Patient Questionnaire – RCCA

Barbara C. Ammer

1. I heard about RCCA from my primary physician. After being diagonosed with breast cancer in February, 2016. My primary doctor recommended Dr. Aysha Khalid of RCCA as the oncologist for me to see.
2. As with any life altering diagnosis I was very fearful. We all know the horror stories regarding a diagnosis of cancer. My first concern was to learn as much as I could about breast cancer and what steps were necessary for me to conquer the disease and get back to my life. I wanted things to be the way they were before I received the diagnosis. High expectations but I was sure that I was going to beat the cancer.
3. Based on the recommendation of my primary physician I chose RCCA and I am so glad that I did. I met with Dr. Khalid and was so impressed with her professionalism and her humanity.
4. Every day I am so thankful that I took Dr. Bhaskara’s recommendation and have Dr. Khalid as my oncologist. I could not have been placed in better hands. From my initial consultation with Dr. Khalid, I had a sense that I was going to get through on a positive note. Dr. Khalid answered all of my questions truthfully and with compassion. She explained to me what I was facing and the protocols that she would be using to fight the cancer.
5. It was determined that a had tumor in my left breast. I was also HER2 positive. Based upon those factors, I was given five rounds of chemotherapy to shrink the tumor. I then chose, after discussing the options with Dr. Khalid, my surgeon and my primary doctor, to have a mastectomy. I then had three more rounds of chemotherapy and 25 rounds of radiation. Currently, I am getting an infusion of Herceptin every three weeks for one year. I am also taking oral medication for the next ten years.
6. Unfortunately, my husband, Larry, was diagnosed with lung cancer in November, 2017. He is currently under the care of Dr. Khalid who has shown the utmost care and concern for him. I think her knowing both of us has helped us cope with what we are both going through. If I have questions, she is always available to answer them. I feel that she understands how difficult this time is for us and that she is doing everything she possibly can to help us through.
7. I cannot say enough about the care that my husband and I are receiving from Dr. Khalid, but I would be remiss if I did not compliment the staff as well. The nurses are kind and professional. They understand what we are going through and they do their utmost to make things easier. The nurse practitioner is always available to answer questions and is very knowledge regarding procedures. The scheduling staff is great. As complicated as things get sometimes they always seem to make things work.

 I think that the best aspect of RCCA is that we are a team. Everyone’s main goal is to make our recovery go smoothly and with positive results.

8. I learned that life is very precious but that there are very caring individuals at RCCA willing to help you through difficult times. Also, that it is acceptable to ask for help and to accept help.

9. Caring professionals with heart.