

# ANCO FAX News

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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).

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- *17<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-based Approach*—EARLY REGISTRATION ENDS JANUARY 31

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 27<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**

ASCO has released *Principles for Patient-Centered Healthcare Reform*, seven recommendations designed to ensure access to high-quality cancer care amid the changing U.S. healthcare delivery landscape. Read the *Principles* at [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/asco-releases-principles-patient-centered-healthcare-reform](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/asco-releases-principles-patient-centered-healthcare-reform).

**The United States Food and Drug Administration has announced a final rule banning the use of powdered medical gloves effective January 18<sup>th</sup>.**

According to the final rule, powdered gloves can cause surgical complications and other adverse health events. The final rule applies to powdered surgeon's gloves, powdered patient examination gloves, and absorbable powder for lubricating a surgeon's glove. The final rule does not apply to radiographic protection gloves.

**The Drug Enforcement Agency has eliminated its grace period for renewing registrations.** Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, only one renewal notice will be sent to each registrant's "mail to" address approximately 65 days prior to the expiration date; no other reminders to renew the DEA registration will be provided. The notice also advises that online capability to renew a DEA registration after the expiration date will no longer be available, and that failure to file a renewal application by midnight EST of the expiration date will result in the "retirement" of the registrant's DEA number. In addition, paper renewal applications will not be accepted the day after the expiration date.

**For 2017, a new CPT procedure code (96377) was developed and published for the application of an on-body injector for timed subcutaneous injection.** Unfortunately, 96377 did not originally appear in the Medicare Part B fee schedule and the January update included it with

an "Inactive" rather than "Contractor Priced" code. ANCO and ASCO have contacted *Noridian/JEMAC* and CMS regarding this matter and hope for a correction in the near future. In the meantime, *Noridian/JEMAC* has informed ANCO that you may use 96372 to bill for the application of an on-body injector for timed subcutaneous injection. **ACCC has compiled all the oncology coding updates for 2017** at [www.accc-cancer.org/publications/pdf/Oncology-Reimbursement-Coding-Update-2017.pdf?\\_zs=bhddd1&\\_zl=dqwU3](http://www.accc-cancer.org/publications/pdf/Oncology-Reimbursement-Coding-Update-2017.pdf?_zs=bhddd1&_zl=dqwU3).

Read CMS's Fact Sheet on the CY2017 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) at [www.cms.gov/MediaReleaseDatabase/Fact-sheets/2016-Fact-sheets-items/2016-11-02.html](http://www.cms.gov/MediaReleaseDatabase/Fact-sheets/2016-Fact-sheets-items/2016-11-02.html). In summary, physician payments will increase by .24% in 2017 compared to 2016 after factoring a .5% increased required by MACRA. There is a net 0% change in reimbursements for hematology/oncology and radiation oncology. The California fee schedules are now available at [med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/fees-news/fee-schedules/mpfs](http://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/fees-news/fee-schedules/mpfs). Read ASCO's summary at [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/cms-releases-final-rules-2017-medicare-physician-fee-schedule-and](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/cms-releases-final-rules-2017-medicare-physician-fee-schedule-and); read ACCC's *Top-Level Takeaways* at [www.accc-cancer.org/ACCCbuzz/cms-2017-oppo-mpfs-final-rules-top-level-takeaways/?\\_zs=bhddd1&\\_zl=MTCQ3](http://www.accc-cancer.org/ACCCbuzz/cms-2017-oppo-mpfs-final-rules-top-level-takeaways/?_zs=bhddd1&_zl=MTCQ3); and, read Bobbi Buell's summary at [www.anco-online.org/BBCY2017MPFS.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/BBCY2017MPFS.pdf).

**CMS is now accepting applications for a new Clinical Practice Improvement Activities (CPIA) study, which will examine clinical workflow and data collection methods so that CMS can better understand the challenges of collecting and reporting quality data.** Clinicians and practices that participate in the CMS CPIA study will receive full credit for the CPIA performance category through the Quality Payment Program (QPP), under MACRA. Receiving full credit in the CPIA performance category will help boost participants' composite scores in the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). Participants in the study will need to complete at least three survey questionnaires during the study, participate in at least three focus groups, and submit at least three clinical quality performance measures to CMS by December 2017. Applications will be accepted through January 31<sup>st</sup>; download the application and learn more about the study at [www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-)

Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Value-Based-Programs/MACRA-MIPS-and-APMs/CPIA-Study-Application.pdf.

