

# *Nurse Recognition Award*

JONATHAN ANOTADO GAPILANGO  
MSN, RN, NE-BC, OCN, CCRP

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL



Jonathan Anotado Gapilango has been a nurse for over 30 years, with over 20 years spent in the field of oncology. In 2020, he was appointed Administrative Director of Oncology Performance Measures and Accreditation at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick. He holds three national certifications in oncology, research, and administration. He is only the second nurse accepted as a surveyor for the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC); all other members are physicians.

His journey in the nursing profession has taken him into the oncology field, where he has led and stands out as a remarkable leader in the administration of nursing services. A distinct and compelling vision for the oncology service line that prioritizes compassion, evidence-based practice, and patient-centered care shapes his unwavering commitment to excellence. Through this framework, he has developed and implemented strategic initiatives that improve nursing services and significantly enhance patient outcomes. A notable achievement of his leadership is the successful reduction of chemotherapy-related adverse events. By employing evidence-based protocols and conducting thorough staff education, he has ensured that patients receive the safest and most effective treatments possible.

Resource management and staff development are pivotal aspects of his leadership approach, as he consistently advocates for safe and quality care delivery that corresponds to patient acuity. He has driven quality improvement initiatives that reflect his dedication to collaborative practice. Establishing a multidisciplinary disease-specific tumor board for breast and rectal cancers exemplifies his commitment to facilitating comprehensive discussions and treatment planning that directly benefit patients.

In his role, he exemplifies his unwavering commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. By fostering an environment of inclusion and actively seeking diverse perspectives, he focuses on creating a healthcare system that embraces the uniqueness of each individual and provides equitable care for all patients.

Mr. Gapilango is committed to quality improvement. One of his standout achievements in 2023 was leading the implementation of a single software platform for cancer data abstraction across all of RWJBarnabas Health. This action was a crucial step in improving the accuracy of cancer data for the system.

In addition to his work at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, Mr. Gapilango is the current President of the Philippine Nurses Association of New Jersey. He is a volunteer for the Filipino American Cancer Care Incorporated (F.A.C.C.) Inc. as a member of their Board of Advisors.

**A message from Jonathan:** I want to thank those who supported me throughout my nursing career. Special acknowledgments go to my family, especially my wonderful wife, Weng, and son, Josh, whose unwavering love and encouragement inspire me daily. I am also profoundly thankful for my PNANJ and Robert Wood Johnson families, whose professional growth and support have been invaluable. Lastly, I thank God for guiding me and providing strength throughout this journey.