

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
director@anco.org • www.anco.org

Vol. 18, No. 6

March 22nd, 2019

The *ANCO FAX News* focuses on ANCO's core activities—advocacy, clinical and professional education, and *Association and membership news*. 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.

In this issue:

- Support HR1730/S741 (Cancer Drug Parity Act) and HR913 (Clinical Treatment Act)
- ANCO Travel Grants
- *Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers*
- *2019 Hematologic Malignancies Updates*

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

Members. Send your comments or contributions to ANCO, P.O. Box 151109, San Rafael, CA 94915-1109; Voice: (415) 472-3960; FAX: (415) 472-3961; director@anco.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

ANCO and ASCO urge members to support the *Cancer Drug Parity Act* (HR1730/S741) that would ensure patient cost sharing for oral and other self-administered anticancer drugs is no less favorable than for traditional intravenous (IV) medication administered in an office setting. Contact your *Congressional Representative* via ASCO's ACT Network at asco.quorum.us/campaign/12012/.

ANCO and ASCO ask members to contact their *Congressional Representatives* and urge them to support HR913, the *Clinical Treatment Act*, that would ensure states cover routine care costs of participation in an approved clinical trial for Medicaid enrollees with life-threatening conditions. Routine costs are defined to include non-experimental costs of treating a patient who is participating in a clinical trial such as physician visits or laboratory tests—standard care that would be provided regardless of whether a patient participates in a clinical trial. In order to provide depth as to why this legislation is so important, ASCO is looking for information and stories that you or your practice may have related to the denial of clinical trial coverage for patients under Medicaid. Please e-mail Kate Flannigan at katherine.flannigan@asco.org with any information, questions, or comments related to the topic.

COA recently submitted detailed comments to CMS regarding a proposed NCD for CAR-T cell therapy. The letter notes that while COA is pleased that CMS is moving in the direction of

covering CAR-T therapies, it has significant concerns regarding specific language in the proposed NCD. Specifically, COA's is concerned that the draft NCD is not flexible enough to 1) accommodate advances in this rapidly developing field, 2) recognize the progress made towards decreasing toxicity, account for ongoing research on new indications and earlier lines, and 3) adapt existing frameworks to deliver the promise of innovation to patients in the most robust way. Critically, COA recommended that CMS should not limit CAR-T site of care coverage strictly to hospitals, noting that many community oncology practices have experience and capabilities to administer CAR-T therapy. Read COA's letter at www.communityoncology.org/proposed-decision-memo-for-chimeric-antigen-receptor-car-t-cell-therapy-for-cancers/.

ASCO and ASH joined the *American Medical Association* and over 90 other groups in sending a letter to CMS urging them to provide guidance to Medicare Advantage (MA) plans on prior authorization processes. Specifically, the letter asks CMS to require MA plans to selectively apply prior authorization requirements and provide examples of criteria to be used for such programs. Read the letter at www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/advocacy-and-policy/documents/2019-MA-Prior-Auth-Signon-Letter.pdf.

ASCO members who are practicing oncologists may have received an email inviting them to participate in the *American Medical Association's* (AMA) *Specialty Society Relative Value Scale* (RVS) *Update Committee* (RUC) survey for physician office visits (99202-99205, 99211-99215) and new prolonged services code (99xxx). This important survey will help ASCO, in concert with the RUC, recommend accurate relative values for physician work and direct practice expenses to CMS. ASCO members are encouraged to participate if they are invited to take the survey.

ASCO has been informed that some oncology practices and providers in MIPS have received inaccurate payment adjustments as a result of Medicare Part B drug costs incorrectly being included in the adjustments. CMS recently published a fact sheet outlining the 2019 MIPS Payment Adjustments based on 2017 MIPS Scores explaining program definitions, scoring and other important aspects of the payments made to physicians. Read the fact sheet at ascot1.sharefile.com/share/view/s80db793dd9f42568. **If CMS overpaid a claim based on this calculation error, then you will get a notification for recoupment from your MAC. If CMS underpaid a claim, it will be adjusted.** If you believe your adjustment is incorrect for any reason, please contact CMS' QPP help desk at (866) 288-8292; additional questions may be e-mailed to macra@asco.org.