**CMS has finalized the new Medicare Quality Payment Program and launched the new Quality Payment Program website** (at [qpp.cms.gov](http://qpp.cms.gov)). The Program will implement the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) and the Advanced Alternative Payment Model (APM) incentive payment provisions of MACRA. For more information, go to:

- CMS's executive summary at [qpp.cms.gov/docs/QPP\\_Executive\\_Summary\\_of\\_Final\\_Rule.pdf](http://qpp.cms.gov/docs/QPP_Executive_Summary_of_Final_Rule.pdf)
- CMS's fact sheet at [qpp.cms.gov/docs/Quality\\_Payment\\_Program\\_Overview\\_Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](http://qpp.cms.gov/docs/Quality_Payment_Program_Overview_Fact_Sheet.pdf).
- CMS's tool for physicians to review and select the MACRA quality measures that best fit their practice at [qpp.cms.gov/measures/quality](http://qpp.cms.gov/measures/quality)
- ASCO's analysis of and comments on the final rule at [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/asco-releases-analysis-macra-final-rule-and-quality-payment-program](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/asco-releases-analysis-macra-final-rule-and-quality-payment-program) and [www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/ASCO-2016-MACRA-Comments-Final.pdf](http://www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/ASCO-2016-MACRA-Comments-Final.pdf).
- ASCO's fact sheets to help oncology practices successfully participate in the QPP at [www.asco.org/macra](http://www.asco.org/macra)
- ACCC's MACRA presentation at [www.anco-online.org/ACCCMACRAPresentation.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/ACCCMACRAPresentation.pdf).
- ASH's summary of the final rule at [www.hematology.org/Advocacy/Policy-News/2016/6755.aspx](http://www.hematology.org/Advocacy/Policy-News/2016/6755.aspx), comments on the final rule at [www.hematology.org/Advocacy/Testimony.aspx](http://www.hematology.org/Advocacy/Testimony.aspx), and MACRA 101 for Hematologists at [ashondemand.org/Areas/Redesign/Content/MACRA\\_101\\_11-15-16.pdf](http://ashondemand.org/Areas/Redesign/Content/MACRA_101_11-15-16.pdf).
- Bobbi Buell's analysis of the MACRA final rule at [www.anco-online.org/BBMacraFinalRule.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/BBMacraFinalRule.pdf)
- The *California Medical Association's* (CMA) MACRA Resource Center at [www.cmanet.org/macra](http://www.cmanet.org/macra)

Download the presentations from ASCO's webinar entitled *MACRA Rules are Final: Time to*

*Implement* at [www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-management-issues/medicare-program/macra](http://www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-management-issues/medicare-program/macra).

### **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 *California Medical Association's* (CMA) annual publication, *New Health Laws*, contains a list of the most significant health laws of interest to physicians for 2017. Go to [www.cmanet.org/resource-library/detail/?item=significant-new-california-laws-of-interest2](http://www.cmanet.org/resource-library/detail/?item=significant-new-california-laws-of-interest2) for more information.

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

*CMA Practice Resources* (CPR) is a monthly e-mail bulletin from CMA's *Center for Economic Services* that is full of tips and tools to help physicians and their office staff improve practice efficiency and viability. Subscribing to CPR is free and open to anyone, but CMA membership is necessary to access the resources, toolkits, forms, and tools that are located on the members-only CMA website. Please visit [www.cmanet.org/cpr](http://www.cmanet.org/cpr) to subscribe.

