

Leadership Profile: Executive Medical Director



Saint John's Cancer Institute



The Opportunity

[Saint John's Cancer Institute](#), of Providence health system, is seeking a dynamic, innovative and strategic physician leader to serve as its Executive Medical Director (EMD). An international leader in cancer care, Saint John's attracts patients from all over the world. It is at the forefront of studying the biology of cancer as well as expanding treatment for those suffering from the disease. This is an exciting opportunity for an established physician executive to lead the growth and success at this state-of-the-art, world-class cancer research institute in gorgeous **[Santa Monica](#)**, California.

The EMD will have full responsibility and oversight of the Cancer Institute (CI), establishing the strategic direction for the cancer program in partnership with physicians, operations and managed care programs. The ideal candidate will have experience running a cancer center, will be well-published and known within the cancer community and have extensive knowledge of funding, grant writing and clinical trials. The EMD will possess strong leadership qualities, including the ability to work collaboratively with all groups, philanthropic efforts and the Saint John's Health Center board.

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This physician leader will provide clinical leadership for the CI and assist in executing strategic plans, policies, clinical pathways and protocols. The focus of this position is to build, strengthen and sustain relationships with physicians and relevant clinicians, the health system, local hospital administration and the medical executive teams to implement new clinical practices, care pathways, programs and services.

As the CI's physician leader, the EMD will provide oversight and coordination for all physician engagement strategies. Their leadership style will be one that is proactive and results-oriented, and they will have a history of achieving positive outcomes in complicated, changing and multi-faceted environments.





Organization Overview

Saint John’s Cancer Institute

In 1991, the John Wayne Cancer Institute launched a successful affiliation with Saint John’s Health Center and opened in Santa Monica, California. Combined with the exceptional quality of Saint John’s medical staff and hospital, a unique community-based cancer research and training institute was formed, outstanding in the areas of translational research and the treatment of solid tumors, including surgical oncology, immunotherapy, chemotherapy and radiation. The John Wayne Cancer Institute changed its name to Saint John’s Cancer Institute in January 2021.

Since its inception, the CI has expanded its fight against cancer to many diseases, including melanoma, breast, urologic, thoracic, endocrine, gynecologic, and neurologic cancers. The translational research, surgical, and oncologic teams have quadrupled over the past three years as its clinicians continue to fight the battle with cancer. The Institute is home to bold collaborative research initiatives as well as a strong commitment to training and mentoring the next generation of cancer scientists and surgeons.

The CI serves cancer research and treatment worldwide through its unique tissue bank and accompanying database, as well as the Surgical Oncology Fellowship Program. Recognized throughout the world for surgical excellence, the Saint John’s Cancer Institute attracts some of the most talented researchers and physicians that provide personalized patient care.

The CI benefits from continuous interaction between its world-renowned researchers and physicians who are involved in day-to-day diagnosis and treatment of patients with a wide variety of cancers. The distance from bench to bedside is only a few steps at the Saint John’s Cancer Institute.



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Providence

Saint John’s Cancer Institute is part of [Providence](#), a nationally recognized, comprehensive health care organization spanning seven states with a universal mission – to provide compassionate care to all who need its services, especially the poor and vulnerable. Its 119,000-plus caregivers/employees serve in 51 hospitals, more than 800 clinics and a comprehensive range of health and social services.

[Providence Saint John’s Health Center](#) in Santa Monica, California, is a 266-bed facility equipped with the latest diagnostic technology and a team devoted to providing a broad range of primary and specialty service lines. Healthgrades, The Joint Commission and the Leapfrog Group have all given Providence Saint John’s multiple accolades for its dedication to academic-based, research-guided care. Saint John’s is home to Saint John’s Cancer Institute.

Providence: one name, one family, one extraordinary health system.



Position Summary

The Executive Medical Director role is a full-time position, 75% leadership/25% clinical. The EMD will be expected to:

- Establish strategic direction for the Cancer Program in partnership with physicians, Operations and Managed Care programs.
- Be a resource and advocate for all PHS issues related to Cancer Services and Research Administration.
- Provide for the development, implementation and management of the Cancer Program and assigned program operations.
- Represent the Program on committees or teams related to cancer services and serves as the health system consultant for cancer-related efforts.
- Maintain strong, collaborative relationships with the clinical physician work force and establish a succession plan where appropriate.
- Work with key stakeholders to achieve fundraising goals.
- Work with the Regional Research Service Line Director to implement a strategic vision and plan for research.
- Work with the Cancer Service Line Director to assure a coordinated strategy for grant submissions related to PHSOR research.



