

# ANCO FAX News

*Association of Northern California Oncologists*  
Post Office Box 151109, San Rafael, California 94915-1109  
Voice: (415) 472-3960 • FAX: (415) 472-3961  
[execdir@anco-online.org](mailto:execdir@anco-online.org) • [www.anco-online.org](http://www.anco-online.org)

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The *ANCO FAX News* focuses on ANCO's core activities—advocacy, clinical and professional education, and *Association and membership news*. While membership mailings and e-mail/FAX broadcasts continue, the *ANCO FAX News* summarizes this information in a regular forum of important news to members. Contact the ANCO office for additional information regarding any item published in the *ANCO FAX News*. Find the *ANCO FAX News* online at [www.anco-online.org/pubs.html](http://www.anco-online.org/pubs.html).

#### In this issue:

- ASCO & COA on IPI and CAP
- ICD-10-CM, CPT, HCPCS updates
- *Medicare Regulations 2019*
- *Best of SABCS San Francisco*
- *Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers*

**The *ANCO FAX News* is FAXed to Individual Member practices, and e-mailed to Group, Institutional, and Corporate (contacts)**

**Members.** The next regular *ANCO FAX News* will be published on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Send your comments or contributions to ANCO, P.O. Box 151109, San Rafael, CA 94915-1109; Voice: (415) 472-3960; FAX: (415) 472-3961; [execdir@anco-online.org](mailto:execdir@anco-online.org).

**The *ANCO FAX News* has information for every member of your practice or organization. Pass it along!**

- ☐ Physician Members
- ☐ Nurses & Office Managers
- ☐ Office Staff
- ☐ Colleagues & Representatives

The *Association of Northern California Oncologists* (ANCO) is an association of hematologists/oncologists dedicated to promoting high professional standards of cancer care by providing a forum for the exchange of ideas, data, and knowledge.

The material contained in the *ANCO FAX News* is intended as general information for ANCO members. Because diagnostic, treatment, contracting, coding, and billing decisions should be made on a case-by-case basis, any such information contained in the *ANCO FAX News* may not apply in any given situation. Members are encouraged to contact their own consultants or advisors to obtain specific advice on matters relating to contracting, coding, and billing. The information contained in the *ANCO FAX News* should not be used as a substitute for such advice.

## ADVOCACY

[Editor's Note: ANCO is a member of the Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC) and a state/regional affiliate of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). ANCO and the Medical Oncology Association of Southern California (MOASC) are members of the California Medical Association's (CMA) Council on Legislation, House of Delegates, and specialty delegation. ANCO meets regularly with these and other organizations to discuss issues of importance to hematology/oncology practices and people living with cancer. We continually seek input from members on agenda items for these meetings. Send your issues to the ANCO office.]

### **ACCC, ASCO, ASH, COA, and National Legislative & Regulatory Issues**

**Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, Medicare is instituting new opioid prescribing policies that will impact Medicare Part D beneficiaries with a prescription drug benefit and their prescribers.**

Learn more at [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/new-medicare-part-d-opioid-prescribing-policies-2019](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/new-medicare-part-d-opioid-prescribing-policies-2019).

**ASCO, ASH, and COA have provided feedback to CMS on the Administrations' continuing efforts to address the cost of prescription drugs**, specifically its proposed pilot program to benchmark some Medicare Part B drug prices against other countries and change how providers get paid for administering drugs to patients. Their feedback highlighted the role physicians play in assuring the most appropriate utilization of cancer drug treatments and cautioned against implementing any strategies to contain costs that may limit patient access to care. Specifically, ASCO opposes mandatory participation in a revived and revised Competitive Acquisition Program (CAP) demonstration project. Read ASCO's feedback at [www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/IPI-ASCO-comments-Dec.2018.pdf](http://www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/IPI-ASCO-comments-Dec.2018.pdf); read ASH's comments at [www.hematology.org/Advocacy/Testimony.aspx](http://www.hematology.org/Advocacy/Testimony.aspx); and, read COA's comments at [www.communityoncology.org/coa-formal-comments-on-international-pricing-index-model-for-medicare-part-b-drugs/](http://www.communityoncology.org/coa-formal-comments-on-international-pricing-index-model-for-medicare-part-b-drugs/).

