



CalvertHealth

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Diana Lewis has nearly 15 years of broad-based oncology nursing experience in a variety of clinical settings including positions at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Institute at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, the Alvin and Lois Lapidus Cancer Institute at Sinai Hospital and most recently at the Cancer Recovery Center in Hollywood, MD. As a Thoracic/General Oncology Nurse Navigator, she is part of the multidisciplinary Calvert Oncology Team and functions as an advocate, interpreter, educator, facilitator and counselor for our oncology patients and their families.

Receiving a diagnosis of lung cancer is a difficult message for any patient to hear. "When a person is diagnosed with any form of cancer, they are immediately vulnerable and overwhelmed with their diagnosis," says Diana Lewis, RN, BSN, OCN and nurse navigator for the lung cancer screening program.

"My role as the Nurse Navigator is to guide patients and their loved ones through our system. They may need additional equipment at home, need referrals for other specialists, be unsure of their diagnosis and treatment or need additional information and teaching about their particular diagnosis and care plan. There are also questions about medical bills, financial support, insurance coverage, the availability of community resources and support groups. That's why I'm here. To help them navigate and offer the support they need to get through this."

Additionally, Lewis helps to bridge communication between the various members of the cancer care team to ensure coordination and timeliness of patient care. She also empowers patients and families through education and encouragement so that they can more effectively self-advocate and communicate their needs. "This can be a stressful time for patients and their families," she said. "As navigator, I want to do whatever I can to ease their anxiety."