CMS opened the data submission period for MIPS eligible clinicians who participated in Year 2 (2018) of the QPP. Data can be submitted and updated any time up to April 2nd, with two exceptions—CMS Web Interface users need to report their quality performance category data by March 22nd; clinicians who reported quality measures via Medicare Part B claims throughout the 2018 performance year will have their quality data sent to CMS by their MAC. Submit your 2018 MIPS data by visiting the QPP website at qpp.cms.gov/login?. In addition, **the QOPI Reporting Registry, a QCDR brought to you by ASCO and ASTRO, is your one-stop shop for 2019 MIPS reporting.** Visit practice.asco.org/quality-improvement/quality-programs/qopi-reporting-registry? for more information.

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 the CalCancerPAC.

With the support of the *National Oncology State Network* (NOSN), ANCO and MOASC are working to create the *California Cancer Caucus*. The goal of the *California Cancer Caucus* is to bring the Capitol community and the oncology community together to improve the access, care, treatment, research, and support for those fighting cancer. The *Caucus* seeks to improve communication and education between cancer care stakeholders and health policy decision makers to improve public policy that has a direct impact on the continuum of care for people living with cancer. **The *Caucus* held its first meeting, attended by legislators and physician and patient advocates on March 19th.** ANCO member, Moon Chen, M.D., *UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center*, presented on the cancer burden in California, emphasizing the importance of tobacco cessation and clinical trials in reducing that burden.

Sacramento can be a dangerous place for doctors. Many bills impacting medicine wind their way through the *Capitol* on their journey to the *Governor's* desk. And, many of these bills threaten the medical profession with the backing of powerful lobbyists and PACs. It's critical that **physicians have an advocate at work for them every day and who knows how to speak on their behalf.** That advocate is the *California Medical Association* (CMA). While physicians keep a close eye on their patients, CMA is keeping a close eye on those bills...and more. **Got payment delays? Feeling victimized by payers and overwhelmed by the process? Don't let the health plans mistreat you.** The CMA's *Center for Economic Services* (CES) has a team of reimbursement specialists available to assist ANCO's CMA members experiencing payment problems with third-party payers. In 2018, CMA's CES recovered \$11M from payors on behalf of physician members. For membership,

please call (916) 551-2042; for reimbursement assistance, please call CMA's *Reimbursement Helpline* at (888) 401-5911.

thesecondopinion has been serving the California cancer community for 50 years by providing free, comprehensive second opinions to cancer patients and their families. They will celebrate this anniversary with an information and educational luncheon on Thursday, May 9th that will feature a presentation by Charles Graeber, author of *The Breakthrough: Immunotherapy and the Race to Cure Cancer*. For information, visit www.thesecondopinion.org or call (415) 775-9956.

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. Recent updates include:

- MLN Connects Provider eNews *Announcements*—New Medicare Card: 67% of Claims Submitted with MBI; Hospice Provider Preview Reports: Review Your Data by March 31; Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program: Submit a Measure Proposal by June 28; Improper Payment for Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy Planning Services
- Publications*—New MBI: Get It, Use It-Revised; PECOS FAQs-Revised; PECOS Technical Assistance Contact Information-Revised; Quality Payment Program: 2017 MIPS Performance Feedback Web-Based Training Course; Next Generation Sequencing NCD-Revised; Medicare Enrollment Resources-Revised; Items and Services Not Covered Under Medicare-Reminder; Promoting

Interoperability Listening Session: Audio Recording and Transcript

- MolDX: Pigmented Lesion Assay (PLA) Draft LCD Retirement-Effective March 1, 2019
- Educational Events-March 2019
- E/M Education on Demand Tutorials Available
- NMP and/or IVR Required Use for HMO or Managed Care Plan Inquiries-Effective March 8, 2019
- National Lung Cancer Awareness Month
- Multi-Jurisdictional CAC Meeting Final Documents Available
- March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month
- New Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI) Get It, Use It-Revised SE18006
- Medicare B News JE January 2019 Bulletin-Now Available
- MolDX: Oncotype DX Genomic Prostate Score Coding and Billing
- NMP Required Use for Duplicate Remittance Advice Retrieval-Effective May 28, 2019
- MSI Live Announcement: Evaluate Our Services MSI
- NCD90.2: Next Generation Sequencing (NGS)-Revised CR10878
- MolDX: DecisionDx-UM (Uveal Melanoma) LCD-R1
- RARC, CARC, MREP and PC Print Update CR11204