**CMS's final rule for the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule and Quality Payment Program outlines**

**reimbursement changes for 2019.** CMS estimates that the overall impact will be a 1% reimbursement cut for the hematology/oncology and radiation oncology specialties in 2019. Read CMS's fact sheet at [www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/final-policy-payment-and-quality-provisions-changes-medicare-physician-fee-schedule-calendar-year](http://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/final-policy-payment-and-quality-provisions-changes-medicare-physician-fee-schedule-calendar-year). Based on feedback from ASCO, significant changes were made which helped to avoid an overall 4% reduction for oncology. And, the agency did listen to feedback from ASCO and other stakeholders in the physician community by revising its proposal regarding E&M visits. Watch ASCO's webinar on 2019 Medicare reimbursement changes at [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/case-you-missed-it-watch-ascos-webinar-2019-medicare-reimbursement?](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/case-you-missed-it-watch-ascos-webinar-2019-medicare-reimbursement?); listen to ASCO's podcast entitled *What You Need to Know About the Final 2019 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule and Quality Payment Program Rule* at [action.asco.libsynpro.com](http://action.asco.libsynpro.com); read Bobbi Buell's analysis at [www.anco-online.org/BBMPFS2019Analysis.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/BBMPFS2019Analysis.pdf); download Bobbi Buell's *Hot Topics in Reimbursement 2018-2019* at [www.anco-online.org/BBMedicareUpdate2019.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/BBMedicareUpdate2019.pdf); and, read ACCC's 2019 Oncology Coding Update at [www.accc-cancer.org/docs/documents/oncology-issues/articles/jf19/2019-compliance.pdf](http://www.accc-cancer.org/docs/documents/oncology-issues/articles/jf19/2019-compliance.pdf).

**The National Center for Health Statistics has released the FY2019 ICD-10-CM code changes** to be used through September 30<sup>th</sup>. Learn more at [www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd/icd10cm.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd/icd10cm.htm).

**The American Medical Association (AMA) has released 334 updates to the CPT codes effective January 1<sup>st</sup>.** Learn more at [www.ama-assn.org/ama-releases-2019-cpt-code-set](http://www.ama-assn.org/ama-releases-2019-cpt-code-set).

**A list of oncology-related HCPCS code changes and updates for 2019** can be found at [practice.asco.org/sites/default/files/drupalfiles/2018-12/HPCS-Code-Changes-2019.pdf](http://practice.asco.org/sites/default/files/drupalfiles/2018-12/HPCS-Code-Changes-2019.pdf).

**CMS recently released performance data for the 2017 Medicare Quality Payment Program**

(QPP) that shows that 93% of more than one million MIPS eligible clinicians received a positive payment adjustment for their performance in 2017, and 95% overall avoided a negative payment adjustment. The maximum positive payment adjustment for exceptional performance was a modest 1.88%. For more details of the 2017 performance data, visit [www.cms.gov/blog/quality-payment-program-qpp-year-1-performance-results](http://www.cms.gov/blog/quality-payment-program-qpp-year-1-performance-results).

ASCO has published new standards on the safe handling of hazardous drugs in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology* at [ascopubs.org/doi/abs/10.1200/JCO.18.01616](http://ascopubs.org/doi/abs/10.1200/JCO.18.01616). ASCO's standards largely endorse best practices issued by other stakeholder groups for safely handling hazardous drugs but offer alternatives in several key areas where more research is needed to identify evidence-based safety measures. ASCO's safe handling standards differ from existing standards in four areas: 1) the use of medical surveillance, 2) closed system transfer devices (CSTDs), 3) external ventilation of containment secondary engineering controls (C-SEC) or containment segregated compounding areas (C-SCA), and 4) alternative duties. In a systematic review of the available scientific literature, ASCO found that recommended practices in these areas are currently not supported by high-quality, unbiased studies on health outcomes.

### **CMA, MOASC, and State Legislative & Regulatory Issues**

The *California Oncology Political Action Committee* (or CalCancerPAC), formed by ANCO and MOASC, supports candidates sensitive to the needs of hematologists/oncologists and people living with cancer in California. ANCO membership dues include a contribution to CalCancerPAC.