## **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*—Additional Opportunities for Clinicians under the Quality Payment Program; HHS Finalizes New Medicare Alternative Payment Models; Hospice Quality Measure Reports Available; EHR Incentive Programs: Prepare for 2016 Attestation; EHR Incentive Programs FAQs on 2017 OPPTS/ASC Final Rule; Apply for Clinical Practice Improvement Activities and Measurement Study by January 31; EHR Incentive Programs: New Attestation Resources; Chronic Care Management Services Changes for 2017; Medicare Quality Programs: ICD-10 Code Updates and Impact to 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2016
- *Claims, Pricers, and Codes*—Pricing and Payment Changes for DME Infusion Drugs Effective January 1, 2017
- *Events*—Hospice Quality Reporting Program Provider Training-January 18; Medicare Quality Programs: Transitioning from PQRS to MIPS Call-January 24
- *Publications*—ICD-9-CM, ICD-10-CM, ICD-10-PCS, CPT, and HCPCS Code Sets Educational Tool-Revised; Medicare Billing: 837P and Form CMS-1500 Fact Sheet-Revised; Quality Payment Program Video Presentation-New; Medicare Overpayments Fact Sheet-Revised; PECOS for Provider and Supplier Organizations Fact Sheet-Revised; Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, Anesthesiologist Assistants, and Physician Assistants Booklet-Reminder; Chronic Care Management Services Changes for 2017 Fact Sheet-Revised
- Chemotherapy Administration Local Coverage Article-R4 and R5
- Non Covered Services LCD-R14
- Therapy Evaluation Coding

- Open Public Meeting Announcement-February 8, 2017
- Certification Statement Signature and Contact Person Requirements CR9776
- Prolonged Services Without Direct Face-to-Face Patient Contact Separately Payable Under the Physician Fee Schedule CR9905
- MPFS Final Rule, Telehealth Originating Site Facility Fee Payment Amount and Telehealth Services List, and CT Modifier Reduction List for 2017 CR9844
- Flow Cytometry LCD-R6
- Medical Necessity of Therapy Services-R1
- ASC Payment System-January 2017 Update CR9923
- Therapy Evaluation and Assessment Services-R2
- MolDX: Comprehensive Genomic Profiling to Guide Treatment in Patients with Advanced Primary Peritoneal, Fallopian Tube and Ovarian Cancer Draft LCD Published for Review and Comments
- Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule and Laboratory Services Subject to Reasonable Charge Payment-2017 Update CR9909
- Medicare After Hours-Evening Webinars Available for Your Professional Growth
- Changes in PECOS e-Signature Timeline-Effective January 9, 2017

**Noridian/JEMAC's** Electronic Data Interchange Support Services (EDISS) invites you to subscribe to its e-mail distribution list to receive current information at [www.edissweb.com/cgp/news/index.html](http://www.edissweb.com/cgp/news/index.html).

**Cigna**, in partnership with *eviCore*, will release an Integrated Oncology Management Program for treatment plans on February 20<sup>th</sup>. This program will provide utilization management for medical and pharmacy oncology medications that currently require precertification through **Cigna**.

**UnitedHealthcare's Network Bulletin** (December 2016) is now available online at [unitedhealthcareonline.com](http://unitedhealthcareonline.com) > Tools & Resources > News & Network Bulletin and features articles entitled: Star Ratings Show Close Collaboration between UnitedHealthcare and Care Providers;



2017 UnitedHealthcare Care Provider Administrative Guide; Preferred Drug List Changes; Notification/Prior Authorization Requirement for Administration of Xolair; Changes in Advance Notification and Prior Authorization Requirements

## EDUCATION

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

### **ANCO's Medicare Reimbursement for Oncology 2017**

ANCO hosted its annual *Medicare* update programs entitled *Medicare Reimbursement for Oncology in 2017* on January 4<sup>th</sup> in San José and January 5<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento. Roberta Buell, M.B.A., *onPoint Oncology*, provided a comprehensive update of coding, billing, and reimbursement changes for Medicare. Download the meeting presentation at [www.anco-online.org/BBuell2017.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/BBuell2017.pdf).

### **ANCO's SABCS Highlights 2014**

ANCO's annual *SABCS Highlights* will take place on January 26<sup>th</sup> at *The Claremont Resort* in Oakland. Faculty from *UC Davis* (Candice Sauder, M.D.), and *UC San Francisco* (Hope S. Rugo, M.D., and Tracy Sherertz, M.D.) will present and review the clinically most relevant results presented at December 2016's *San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium*. Download the meeting announcement/registration form at [www.anco-online.org/SABCSHL2016.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/SABCSHL2016.pdf).

### **17<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-based Approach** **DISCOUNTED REGISTRATION** **ENDS JANUARY 31<sup>st</sup>**

The 17<sup>th</sup> *Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-based Approach* returns to the *Silverado Resort and Spa* in Napa on March 17-19<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*. Go to [www.multicancers.org](http://www.multicancers.org) to register, reserve housing, and submit a case.

