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## **UPDATE 2008: Cancer Research and Treatment**

**Michael & Dianne Bienes Comprehensive Cancer Center  
Holy Cross Hospital  
Saturday, March 29, 2008**

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### **Speakers and Panelists**

**Carma Bylund, Ph.D.**

Assistant Attending, Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences  
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center  
New York, NY

In addition to her position at Memorial Sloan-Kettering, Dr. Bylund is also an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, Weill Cornell Medical College. She is one of two full time faculty members in the Communication Skills Training and Research Lab at Memorial Sloan-Kettering. Her primary research and teaching focus is on improving physician-patient communication in cancer care. Specifically, Dr. Bylund's areas of expertise are in communication skills training, physician empathic communication, physician-patient communication about internet information, and family communication about health and illness. She has published 26 articles and chapters on these topics and currently has funding from the National Cancer Institute to investigate the effect of the internet on physician-patient communication. Dr. Bylund completed her Ph.D. in Communication Studies at Northwestern University and has held faculty positions previously at the University of Iowa (2001-2004) and at Columbia University Medical Center (2004-2005).

**Manohara Ferretti, M.Div.**

Meditation and Stress Release Therapist  
Holy Cross Hospital  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Rev. Manohara Ferretti is a Meditation and Stress Relief Therapist and coordinates the "Mind, Body and Medicine" lecture series at Holy Cross Hospital. Ms. Ferretti is an ordained Interfaith Minister who has been providing Holy Cross patients with her services since January 2004. Ms. Ferretti has a Masters of Divinity in addition to a BA from Boston College and an MA from Northwestern University, she received her training in Pastoral Care at bedside from Jackson Health System in Miami. She is a Clinical Hypnotherapist, Reiki Master and Toltec Shaman. She is often called upon by patients and their family members for counseling or meditation instruction. Trained in a variety of Eastern meditation techniques by renowned spiritual teachers, she has practiced and taught meditation classes and workshops for the past 25 years. Her understanding of patients' challenges makes her uniquely qualified to bring meditation and stress management into the hospital setting.

**Richard F. Little, M.D.**

Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program  
National Cancer Institute  
Bethesda, MD

Dr. Little is the Therapeutics Section Head for Hematologic and AIDS-related Cancers and Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation in the Clinical Investigations Branch of the Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program of the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Dr. Little received his M.D. degree from the University of South Carolina. After completing Residency Training in Internal Medicine at the Boston City Hospital, he completed a combined medical oncology and hematology fellowship at the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute and the NCI. His research interests have focused on immune suppression-related neoplastic disease, investigation of viral targets for oncolytic therapy and immunotherapy, and antiangiogenesis. Dr. Little has authored or co-authored over 50 original peer-reviewed and invited articles and chapters in leading infectious disease and oncology journals and textbooks on the topic of AIDS-related malignancy, and is a well recognized expert on the complexity of medical care in patients needing both cancer therapy and anti-HIV therapy. Dr. Little received the Distinguished NIH Teacher award in 2005.

**Allan Ribbler, Ph.D.**

Psychologist  
Holy Cross Hospital  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Dr. Ribbler received his undergraduate degree from James Madison University, Harrison, Virginia and both an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Psychology from Claremont Graduate School, Claremont, California. He then completed two years of postdoctoral training in Clinical Psychology at UCLA. In addition to his affiliation with Holy Cross Hospital, he is also affiliated with Plantation General Hospital and has faculty appointments at Nova Southeastern University in both the Department of Psychology and the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. He is also presently the President/Director of the Neurobehavioral Health Institute, Inc. in Plantation. Dr. Ribbler is a Member of several professional associations and also serves on the Board of Directors of Florida's Voice for Developmental Disabilities. He has considerable background in research, having more than 20 journal papers and/or presentations to his credit.