The *Controlled Substance Review Utilization and Evaluation System* (CURES), California's prescription drug monitoring database, is now in effect and physicians

must consult CURES prior to writing specified prescriptions. Learn more and access CMA's CURES resources at [www.cmanet.org/news/detail/?article=doj-certifies-cures-physicians-must-check](http://www.cmanet.org/news/detail/?article=doj-certifies-cures-physicians-must-check). The CMA/DOJ webcast on CURES is available for on-demand viewing at [www.cmadoes.org/newsroom/news/view/ArticleId/27813/CURES-webinar-with-DOJ-now-available-for-on-demand-viewing](http://www.cmadoes.org/newsroom/news/view/ArticleId/27813/CURES-webinar-with-DOJ-now-available-for-on-demand-viewing).

California's AB2760, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, requires that, for certain categories of high-risk patients, prescribers must offer a prescription of naloxone or another drug Federally approved for the complete or partial reversal of opioid overdose. It also requires the prescriber to provide specified education to those patients on overdose prevention and provide education about how naloxone or other FDA-approved drugs may be used to prevent an overdose.

The *California Medical Association* (CMA) has published a guide for physicians impacted by the wildfires at [www.cmadoes.org/newsroom/news/view/ArticleId/27899/CMA-publishes-guide-for-physicians-impacted-by-wildfires](http://www.cmadoes.org/newsroom/news/view/ArticleId/27899/CMA-publishes-guide-for-physicians-impacted-by-wildfires).

The *California Medical Association* (CMA) has published a summary of the most significant new health laws of interest to physicians. For more details, see *Significant New California Laws of Interest to Physicians for 2019* at [www.cmadoes.org/Portals/CMA/files/public/New%20California%20Health%20Laws%202019.pdf](http://www.cmadoes.org/Portals/CMA/files/public/New%20California%20Health%20Laws%202019.pdf).

### **Noridian/JEMAC, DHCS/MediCal, & Private Payers**

Noridian Administrative Services is the Jurisdiction E (JE) Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC). Jurisdiction E includes California. Regularly review postings at the Noridian/JEMAC website at [med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb](http://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb). Recent

updates include:

- MLN Connects Provider eNews *Announcements*—Opioids Training Modules; Billing for Stem Cell Transplants-Reminder; Medicare Shared Savings Program: Final Rule Creates Pathways to Success; Medicare Shared Savings Program: Submit Notice of Intent to Apply by January 18; Laboratory Date of Service Exception Policy: Enforcement Discretion Exercised until July 1; Quality Payment Program: 2019 Resources; Medicare Enrollment Application Fee for CY2019; New Medicare Card: Transition Period Ends December 31

*Events*—Clinical Diagnostic Laboratories to Collect and Report Private Payor Rates Call-January 22; New Electronic System for Provider Reimbursement Review Board Appeals Call-February 5; New Part D Opioid Overutilization Policies Call-February 14

*Publications*—Next Generation Sequencing NCD MLN Matters Article-New; Physician Supervision of Diagnostic Procedures, Telehealth Services MLN Matters Article-New; Claim Status Category and Codes Updates MLN Matters Article-New; Quality Payment Program in 2018: Group Participation Web-Based Training-New; SNF PPS Call: Audio Recording and Transcript-New; Hospital OPPS: January 2019 Update MLN Matters Article-New; Medicare Billing: Form CMS-1500 and the 837 Professional Web-Based Training Course-Revised

- New Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI) Get It, Use It-Revised SE18006
- NCD90.2: Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) CR10878
- 2019 Radiopharmaceutical Fee Schedule Updates

- MolDX: Oncotype DX Breast Cancer Assay Billing and Coding Guidelines-R2
- Non-Covered Services LCD-R25
- MRI and CT Scans of the Head and Neck LCD-R3
- Calendar Year (CY) 2019 Annual Update for Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule and Laboratory Services Subject to Reasonable Charge Payment CR11076
- Implantable Infusion Pumps for Chronic Pain-R2
- Claim Status Category and Claim Status Codes Update CR11073
- MolDX: DecisionDX-Melanoma Final LCD-Effective February 10, 2019
- Chemotherapy Administration-R15
- Educational Events-January 2019
- Coverage of FDA Approved Biosimilars

*Anthem Blue Cross's Provider News* (January 2019) is now available online at [providernews.anthem.com/california](http://providernews.anthem.com/california).