## **Additional Education Meetings**

January 18<sup>th</sup>  
*Living with Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia (CML)*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

January 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>  
*2017 Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium: Multidisciplinary Precision Care—Progress and Innovation*  
American Society Clinical Oncology  
San Francisco  
(<http://gicasymp.org>)

January 25<sup>th</sup>  
*The Latest Developments Reported at the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium: Part I—Highlights from the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

January 26<sup>th</sup>  
*Update from the 2016 American Society of Hematology (ASH) Annual Meeting*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

January 27-28<sup>th</sup>  
*Cancer Survivorship Symposium: Advancing Care and Research—A Primary Care and Oncology Collaboration*  
American Society Clinical Oncology  
San Diego  
(<http://survivorsym.org>)

January 27-28<sup>th</sup>  
*Highlights of ASH*  
American Society of Hematology  
Seattle  
(<http://www.hematology.org/Highlights/North-America.aspx>)

January 31<sup>st</sup>  
*Updates from the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium in the Treatment of Estrogen Receptor (ER) Positive, Progesterone Receptor (PR) Positive & HER2 Positive Breast Cancer: Part II—Highlights from the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

February 1<sup>st</sup>  
*What Are Biosimilars? Understanding Their Role in Cancer Treatment: Current and Future Perspectives*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

February 2<sup>nd</sup>

*Treatment Update on Mantle Cell Lymphoma*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

February 4<sup>th</sup>

*Best of 17<sup>th</sup> WCLC*  
International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer  
San Francisco  
([www.eventbrite.com/e/best-of-the-17th-wclc-san-francisco-tickets-27633538658](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/best-of-the-17th-wclc-san-francisco-tickets-27633538658))

February 4<sup>th</sup>

*Blood Cancer Conference Northern California*  
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
San Francisco

February 6<sup>th</sup>

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

February 9<sup>th</sup>

*Updates on Metastatic Breast Cancer from the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium: Part III—Highlights from the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

February 9-12<sup>th</sup>

*Practical Recommendations in Immuno & Molecular Oncology (PRIMO)*  
Maui, Hawaii  
([www.primomeeting.org](http://www.primomeeting.org))

February 24<sup>th</sup>

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

March 2<sup>nd</sup>

*ASCO Oncology Practice Conference*  
ASCO  
Orlando  
([opc.asco.org](http://opc.asco.org))

March 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>

*ASCO Quality Care Symposium: Quality Matters*  
ASCO  
Orlando  
([quality.asco.org](http://quality.asco.org))

March 6<sup>th</sup>

*Managing Eye and Vision Changes Related to Cancer Treatments*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

March 7<sup>th</sup>

*Update on Small Cell Lung Cancer Treatments: Part I of Living with Small Cell Lung Cancer*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

March 10<sup>th</sup>

*Living with Cancer Throughout the Cancer Journey*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

March 11<sup>th</sup>

*Regional Summit: GAIN—EnGaging an Interdisciplinary Team for NSCLC Diagnosis, Personalized Assessment & Treatment*  
NCCN  
San Francisco  
([www.chestnet.org/Education/Advanced-Clinical-Training/CHEST-GAIN-NSCLC](http://www.chestnet.org/Education/Advanced-Clinical-Training/CHEST-GAIN-NSCLC))

March 13<sup>th</sup>

*9<sup>th</sup> Annual Palliative Care Summit*  
Coalition for Compassionate Care of California  
Sacramento  
(<http://ccccsummit.org>)

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

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ASSOCIATION &amp; MEMBERSHIP NEWS, RESOURCES, &amp; BENEFITS</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>[Editor's Note: All ANCO members are also eligible for several tangible benefits.]</small></p>
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### **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 2019, inclusive):

Tyler Paul Johnson, M.D.  
(Stanford, 2019)  
Michael Zachary Koontz, M.D.  
(Morgan Hill, 2019)  
Ostap Melnyk, M.D.  
(Antioch, 2019)  
Robert L. Robles, M.D.  
(Pleasant Hill, 2019)

Drs. Colevas (Stanford, 2018), Ekstrand (San Mateo, 2017), Gandara (Sacramento, 2018), Liu (San Francisco, 2018), Mirda (Napa, 2018), Neal (Stanford, 2017), and Pan (Santa Clara, 2017) continue on the *Board*.

