours
Pancreatic	1.0 hours
Skin	2.0 hours

Sections and modules do not have to be completed sequentially; participants can choose to go ahead and complete learning activities in multiple sections and modules at once, however, all course requirements must be completed within 8 weeks from the time you register for the course.

Your course activity completion will be reflected in your grade book and on the progress bar which is located in the upper left hand corner of the course introduction page. Evidence of engagement through active participation will result in a positive learning experience. You will be expected to complete all eight sections/ modules through the eLearning system.

F. FACILITATOR AVAILABILITY

As the facilitator for this course, I will be responsible to answer questions related to course content, to monitor the registration process, to facilitate the eLearning modules, and be available to you for questions throughout the course. You can expect me to respond to your queries within 24-hour time period during the week and 48 hours on the weekend. Technical support is available by contacting support@desouzainstitute.com

G. COURSE TIMELINE

The sections/modules are to be completed within the 8 weeks. It is the participant's responsibility to ensure that all course requirements are completed by the end of the 8th week.

H. FACILITATOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Donalda MacDonald has been an oncology nurse for 40 years working in both inpatient and outpatient units. She has been a primary nurse in lung and GI oncology as well as worked in the chemotherapy suite. For the last 10 years of her clinical career, she has been the solo instructor for the Sinai C.A.R.E. Cancer Care education series that she and her chemo colleagues developed targeting nurses new to oncology. Donalda has served on the board of directors for the Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology for 7 years, 5 of which she was the treasurer. Donalda holds certification in oncology from the CNA. She has done item writing and exam review for the CNA Oncology Certification Exam, and continues to be a mentor for nurses preparing for the exam. In 2008, Donalda was nominated by her oncology peers and was one of 100 nurses from across Canada to receive the CNA Centennial Award honoring her work in education of novice oncology nurses. In 2014 she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology.

Komal began her nursing career at William Osler Health System in Brampton, Ontario in 2006 on an in-patient oncology unit where she has had the opportunity to provide direct patient care, precept nursing students, mentor nurses, and educate healthcare professionals throughout the organization. Komal values lifelong learning and has demonstrated this in many professional activities she has engaged in including the chairing of the Oncology Interprofessional Unit Base Council and the William Osler Oncology Journal Club. Komal holds a BScN (Honours) from the University of Windsor and a Masters in Nursing with a teaching focus from Athabasca University. She obtained her Oncology CNA certification in 2010 and Hospice Palliative Care CNA exam in 2012.

[Additional Information Regarding Learning At de Souza Institute](#)

A. VIRTUAL LIBRARY

de Souza Institute has a virtual library that can be accessed to those registered in this course or any other de Souza Institute continuing education program. This resource enables you to access over 1500 e-Journals, 200 e-books and 8 on-line databases such as CINAHL or Ovid-Medline. You can use the virtual library to access the required reading materials for your course. The virtual library can be accessed 24 hours a day at any location that has internet access using a login and password.

The direct link is <https://library.desouzainstitute.com/login>.

B. TECHNICAL SUPPORT

eLearning Centre Orientation

If this is the first time you are taking a course offered by the de Souza Institute, please complete the eLearning Centre Orientation course (free of charge). This course is designed to introduce you to online learning and help you understand how to navigate through the de Souza Institute eLearning centre and courses. It is strongly recommended that you complete this orientation so you will be able to successfully navigate de Souza's eLearning environment.

de Souza Support

If you have questions about the content of a course please email your course facilitator.

If you need assistance accessing or navigating the eLearning Centre, please refer to the eLearning Orientation course. If you have questions or have any general technical difficulties please contact support@desouzainstitute.com.

C. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Click the links below to review de Souza's Policies.

[Academic Honesty and Copyright Policy](#)

[Cancellations, Incomplete and No Show Policy](#)

Course content and resources provided in this course are based on best practice guidelines from provincial and national bodies. Please consult your educator if you have specific questions related to local protocols and policies as they vary among healthcare organizations.