*UnitedHealthcare's Network Bulletin* (January 2019) is now available online at [www.uhcprovider.com](http://www.uhcprovider.com).

## EDUCATION

[Editor's Note: ANCO organizes clinical and professional education meetings throughout the year and throughout Northern California.]

### **ANCO's Medicare Regulations 2019**

ANCO hosted a webinar entitled *Medicare Regulations 2019* on January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12:30PM. Roberta Buell, M.B.A., *onPoint Oncology*, provided a comprehensive update of changes for Medicare reimbursement—including fee schedule, coding/billing, and incentive program updates. Download the webinar slides at [www.anco-online.org/BBMedicareUpdate2019.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/BBMedicareUpdate2019.pdf).

## **Best of SABCS San Francisco**

ANCO, in association with the *Organizing Committee of the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium* and *Encore Medical Education*, will host the *Best of San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium San Francisco (Best of SABCS San Francisco)* at *The Claremont Hotel* on Saturday morning, January 26<sup>th</sup>. Hope S. Rugo, M.D., *UC San Francisco*, is the *Regional Director for Best of SABCS San Francisco*. Learn more and register at [www.bestofsabcs.com/best-of-sabcs-san-francisco/](http://www.bestofsabcs.com/best-of-sabcs-san-francisco/).

## **19<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-based Approach**

The *19<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-based Approach* returns to the *Silverado Resort and Spa* in Napa on March 15-17<sup>th</sup>. The meeting is sponsored by the *Association of Northern California Oncologists*, *Stanford Cancer Institute*, *UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center*, and the *UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center*. The meeting announcement was mailed in mid-November; learn more, register, and arrange for housing at [www.multicancers.org](http://www.multicancers.org)

## **Additional Education Meetings**

January 15<sup>th</sup>  
*Update on Lymphoma from the 2018 ASH Annual Meeting*

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

January 17-19<sup>th</sup>  
*Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium: Multidisciplinary Treatment, Personalized Care, Optimal Outcomes*

ASCO  
San Francisco  
(<http://gicasymp.org>)

January 26<sup>th</sup>  
*Blood Cancer Conference*  
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
San Francisco  
(<http://www.lls.org/blood-cancer-conference>)

February 5<sup>th</sup>

*Progress in the Treatment of Follicular Lymphoma*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

February 11<sup>th</sup>

*Treatment Update on Liver Cancer and Managing the Cost of Care*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

February 14-16<sup>th</sup>

*Genitourinary Cancers Symposium*  
ASCO

San Francisco  
(<http://gucasym.org>)

February 21<sup>st</sup>

*Update on Glioblastoma in Adults*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

February 28<sup>th</sup>-March 2<sup>nd</sup>

*ASCO-SITC Clinical Immuno-Oncology Symposium*  
ASCO & Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer  
San Francisco  
(<http://immunosym.org>)

March 5<sup>th</sup>

*Medical Update on Ovarian Cancer*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

March 15<sup>th</sup>

*Upcoming Trends in Renal Cell Cancer*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

Please contact the ANCO office for more information about these meetings.

## **ASSOCIATION & MEMBERSHIP NEWS, RESOURCES, & BENEFITS**

[Editor's Note: All ANCO members are also eligible for several tangible benefits.]

## **ANCO Online**

ANCO's website, [www.anco-online.org](http://www.anco-online.org), features a general description and introduction to



the *Association*—its activities, leadership, and membership benefits; advocacy information (including ANCO and ASCO resources); clinical and professional education meeting announcements and distributed materials; survey reports and publications; clinical trials information; links to affiliated organizations; updated physician, nurse, manager, and patient resources; and, updated Corporate Member drug reimbursement and patient assistance program information.

### **Annual Election Results**

The ANCO membership elected the following members to the *Board of Directors* (location, for terms ending in 2021, inclusive):

A. Dimitrios Colevas, M.D.  
(Stanford, 2021)  
David Gandara, M.D.  
(Sacramento, 2021)  
Raymond Liu, M.D.  
(San Francisco, 2021)  
Daniel P. Mirda, M.D.  
(Napa, 2021)

Drs. Ekstrand (San Mateo, 2020), Johnson (Stanford, 2019), Koontz (Morgan Hill, 2019), Melnyk (Antioch, 2019), Neal (Stanford, 2020), Pan (Santa Clara, 2020), Robles (Pleasant Hill, 2019), and Truong (Vallejo, 2020) continue on the *Board*. ANCO thanks Drs. Gubens, Kankipati, and Marsland for standing for election.

