



DIVISION OF AMERICAN ONCOLOGY PARTNERS, P.A.

---

## Community-Based Cancer Treatment: More Economical than Hospital-Based Care

According to the Community Oncology Alliance (COA), there has been a shift of cancer care delivery from community-based to hospital-owned oncology practices over the past decade. This change in where patients find treatment, coupled with regulatory challenges and shifting insurance models, has resulted in much higher costs for both patients and taxpayers. Put simply, the cost of cancer care is substantially higher when a patient receives treatment in a hospital-based setting.

A September 2017 study, "The Value of Community Oncology: Site of Care Cost Analysis\*," found that the total cost of care for cancer patients receiving chemotherapy delivered in the hospital outpatient setting is nearly 60%, or \$90,144 per year, more expensive than the same treatment delivered in independent, community oncology practices. Additionally, cancer patients treated in the hospital setting are more likely to visit the emergency department (ED) following treatment, thus, driving healthcare costs even higher.

As a community-based oncology practice, **Hematology/Oncology Clinic (HOC)** is dedicated to delivering the highest-quality cancer care to patients in the most cost-effective manner. **Dr. Gerald Miletello** says, "We understand that access to the most advanced treatment is essential for the best-possible outcomes for our patients. In addition, patients and their families don't need the added stress of financial pressure, so we provide skilled financial counselors who help navigate insurance issues and seek assistance for those who need it."

**Dr. Michael Castine** adds, "Our goal at HOC is to deliver compassionate and personalized care, using cutting-edge technologies and innovative treatments in a convenient, community-based setting that is close to a patient's home, where our patients can feel most comfortable while undergoing treatment."

With locations in Baton Rouge and Zachary, LA, **Hematology/ Oncology Clinic** also offers patients access to a broad array of national clinical trials and the most promising new therapies.

### **Baton Rouge Office**

8595 Picardy Avenue, Suite 400  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809  
225.767.0822

### **Zachary Office**

1673 E Mount Pleasant Drive, Suite F 102  
Zachary, LA 70791  
225.761.3900

\* To read the full study: [communityoncology.org/the-value-of-community-oncology-site-of-care-cost-analysis/](http://communityoncology.org/the-value-of-community-oncology-site-of-care-cost-analysis/)

---