

The William W. Backus Hospital is pleased to announce the expansion of its support program in breast health care with the launch of a patient navigator service. This program, titled Breast Health Patient Navigator, will help eliminate or reduce barriers to breast health care. It will help patients “navigate” through the health care system.

Through patient navigation, an RN nurse specialist, called a patient navigator, actively guides patients through the health care system. The navigator makes sure patients get needed support and resources. The navigator can effectively help patients anticipate and avoid obstacles to care.



To reach the Breast Health Patient Navigator, please contact Joyce Kuusela, RN, at 860-425-3870 or [jkuusela@wwbh.org](mailto:jkuusela@wwbh.org).

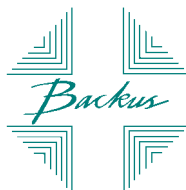


# At Backus, no one faces cancer alone.



A GUIDE TO CANCER CARE RESOURCES

## Choose Wisely. Choose Backus.



The William W. **Backus Hospital**  
326 Washington Street • Norwich, Connecticut 06360

The William W. **Backus Hospital**  
Learn more at [backushospital.org/cancer](http://backushospital.org/cancer)



## “Outstanding Cancer Care”

**Backus Hospital’s Cancer Center has earned the Commission on Cancer’s Outstanding Achievement Award.**

**One of only 67 in the U.S., and the only hospital in Connecticut ever selected.**

### WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL CANCER CENTER?

Backus offers the best in cancer care, close to home for patients. This includes state-of-the-art services and equipment; compassionate care; a multi-specialty team of surgeons, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, pathologists, oncology-certified nurses, dietitians, and others to coordinate your treatment; cancer clinical trials; chemotherapy; radiation therapy; complementary therapy such as massage, healing touch and reiki; support groups; community education; a weekly tumor board comprised of physicians of different subspecialties to discuss new patient cases; and lifelong patient follow-up through a Cancer Registry.

### WHAT STATE-OF-THE-ART EQUIPMENT DOES BACKUS OFFER?

Backus has a wide range of technology for diagnosing and treating various forms of cancer. Tools include a PET-CT Scanner, which superimposes a PET scan with a

CT scan to better visualize active tumors, producing 3-D images that can detect whether cancer is spreading and whether ongoing treatment is working; MRI, which can provide additional imaging information for a more definitive diagnosis; 64-slice CT Scanner, which allows for virtual tours of the body and detailed images; digital mammography, the best tool for early identification of cysts, calcifications and tumors within the breast; and a linear accelerator with Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) and Image Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT), the only radiation therapy delivery system of its kind in New England.

### WHAT DOES INTENSITY MODULATED RADIATION THERAPY MEAN?

IMRT is a method of radiation therapy that allows the intensity of the radiation to be changed during treatment. This decreases the amount of radiation that affects the normal surrounding tissue.

### WHAT DOES IMAGE GUIDED RADIATION THERAPY MEAN?

Traditionally, imaging technology like CT scans, PET scans and MRI scans are used to identify the location of the cancer tumor prior to treatment. Radiation therapy is then used to treat the tumors based on these scans. However, there are always some internal movement of tumors and surrounding structures, so their exact location can change between the time of the scan and treatment. IGRT decreases the gap in time between the scan and treatment, allowing doctors to see the tumors at the same time they are treating them. By combining imaging and treatment components into one system, it gives the doctors a three-dimensional, real-time view to better pinpoint tumors, account for their movement and potentially decrease the toxicity to surrounding healthy tissue.

### BACKUS SEEMS TO OFFER A WIDE ARRAY OF CANCER DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT. WHICH IS RIGHT FOR ME?

Every case of cancer is different. Please discuss your cancer care with your personal physician.