The ANCO *Board of Directors* meets by teleconference and occasionally in person to discuss issues affecting the *Association*, clinical and professional education, and ways to better serve the membership. *Board* teleconferences/meetings are open to individual physician members. The **next regularly scheduled ANCO Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for January 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Please call José Luis González, *ANCO Executive Director*, at (415) 472-3960 if you wish to participate in a future teleconference/meeting.

### **Individual Member News**

ANCO member **Piyush Srivastava, M.D.**, was elected to a Community Specialty seat on the *ASCO Board of Directors*.

It is with sadness that ANCO reports the death of **Richard J. Cohen, M.D.**, a former *Officer* of the *Association* and instrumental in its establishment.

A current *Directory of Members* is available **online** at [www.anco-online.org/pubs.html](http://www.anco-online.org/pubs.html) as a .pdf document. We urge all ANCO members to download their own edition of *The ANCO Directory of Members*. Please verify your *Directory* entry and contact the ANCO office at [execdir@anco-online.org](mailto:execdir@anco-online.org) with any corrections, additions, and/or deletions.

### **Group Member News**

ANCO initiated a **Group Membership** in 2008 based on a mutual set of perceived values and benefits and a mutual set of interests. The ANCO *Board* believes that the *Association* and *The Permanente Medical Group* (TPMG) will each receive value from Group Membership.

ANCO initiated a **Multi-Site Group Membership** in 2010 to encourage all physicians (medical and radiation oncologists) from multi-site and multidisciplinary practices to join. ANCO thanks *Annadel Medical Group/St Joseph's Heritage Healthcare, Diablo Valley Oncology & Hematology Medical Group, EPIC Care, Marin Cancer Care, Pacific Cancer Care, and Palo Alto Medical Foundation* for their multi-site group memberships.

### **Institutional Member News**

ANCO initiated an **Institutional Membership** in 2002. *Department(s) of Hematology and/or Oncology* of accredited, degree granting teaching universities or research institutions are eligible for institutional membership. ANCO thanks the following Institutional Members for their support:

- *Stanford Cancer Center*

- *University of California, Davis, Cancer Center*
- *University of California, San Francisco*

The **Stanford Cancer Center** is organizing a **Review of the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual ASH Meeting** on January 26<sup>th</sup> at The Ritz-Carlton in Half Moon Bay. Learn more at [med.stanford.edu/cme/courses/2019/hem19\\_full.html](http://med.stanford.edu/cme/courses/2019/hem19_full.html).

### **Corporate Member News**

ANCO thanks the following **Corporate Members** for their generous support that enables ANCO to provide services to the hematology/oncology community in northern California, and to provide its members and their patients with substantial benefits in the areas of advocacy, education, and information dissemination:

*AbbVie • Adaptive Biotechnologies  
Agiros Pharmaceuticals  
Alexion Pharmaceuticals • AMGEN  
AMAG Pharmaceuticals • Array BioPharma  
Astellas Oncology • AstraZeneca  
Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals  
Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals  
Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology  
Celgene • Clovis Oncology • Coherus Biosciences  
Daiichi Sankyo • Eisai • EMD Serono • Exelixis  
Foundation Medicine • Genentech BioOncology  
Genomic Health • Gilead Sciences  
Guardant Health • Helsinn Oncology  
Heron Therapeutics • Incyte  
Janssen Oncology • Jazz Pharmaceuticals  
Kite Pharmaceuticals • Lexicon Pharmaceuticals  
Lilly Oncology • Merck  
Novartis Oncology • Pfizer Oncology  
Pfizer US Biosimilars • Pharmacyclics  
Puma Biotechnology • Sandoz Biopharmaceuticals  
Sanofi Genzyme • Seattle Genetics  
Taiho Oncology • Takeda Oncology  
TerSera Therapeutics • Tesaro  
Teva Oncology • Verastem Oncology*

Please visit [www.anco-online.org/assistance.html](http://www.anco-online.org/assistance.html) for **Corporate Member drug reimbursement and patient assistance program information**. ANCO encourages all member practices to use

this resource and enroll all patients at the start of treatment in all available and appropriate patient assistance programs.