Knowledge & Work Experience

- Ten or more years of progressive management experience in healthcare is required, preferably with in-depth knowledge specific to clinical program areas across the continuum.
- Experience in an innovative, multi-site regionally integrated health system is required.
- Physician and medical group alignment and integration experience is preferred.
- Experience with clinical trials and grant development is required.
- Experience with academic and community partnership models is preferred.
- Significant experience leading teams, group facilitation, project management and building management systems is required.
- Experience in implementing and designing evidence-based team-based care is required.
- Experience working with key regional/state/national provider organizations, business groups, patient advocacy groups and governmental agencies on cancer issues is required.
- Well-versed and experienced in a variety of physician alignment structures, reimbursement models and provision of care methodologies.



Leadership Skills & Competencies

- Clinically experienced across cancer services.
- Demonstrated experience and success developing and implementing innovative clinical program growth strategies, physician and payer alignment, and consumer engagement models in a highly competitive and complex market environment.
- A team player with a track record of developing collaborative and effective working relationships with physicians, clinicians, management, colleagues and peers.
- Knowledge and understanding of emerging health care, market and technology trends, including forces influencing the growth, utilization and delivery of care.
- Ability to prioritize and organize work, to be flexible and agile in processing information and to adapt quickly to a changing healthcare environment; create goals and accountability; lead projects from concept to implementation in a timely manner; and achieve results.
- Demonstrated experience creating a culture of excellence, including quality and service improvement.
- Strong customer focus with physicians, management, colleagues, other clinicians (RN, PA, NP), and internal and external stakeholders.
- Understand and be comfortable in a complex, matrix-structured organization.
- Knowledge of key state/national guidelines and programs in cancer services.
- Comfortable working with key governmental and specialty groups, representing the CI's interests and advocating for necessary changes.
- Ability to analyze new technologies and techniques and understand the impact to clinical outcomes and cost-of-care in fields such as telemedicine, genetics, robotics, etc.
- Ability to work with the Quality Improvement team to ensure the goals of CI and non-CI are aligned.



Personal Characteristics

- A leader with outstanding business judgment; a quick study who is able to rapidly gain the confidence and respect of an organization, soliciting their ideas and suggestions.
- An intellectually bright leader who commands respect, has broad-based credibility, and is capable of consistently motivating and influencing the business to take action.
- Possesses excellent communication skills, both verbal and written. The candidate must have personal presence and an open, direct style to establish quick and effective credibility, as well as trust among the members of the senior leadership and other leaders across Saint John's Health Center and Providence. Ability to influence and build consensus is critical.
- Strong personal and professional ethical values, impeccable integrity; can be trusted to do the right thing.
- Presentation skills; strong executive presence.
- A highly personable, approachable person, who is able to lead, support, influence and promote and maintain the momentum and enthusiasm to drive performance improvement and service excellence.
- Flexible, adaptable and comfortable with ambiguity.
- Can analyze complex situations and lead both individuals and groups in developing and implementing successful outcomes.
- A team player who has an open and non-competitive leadership style that promotes partnerships and builds trust and strong relationships.



Reporting Relationships

Supervised By: Chief Executive of Saint John’s Health Center and the Saint John’s Cancer Institute

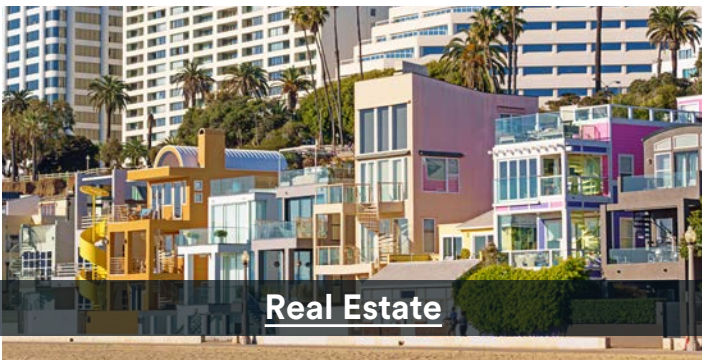
Working Relationships: This position requires the establishment of strong working relationships with Regional and System leadership, Ministry Executives (CE, COO, CNO and CFO), Medical Directors and Physicians, Program and Clinical Leaders, Mission, Finance, Managed Care, Quality, Marketing & Communications, Clinical Research, Foundation and others.

Education/Certification

- MD, Board Certified in related subspecialty
- Graduate work, certification or degree in healthcare management or business preferred
- Physician license to practice medicine in California and/or ability to obtain licensure

The Community

Santa Monica is one of the most livable cities in Los Angeles, and for good reason, with its iconic, three-mile beach, sunny climate and easy, scenic access to the coast-hugging Santa Monica Mountains. Just 15 miles from the heart of Los Angeles, it is home to numerous Hollywood celebrities. With its proximity to nature, revitalized downtown and idyllic beachside location, Santa Monica is one city that truly has it all.



Real Estate



Chamber of Commerce



Entertainment & Recreation



Highlights & Attractions





To Submit Your Candidacy

Nominations and applications, including a CV and letter of interest, can be sent in confidence to Saint John's Cancer Institute's Interim Executive Medical Director Neil Martin, MD, at the contact information below.



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