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THE WELLNESS COMMUNITY LAUNCHES FREE ONLINE CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE FOR ONCOLOGY NURSES

Online Course is based on TWC's Patient Active Guide to Living With Ovarian Cancer

WASHINGTON, D.C. – February 7, 2004 – The Wellness Community® (TWC), an international, non-profit organization dedicated to providing free support and education for all people with cancer and their loved ones, announced today that it launched a free online continuing education course for oncology nurses around the *Patient Active Guide to Living With Ovarian Cancer* program.

The online course, *Empowering Women to be Patient Active While Living with Ovarian Cancer*, offering 1.2 contact hours, teaches nurses how to educate women about ovarian cancer as more of a chronic disease and how to empower them to use The Wellness Community's Patient Active approach during their cancer experience. The Patient Active Concept was developed by TWC's founder, Harold Benjamin, and states that "People with cancer who participate in their fight for recovery along with their health care team, rather than acting as hopeless, helpless, passive victims of the illness, will improve the quality of their lives and may enhance the possibility of recovery." The course provides up-to-date information on ovarian cancer including diagnosis; new treatment options; proactive treatment decision-making and planning; side-effect management techniques; and, most importantly, how to help women with ovarian cancer find hope during their cancer journey.

This continuing nursing education activity was approved by the Oncology Nursing Society, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation, and is made available through unrestricted educational funds from GlaxoSmithKline. To access the online course and to earn free continuing education credits, visit <http://www.thewellnesscommunity.org/PAG-CD/>.

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ABOUT THE WELLNESS COMMUNITY

Celebrating its 22nd anniversary in June 2004, The Wellness Community® is an international, non-profit organization dedicated to providing free support and education as well as hope to people affected by cancer. Through participation in professionally-led support groups, educational workshops, nutrition and exercise programs, and mind/body classes, people affected by cancer learn vital skills that enable them to regain control, reduce isolation and restore hope regardless of the stage of their disease. Today, there are 22 Wellness Communities across the United States, five in development, 28 satellites, two centers abroad in Tokyo and Tel Aviv, and a community online at The Virtual Wellness Community.