**Alexion Pharmaceuticals** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Ultomiris for adult patients with paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH).

**AMGEN** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Nplate for pediatric patients 1 year of age and older with immune thrombocytopenia (ITP) for at least 6 months who have had an insufficient response to corticosteroids, immunoglobulins, or splenectomy.

**AstraZeneca** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Lynparza for the maintenance treatment of adult patients with deleterious or suspected deleterious germline or somatic BRCA-mutated (gBRCAm or sBRCAm) advanced epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer who are in complete or partial response to first-line platinum-based chemotherapy. Patients with gBRCAm advanced epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer should be selected for therapy based on an FDA-approved companion diagnostic (BRACAnalysis, *Myriad Genetic Laboratories*).

**Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals** informs ANCO that CMS has assigned J-code J9057 (1mg) to Aliqopa.

**Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Sprycel tablets in combination with chemotherapy for the treatment of pediatric patients one year of age or older with newly diagnosed Philadelphia chromosome-positive acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

**Merck** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Keytruda for adult and pediatric patients with

recurrent locally advanced or metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma (MCC).

### ***Publications, Resources, Services, & Surveys***

ANCO and MOASC jointly publish a weekly e-publication entitled *California Oncology Weekly*. The *Weekly* is e-mailed and FAXed to all current ANCO recipients of the *ANCO FAX News* and digests national, California, ANCO, MOASC, and industry news. Please send an e-mail to [execdir@anco-online.org](mailto:execdir@anco-online.org) if you are not receiving the *Weekly* via e-mail or FAX.

**ASCO is committed to supporting cancer care providers and patients affected by disasters.**

They have compiled a list of resources for care providers at [www.asco.org/resources-disaster-assistance?](http://www.asco.org/resources-disaster-assistance?). And, ASCO has updated this webpage with information regarding the 2018 California wildfires. In addition, CMS has published *Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances Policy for MIPS Eligible Clinicians* that includes provisions for those affected by the California wildfires at [qpp-cm-prod-content.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/304/2018%20MIPS%20Extreme%20and%20Uncontrollable%20Circumstances%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf](http://qpp-cm-prod-content.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/304/2018%20MIPS%20Extreme%20and%20Uncontrollable%20Circumstances%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf); additional information is available at [www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page.html](http://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page.html).

**The ASCO Guidelines App is your go-to tool for implementing guideline recommendations into practice.** This user-friendly app provides health care providers, patients, and caregivers with the recommended cancer care options for a variety of cancer types. It also includes interactive tools to inform treatment decisions at the point of care, thus increasing the quality of care provided to patients. The app is free to members and nonmembers, kept up to date, and will continue to grow as more guidelines and tools are added. Download the app at [www.asco.org/guidelines](http://www.asco.org/guidelines) or [www.asco.org/apps](http://www.asco.org/apps).

**ASCO's Clinical Affairs Department provides services, education, and resources to support oncology practices.** It offers hands-on assistance in areas such as practice management, quality care assessment and improvement, and efficiency and business intelligence to meet the needs and demands of the current oncology landscape. Resources on the business of oncology, practice management (staffing, technology), practice transformation, and market analysis are available from the *Department*. For more information, visit [www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-support](http://www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-support).

**ASCO's Practice Consulting Services & Support offers personalized services to help practices achieve operational goals.** Their team of nationally recognized consultants in oncology practice management is dedicated to assisting practices succeed in today's constantly evolving practice environment. Services include readiness assessment, practice operational assessment, practice transformation implementation support, analytical services, triage pathways. For more information, read the article (featuring Peter Paul Yu, M.D., former ANCO and ASCO President) at [connection.asco.org/magazine/features/asco-practice-consulting-services-and-support](http://connection.asco.org/magazine/features/asco-practice-consulting-services-and-support) or visit [practice.asco.org](http://practice.asco.org). **ASCO's Practice Engagement Program helps administrators, physicians, and other members of the care team navigate ASCO tools, programs, and resources available to help oncology practices respond to the changes occurring in the cancer care delivery system.**

**ASCO's Practice Central, a new website that serves as an online information hub to help oncology professionals navigate a complicated and ever-changing practice environment—while providing high-quality patient care.** ASCO *Practice Central* offers oncology practices easy-to-access information, tools, and resources that are designed to foster effective business practices and support high-quality patient care. Bookmark ASCO *Practice Central* at [practice.asco.org](http://practice.asco.org).



