

Meet the New Chief Medical Officer for the National Comprehensive Cancer Network

Acclaimed oncologist Renuka Iyer, MD, from Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center to help lead nonprofit NCCN, which publishes gold standard guidelines that define and advance cancer care worldwide.

December 4, 2025 By National Comprehensive Cancer Network

The National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN)—an alliance of leading cancer centers that publishes free evidence-based, expert consensus-driven guidelines for cancer prevention and care—announced on December 4 the hiring of Renuka Iyer, MD, as the new Chief Medical Officer (CMO) for the organization.

Dr. Iyer has a long history of leadership and innovation in oncology. She currently serves as a Professor of Oncology for Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center—one of NCCN’s Member Institutions—as well as Section Chief of Gastrointestinal Oncology and Vice Chair of Faculty Affairs in Roswell Park’s Department of Medicine, and Medical Director for Medical Oncology across the Roswell Park Care Network. She also serves as a Professor of Medicine at Jacobs School of Medicine at the University of Buffalo.

Fellowship-trained in medical oncology at Roswell Park, Dr. Iyer attended Grant Medical College at the University of Mumbai, followed by residency at Cornell University School of Medicine. She is board certified in internal medicine and oncology; a member of numerous professional societies; the recipient of several awards from organizations that include the North American Neuroendocrine Tumor Society, The Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation, and American Cancer Society; and has published hundreds of peer-reviewed articles, abstracts, and book chapters. Her research focuses on novel therapies for rare cancers, immunotherapy, biomarkers, and quality of life.

“Renuka is the perfect person to take on such an important role impacting treatment and outcomes for people with cancer around the world,” said Crystal S. Denlinger, MD, Chief Executive Officer, NCCN. “Over the years, she has shown a remarkable commitment to advancing research and improving care so all people can live better lives. She has devoted her career to driving innovations and putting them into practice. Renuka has been a major contributor to NCCN’s mission for years; we look forward to seeing what she will do to enhance access to high-quality,

high-value, patient-centered cancer care in the future.”

Dr. Iyer has served as a member of the NCCN Guidelines Steering Committee since 2023. As a Steering Committee member, she helps provide strategic oversight to the NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology ([NCCN Guidelines](#)) program, including assigning subject matter experts to panels and advising NCCN regarding future direction. Prior to that, she served as a panelist for the NCCN Guidelines Panels for Occult Primary Cancer and Hepatobiliary Cancer, in addition to serving on other professional organization guidelines panels.

In her new role as NCCN CMO, Dr. Iyer will play an even larger role with the NCCN Guidelines program, which consists of 90 guidelines for treating nearly every type of cancer, along with prevention, screening, and supportive care. Each of the NCCN Guidelines is updated at least once per year and often far more frequently than that. They are available in multiple formats, including via the new, interactive [NCCN Guidelines Navigator](#).

Dr. Iyer’s work will include clinical leadership for the NCCN Guidelines program and oversight for additional point-of-care resources based on the NCCN Guidelines, including the [Library of NCCN Compendia](#). She will also oversee NCCN’s Continuing Education ([CE](#)) department, [JNCCN—Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network](#), and participate in [Global](#) and [Policy](#) efforts.

“I am honored to be chosen for this prestigious position and excited to be at NCCN during a time when there are so many updates and opportunities to innovate how we deliver information to help our patients,” said Dr. Iyer. “After 21 years in academic oncology, I welcome the opportunity to advance high-quality cancer care and to help build bridges to further the NCCN mission.”

Dr. Iyer’s first day as CMO will be February 26, 2026.

[This announcement](#) was originally published December 4, 2025, on the National Comprehensive Cancer Network website.