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NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE FUNDS WISCONSIN CLINICAL TRIAL NETWORK

ThedaCare, Gundersen Health System and Marshfield Clinic Health System Partner to Strengthen Cancer Research Program

APPLETON, Wis. – The National Cancer Institute awarded the Wisconsin National Community Oncology Research Program (WiNCORP), a Wisconsin cancer clinical trial network, with nearly \$15.6 million over the next six years to advance treatment options and research for those living with cancer.

WiNCORP is a partnership between Gundersen Health System, Marshfield Clinic Health System and ThedaCare that provides innovative cancer clinical trials to patients in Wisconsin. This partnership builds upon the collaborative relationship these three health systems have to improve access to cancer clinical trials for more patients. ThedaCare joined WiNCORP in 2019.

"ThedaCare is proud to partner with Marshfield Clinic Health System and Gundersen Health System in this collaborative effort," said Imran Andrabi, MD, President and CEO of ThedaCare. "As a result of the partnership, our team is honored to receive this prestigious award from the National Cancer Institute."

This will be the second time WiNCORP has received this award from the National Cancer Institute. During the first five-year period, about 150 active cancer clinical trials were available at any given time.

"Patients from across the state, including Northeast and Central Wisconsin, will be provided greater access to cancer care clinical trials," explained Matthias Weiss, MD, Ph.D., ThedaCare Cancer Care Research Director and ThedaCare's Principal Investigator of WiNCORP. "The opportunity to partner with other advanced health care systems allows teams to accelerate scientific progress and achieve better outcomes."

The NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP) is a national network that brings cancer clinical trials and care delivery studies to people in their own communities.

"The result of new treatments and clinical trials allows us to live our mission, to improve the health of the communities we serve," said Dr. Andrabi. "We are grateful to the patients and families who trust us with their health and care, allowing our caregivers to ensure safety by collecting data and analyzing results of treatment and therapies."

Patients who wish to participate in clinical trials should speak with their ThedaCare cancer care provider to receive more information.



About ThedaCare

For more than 110 years, ThedaCare® has been committed to improving the health of the communities it serves in Northeast and Central Wisconsin. The organization delivers care to a community of more than 600,000 residents in 14 counties and employs more than 7,000 healthcare professionals. ThedaCare has 180 locations including seven hospitals located in Appleton, Neenah, Berlin, New London, Shawano, Waupaca and Wild Rose. ThedaCare is the first in Wisconsin to be a Mayo Clinic Care Network Member, giving our specialists the ability to consult with Mayo Clinic experts on a patient's care. ThedaCare is a not-for-profit healthcare organization with a level II trauma center, comprehensive cancer treatment, stroke and cardiac programs as well as a foundation dedicated to community service.

For more information, visit <u>www.thedacare.org</u> or follow ThedaCare on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>. Media should call Cassandra Wallace, Public Relations Specialist at 920.442.0328 or the ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Neenah switchboard at 920.729.3100 and ask for the marketing person on call.

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