Forthcoming *Noridian/JEMAC* meetings/webinars/workshops include:

- Modifier 59, NCCI and MUEs Webinar (March 26)

- Compliance Program-What Every Provider Needs to Know Webinar (March 26)
- PECOS Part 2: Full Overview of PECOS Webinar (March 27)
- New Provider New Biller Medicare Basics and Enrollment Part 1 of 2 Webinar (March 27)
- New Provider New Biller Review Entities and Appeals Part 2 of 2 Webinar (March 28)
- Modifier 59, NCCI and MUEs-After Hours Webinar (March 28)
- Telehealth Services Webinar (April 2)
- Independent Diagnostic Testing Facility (IDTF) Enrollment Webinar (April 10)
- Medicare Part A/B Revalidation Webinar (April 24)
- What's New in the Second Quarter 2019 Webinar (April 25)
- Submitting Your Enrollment Online-Part 1 Webinar (I&A; May 29)
- Submitting Your Enrollment Online-Part 2 Webinar (PECOS; June 26)

Visit med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/education/training-events for more information and to register.

Anthem Blue Cross recently announced that it is **denying certain evaluation and management (E&M) services submitted with modifier 25** for claims processed on or after March 1st. Modifier 25 allows separate payment for a significant, separately identifiable E&M service provided on the same day as a minor procedure or other reported health care service. *Anthem* will deny an E&M service with a modifier 25 billed on the day of a related procedure when there is a recent service or procedure for the same or similar diagnosis on record for the same provider. Learn more at www.cmadoes.org/newsroom/news/view/ArticleId/27973/Anthem-Blue-Cross-to-deny-certain-E-and-M-services-billed-with-modifier-25.

EDUCATION

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

19th Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-based Approach

The *19th Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-based Approach* returned to the *Silverado Resort and Spa* in Napa on March 15-17th. The meeting was 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*. Download the case studies at www.multicancers.org > Course Information.

ANCO's 2019 Hematologic Malignancies Updates

ANCO is organizing a series of *Hematologic Malignancies Updates* in 2019 on May 18th in Menlo Park, September 14th in Sacramento, and November 16th in San Francisco. These updates are supported by *AstraZeneca*, *Celgene*, *Janssen Oncology*, *Pharmacyclics*, and *Takeda Oncology*. Learn more and register online (new!) for the May 18th *Update* at www.anco-online.org/2Q2019HemeMaligUpdates.pdf.

ASCO Annual Meeting

ASCO's 2019 Annual Meeting—*Caring for Every Patient, Learning from Every Patient*—takes place in Chicago from May 31st-June 4th. Learn more and register at meetings.asco.org/am/register-submit-abstracts. Arrive a day early for added learning by taking advantage of opportunities to network and experience in-depth education on timely topics in oncology. Learn more and register now at meetings.asco.org/am/seminar-pre-annual-meeting-seminars.

Additional Education Meetings

April 3rd

Taking Your Pills on Schedule: Its Importance in Treating Cancer

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

April 4-5th

2019 Community Oncology Conference

Community Oncology Alliance

Lake Buena Vista FL

(www.coaconference.com)

April 8th

Joys and Challenges of Pets in Your Home When You Have Cancer

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

April 8-9th

11th Annual Palliative Care Summit

Coalition for Compassionate Care of California

& Children's Hospice Palliative Care Coalition

San Francisco

(ccccsummit.org)

April 10th

Progress in the Treatment of Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia (WM)

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

April 15th

Managing Eye and Vision Changes Related to Cancer Treatments

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

April 17th

Understanding the Role of Immunotherapy in Treating Cancer (Part I of Immunotherapy: A Promising Approach to Treating Cancer)

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

April 23rd

Treatment Update on Mantle Cell Lymphoma

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

April 24th

Update on Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

April 25th

Progress in the Treatment of Multiple Myeloma

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

May 15th

Managing the Side Effects of Immunotherapy (Part II of Immunotherapy: A Promising Approach to Treating Cancer)

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

May 23rd

Coping with the Stresses of Caregiving When Your Loved One Has Multiple Myeloma

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

May 24th

Living with Advanced Skin Cancer-Emerging Treatments for Metastatic Melanoma

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

(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.]