**ASCO's PracticeNET is a collaborative network in which practices share and receive insights to enhance their business operations and quality of care.** A new video overview of PracticeNET explains how the network gives practices a unique opportunity to see how they compare to others and learn from their peers. Watch the video at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qc3BgEsyxfo&feature=youtu.be&list=PLwVG\\_3RvChvHZn6e86LNy\\_Ie9eSbZvNff](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qc3BgEsyxfo&feature=youtu.be&list=PLwVG_3RvChvHZn6e86LNy_Ie9eSbZvNff). PracticeNET is the first initiative of ASCO's *Clinical Affairs Department*. This new initiative uses existing data from your practice management system to offer customizable reports that measure practice-wide and individual performance against a national database of other PracticeNET participants. Learn more and enroll at [www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-support/practicenet?et\\_cid=39764896&et\\_rid=933038345&linkid=Enroll+in+PracticeNET](http://www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-support/practicenet?et_cid=39764896&et_rid=933038345&linkid=Enroll+in+PracticeNET).

**Managing the cost of cancer care can be overwhelming and ASCO Answers can help your patients.** ASCO Answers gives your patients practical guidelines for managing the cost of their cancer care. It covers health insurance benefits, information about the Affordable Care Act, tips, resources, & more! Learn more and order ASCO Answers at [shop.asco.org/mccc15\\_managing-the-cost-of-cancer-care-pack-of-50-booklets/](http://shop.asco.org/mccc15_managing-the-cost-of-cancer-care-pack-of-50-booklets/).

**ACCC's 2019 Patient Assistance and Reimbursement Guide is an essential tool for cancer program staff to use in helping patients with issues related to the cost of treatment and in meeting reimbursement challenges.** The *Guide* features a list of pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical patient assistance programs (PAPs), including directions on how to apply and links to enrollment forms. Visit [www.accc-cancer.org/home/learn/publications/patient-assistance-and-reimbursement-guide](http://www.accc-cancer.org/home/learn/publications/patient-assistance-and-reimbursement-guide) to access this resource. In addition, ACCC has developed a tool for accessing patient assistance and reimbursement programs for use on a desktop, table, or mobile device. The *Financial Advocacy Network* (FAN) app is available at [accc-fan-app.org](http://accc-fan-app.org).

[app.org](http://accc-fan-app.org).

NCCN has published and/or updated their *Chemotherapy Order Templates, Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology, Drugs & Biologics Compendium, Evidence Blocks, Guidelines for Patients, Imaging Appropriate Use Criteria, and/or Radiation Therapy Compendium* for: acute lymphoblastic leukemia (V1.2018), bladder cancer and penile cancer (V1.2019), cervical cancer (V3.2019), esophageal and esophagogastric junction cancers (V2.2018), gastric cancer (V2.2018), hepatobiliary cancers (V1.2019), myeloproliferative neoplasms (V2.2019), non-small cell lung cancer (V2.2019), neuroendocrine and adrenal tumors (V4.2018), older adult oncology (V1.2019), pancreatic adenocarcinoma (V1.2019), primary cutaneous lymphomas (V2.2019), soft tissue sarcoma (V1.2019), systemic mastocytosis (V2.2019), T-cell lymphomas (V2.2019), thyroid carcinoma (V3.2018), uterine neoplasms (V2.2019), vulvar cancer (V2.2019). Go to [www.nccn.org](http://www.nccn.org) for more information.

### ***Individual Membership Dues for 2019***

**Membership renewal notices for 2019 were mailed to all members the last week in November along with annual election ballots and the 2018 Annual Report.** If you have not yet done so, then please return your 2019 membership dues to ANCO now to ensure your inclusion in *The ANCO Directory of Members*. Be sure to provide ANCO with your e-mail address and the name(s) and e-mail address(es) of office and/or nurse manager contact(s). Those not renewing their membership by June 30<sup>th</sup> will be deleted from the *Directory of Members*, and will no longer be eligible for any ANCO benefits. Contact the ANCO office if you do not receive or misplaced your membership dues renewal notice.