

Example 1: Nominee 4	Open-Ended Response
<p>The CLP should play an essential role in upholding the Commission on Cancer Standards. Please explain in 250 words or less how your CLP has helped educate your program's Cancer Committee members about these standards, and their role if any, in meeting the standards</p>	<p>Our CLP nominee Nominee 4 is a vital committee member, highly knowledgeable about the cancer program standards and always on the forefront of supporting us through every challenge and obstacle. Nominee 4 has served on our cancer committee for well over a decade, 12+ of those years as our CLP. Her vast surgical expertise of breast and thyroid cancers, as well as her amicable rapport with other surgeons, and physicians, makes our CLP an essential member of our cancer program. Nominee 4 has worked diligently over the last 3 years preparing our facility for compliance with the new synoptic operative standards. Our nominee has been dedicated to preparing surgeons and ensuring their completion of the synoptic operative reports. Our initial iteration of the synoptic operative reports was paper based; however, our nominee quickly realized that this would require collaboration with Health Information Management department and Information Technology (IT) to develop a more sustainable approach that would make this report electronic. Our nominee worked tirelessly with IT to field test several iterations of the electronic format, until they decided on an easily accessible format. This very quickly improved compliance and ease of documentation by the surgeons, making our implementation a complete success. Today, our nominee personally trains all surgeons performing cancer related surgeries on using this electronic synoptic operative report. To this day, we have achieved a 100% compliance rating in breast and 77% with colon, which is before the implementation requirement, thanks to our nominee.</p>
<p>An outstanding CLP possesses a clear understanding of the National Cancer Database (NCDB) reporting tools and uses them effectively to assess program performance. Please explain in 250 words or less how your CLP does this.</p>	<p>Our CLP nominee Nominee 4 is knowledgeable in the use of all the NCDB reporting tools. Every quarter Nominee 4 carefully reviews the Accountability and Quality measures for our facility for compliance and prepares an NCDB report for presentation at each of our cancer committee meetings. Working closely with the cancer registry, Nominee 4 scrutinizes the measures and NCDB benchmark data and informs the Cancer Registrar of any inconsistencies or concerns. After reviewing the information, it is prepared for the Cancer Committee report for presentation. Nominee 4 provides an extensive analysis to the committee members, addressing any concerns or questions that they may have, and delivers great context of the NCDB data and how we compare to benchmarks with other community cancer programs.</p>
<p>CLPs are tasked with leading Quality Improvement (QI) initiatives at their cancer programs. Please explain in 250 words or less how your CLP is a leader in this area and works with the cancer teams and program leadership to implement QI initiatives.</p>	<p>Our CLP nominee Nominee 4's role is an integral component in all aspects of Quality Improvement. She works closely with our Quality Improvement Coordinator including others on the committee to develop robust quality improvement studies, analyzes data, and shares ideas to help identify areas for improvement, provides direction and support as needed. Nominee 4 takes initiative and immediate action to addressing disparities in quality as they are identified. For example, in the last few years we have had a few instances where the total number of lymph nodes were not adequately removed by the surgeons for gastric and colon sites. This inadequate lymph node removal affected our benchmark rating in the Accountability Quality measures. Nominee 4 brought these concerns to the Cancer Committee for review where a consensus was reached, a formal letter was written and sent to surgeons regarding the standard of care, citing national treatment guidelines and addressing best practices. Following this intervention, we have greatly improved and been successful in presenting data that demonstrates compliance with the standard of care.</p>
<p>Is your CLP involved in regional cancer-related activities? Examples would include participation in local cancer consortium activities, state advocacy and regional meetings in their specialty. If yes, please provide additional details in 250 words or less.</p>	<p>In a Breast Cancer Awareness event held in 2022, our CLP nominee Nominee 4 presented a breast cancer talk emphasizing the importance of regular screening, early detection, interventions and treatment. During this event, Nominee 4 accepted a generous donation from the LA County Sheriff's department in support of our breast cancer program. The contributions have provided free quality resources and support to patients who were at risk for financial burden. The program's resources include but are not limited to - transportation, gas cards, diagnostic services, DignaCAP Scalp Cooling System, education and wellness programs. We are very proud of Nominee 4 and for her advocacy and dedication to our patients and breast cancer program.</p>
<p>Please provide an example of how the nominee identifies and brings forward specific issues to the Cancer Committee that have resulted in changes that improved patient care (250 words or less).</p>	<p>Our CLP nominee Nominee 4 is thorough and complete in her review of the NCDB data and various quality improvement measures, and presents a detailed and organized overview of any concerns that that require review and discussion by the cancer committee. Nominee 4 is always available and supportive to the multidisciplinary team, from issues with surgeons not removing sufficient amount of lymph nodes, to inquiring on data trends noted in NCDB benchmark reports, including providing feedback to other committee members when questions arise. During this year's accreditation survey, Nominee 4 demonstrated remarkable leadership and enthusiasm for her work in our Cancer Program. Her extensive knowledge, dedication, and passion for the new synoptic operative reports left a strong impression on the site-reviewer, demonstrating remarkable preparedness. Nominee 4 had thoroughly researched the topic, cited research articles, emphasized the importance and value of the new report format, and effectively communicated the relevance of the standard and CoC recommendations and effectively contrasting our readiness. To be able to address the challenges of several new standards early on before compliance is required is nothing short of exceptional!</p>
<p>Please provide a specific example of how the nominee fosters a strong relationship with the American Cancer Society (250 words or less).</p>	<p>Our CLP nominee Nominee 4 has been instrumental in helping various committee members reach compliance on their standards by being a vital resource and expert in her field to give direction and advice. Through her leadership, and unwavering support, our Cancer Program was able to maintain compliance in all standards in our last survey. Nominee 4 embodies a strong proactive problem-solving approach, and is always headfirst in addressing any challenges that arise that would affect patient care at our facility. Her dedication aligns with ACS values and goes above and beyond to ensuring the success of our Cancer Program.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like to add that demonstrates ways in which your program's CLP has excelled in the role?</p>	<p>Nominee 4 has served as our CLP for over 12 years. For several years prior, she has also served in other leadership roles and capacities in our Cancer Program. Nominee 4 is a committed and passionate member of our committee and made numerous noteworthy contributions to the organization over the years. She has been a positive influence on her patients, staff, and colleagues. Nominee 4 is a great teacher and resource to the committee and to everyone involved in the Cancer Program. We are all very appreciative of her contributions and support and believe her to be an exceptional CLP, who deserves to be recognized as CLP of the year.</p>