Board of Directors

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 April 5-6th**. 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 is saddened to report the passing of **Jerome Rubin, M.D.**, an ANCO member from 1990 until the time of his death in October

2018. Dr. Rubin practiced at *Pacific Cancer Care* in Monterey.

ANCO salutes **Heather A. Wakelee, M.D.**, *Stanford Cancer Center*, on her election as a *Fellow* of ASCO.

ANCO is happy to announce that it has established a Travel Grant program for Fellows and Young Clinicians (in private practice for five or fewer years) to attend the ASCO or ASH Annual Meeting. The applicant must be an ANCO member and submit a current CV, a letter of recommendation from the Fellowship Program Director or a senior partner at the private practice, and a one-page personal statement reflecting on their personal/professional goals in attending the ASCO Annual Meeting or ASH Annual Meeting, a specific description of the subject matter the applicant is most interested in learning about at the ASCO Annual Meeting or ASH Annual Meeting, the impact ANCO has had on their training or career development, and, if a Fellow, the likelihood of their practicing in northern California. For more information, please contact ANCO at director@anco.org; applications are due at the ANCO office (director@anco.org) no later than April 15th and awards will be announced after April 30th.

A current *Directory of Members* is available online at 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 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, Palo Alto Medical Foundation, and Stockton Hematology Oncology Medical Group* 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*

Stanford will host the inaugural American Initiative in Mast Cell Disease (AIM)

Investigator Conference on May 4-5. The *Conference* will take place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Foster City in San Mateo. Learn more and register at www.aimcd.net.

UC San Francisco will host the ***5th World Congress on Controversies in Breast Cancer (CoBrCA): When is Less More?*** on September 4-6th. For additional information, please visit cobrca.org. ANCO members may use discount code *cobrca10* to receive a 10% discount on registration.

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
Agios 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
Ipsen Biopharmaceuticals • 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
Stemline Therapeutics • Taiho Oncology
Takeda Oncology • Tempus Labs
TerSera Therapeutics • Tesaro
Teva Oncology • Verastem Oncology

We especially wish to thank and welcome *Adaptive Biotechnologies*, *Heron Therapeutics*, *Ipsen Biopharmaceuticals*, *Stemline Therapeutics*, *Tempus Labs*, and *Verastem Oncology* as new Corporate Members for 2019. Please visit 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.

Genentech BioOncology informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved **Tecentriq** in combination with carboplatin and etoposide for the initial (first-line) treatment of adults with extensive-stage small cell lung cancer (ES-SCLC). In addition, the *United States Food and Drug Administration*

has approved **Tecentriq** plus chemotherapy (nab-paclitaxel) for the treatment of adults with PD-L1 positive, metastatic triple-negative breast cancer.

Pfizer US Biosimilars informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved **Trazimera**, a biosimilar version of trastuzumab for breast cancer.

Publications, Resources, Services, & Surveys

ANCO is reinventing itself—watch for an announcement to be sent to all physician members, practice contacts, and corporate member representatives introducing a rebranded ANCO with a new e-mail address, a new website, and new communication channels and strategies by the end of March.

ASCO seeks applications for research grants for projects that use data from CancerLinQ Discovery, an offering of ASCO's CancerLinQ initiative, as a source. CancerLinQ Discover provides curated sets of de-identified data from cancer patients to academic researchers, government agencies, and others in the oncology community to generate practical knowledge that will improve care. With grants of \$32,500 each, ASCO will provide early and mid-career clinical oncology and health service investigators with real-world evidence that can inform their research. Research topics may include—but are not limited to—adoption of treatment guidelines across the U.S.; development of quality measures with the highest impact for clinical care; measuring the impact of educational programs on clinical practices; supportive evidence for informing ASCO policy priorities; or novel research on other topics. The deadline for submitting a research proposal is April 30th. For more information, visit www.conquer.org/cancerlinq-discovery-research-support-grant.

ASCO has released or updated the following practice recommendations and clinical practice guidelines—adjuvant therapy for resected biliary tract cancer (www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/quality-guidelines/guidelines/)

gastrointestinal-cancer#/35156). **Join ASCO's Practice Guidelines Implementation Network (PGIN) to keep up-to-date on new and updated guidelines and resources and to get involved and participate in guidelines-related initiatives** at www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/quality-guidelines/practice-guidelines-implementation-network-pgin.

ASCO and the *Society for Neuro-Oncology* (SNO) have endorsed the *Congress of Neurological Surgeons* guidelines on anticonvulsant prophylaxis and steroid use in adults with metastatic brain tumors. Read the guidelines at www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/quality-guidelines/guidelines/neurooncology#/35226.

The *Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer* (SITC) Cancer Immunotherapy Guidelines Head and Neck Subcommittee invites public comment on the draft of a consensus statement on immunotherapy for the treatment of squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck (HNSCC). Submit your comments by April 14 at www.sitcancer.org/research/cancer-immunotherapy-guidelines/comment.

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.

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, visit 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* is a 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. **Improve your business operations with ASCO's PracticeNET, a collaborative network in which practices share and receive insights to enhance their business operations and quality of care.** Learn more at practice.asco.org/practice-support/practice-benchmarking/practicenet.

The February 2019 issue of ASCO's *Journal of Oncology Practice* (JOP) is available online and features articles entitled *ASCO Standards for Safe Handling of Hazardous Drugs*; *Oral Anticancer Therapy: Management of Drug Interactions*. Visit ascopubs.org/toc/jop/current for more information.

Data abstraction for ASCO's QOPI Round 1 will close on June 3rd. Round 1 final reports will be available approximately two weeks after the round closes. Learn more at practice.asco.org/quality-improvement/quality-programs/quality-oncology-practice-initiative?.

ASCO offers the *QOPI Certification Program* to recognize QOPI participants who achieve rigorous standards for cancer care. The *QOPI Certification* designation can be used by certified

practices to demonstrate an advanced commitment to quality. *The Doctors Company*, the nation's largest physician-owned medical malpractice insurer, offers up to a 10% premium discount to physicians whose practices have achieved QOPI certification. Learn more at www.thedoctors.com/qcp.

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/.

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 to access this resource. In addition, ACCC has developed a tool for accessing patient assistance and reimbursement programs for use on a desktop, tablet, or mobile device. The *Financial Advocacy Network* (FAN) app is available at 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 myeloid leukemia (V2.2019), adult cancer pain (V2.2019), AIDS-related Kaposi sarcoma (V2.2019), anal cancer (V1.2019), B-cell lymphomas (V2.2019), breast cancer (V1.2019), cancer-related fatigue

(V1.2019), chronic lymphocytic leukemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma (V4.2019), colon cancer and rectal cancer (V1.2019), cutaneous melanoma (V2.2019), esophageal and esophagogastric junction cancers (V1.2019), gastric cancer (V1.2019), head and neck cancers (V1.2019), hematopoietic growth factors (V1.2019), multiple myeloma (V2.2019), non-small cell lung cancer (V3.2019), ovarian cancer (V1.2019), penile cancer (V1.2019), primary cutaneous lymphomas (V2.2019), prostate cancer (V1.2019), systemic light chain amyloidosis (V1.2019), small cell lung cancer (V1.2019), T-cell lymphomas (V2.2019), thymomas and thymic cancers (V2.2019). Go to www.nccn.org for more information.

The Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators (AONN+) is pleased to share that the application period for the certification exam being held at the AONN+ Midyear Conference is now open through April 26th. Learn more at aonnonline.org/certification.

Individual Membership Dues for 2019

Membership renewal notices for 2019 were mailed to all members the last week in November. Second notices of membership renewal for 2018 were mailed to all members in early February. 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 30th 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.