### **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 January 26<sup>th</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**

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 *Diablo Valley Oncology & Hematology Medical Group*, *EPIC Care*, *Marin Cancer Care*, *Pacific Cancer Care*, *Palo Alto Medical Foundation*, and

*Valley Medical Oncology Consultants* 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 UCSF Radiation Oncology Update: Practical Decisions in the Era of Big Data** takes place from February 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> in San Francisco. For more information and to register, go to [www.ucsfcmecme.com/2017/MMC17019/info.html](http://www.ucsfcmecme.com/2017/MMC17019/info.html).

**Stanford's Hematology Review of the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual ASH Meeting** takes place on February 4<sup>th</sup> in Half Moon Bay. For more information and to register, go to [cme.stanford.edu/hematology](http://cme.stanford.edu/hematology).

**Stanford's Neuroendocrine Tumors in 2017: New Diagnostics and Therapies** takes place on March 4<sup>th</sup> at Stanford. For more information and to register, go to [cme.stanford.edu/nets](http://cme.stanford.edu/nets).

### **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* • *Alexion Pharmaceuticals* • *AMGEN*  
*ARIAD Pharmaceuticals* • *Astellas Oncology*  
*AstraZeneca* • *Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals*  
*Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals*  
*Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology*  
*Cardinal Health Specialty Solutions*  
*Celgene* • *Clovis Oncology* • *Daiichi Sankyo*  
*Dendreon* • *Eisai* • *EMD Serono* • *Exelixis*  
*Foundation Medicine*  
*Genoptix Medical Laboratory*  
*GenPath Oncology* • *Genentech BioOncology*  
*Genomic Health* • *Gilead Sciences*  
*Guardant Health* • *Helsinn Oncology*  
*Heron Therapeutics* • *Incyte*  
*Infinity Pharmaceuticals*

*Ipsen Biopharmaceuticals*  
*Janssen Oncology • Jazz Pharmaceuticals*  
*Lilly Oncology • Merrimack Pharmaceuticals*  
*Medivation • Merck*  
*nanoString • Novartis Oncology*  
*Oncology Supply/ION • Pfizer Oncology*  
*Pharmacyclics • Prometheus Laboratories, Inc.*  
*Sandoz Biopharmaceuticals • Sanofi Genzyme*  
*Seattle Genetics • Taiho Oncology*  
*Takeda Oncology • Tesaro • TEVA 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.

**Clovis Oncology** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* (FDA) approved Rubraca for treatment of patients with deleterious BRCA mutation (germline and/or somatic) associated with advanced ovarian cancer who have been treated with two or more chemotherapies. In conjunction with the drug approval, the FDA approved the FoundationFocus CDxBRCA test from **Foundation Medicine**, the first FDA-approved next-generation sequencing (NGS)-based companion diagnostic to identify patients with advanced ovarian cancer eligible for treatment with Rubraca.

**Genentech BioOncology** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has modified Tarceva's indication for non-small cell lung cancer to limit use to patients whose tumors express specific epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) mutations.

**Janssen Biotech** is hosting an educational program entitled *Darzalex-based Triplet Therapy for Multiple Myeloma Patients at First Relapse* with Amy Marsala, M.P., *UC San Francisco*, on March 17<sup>th</sup> at *Morimoto*, 610 Main Street, Napa. RSVP at [www.medforcereg.net/SOMP108529](http://www.medforcereg.net/SOMP108529).

**Merrimack Pharmaceuticals** informs ANCO that CMS has assigned HCPCS code J-9205 (1mg) to Onivyde.

**nanoString** informs ANCO that the *BlueCross BlueShield Association* (BCBSA) Evidence Street published the new Breast Cancer Genetic Profile Assessment with changes impacting Prosigna, as follows—Evidence is sufficient to determine that Prosigna results in a meaningful improvement in net health outcome in individuals with early-stage

non-negative invasive breast cancer considering adjuvant chemotherapy who receive gene expression profiling testing with Prosigna. These findings are consistent with ASCO guidelines.

**Seattle Genetics** is hosting an educational program entitled *SOLAR (Science of Lymphoma and Associated Receptors)* with Alejandro Gru, M.D., *University of Virginia*, on January 26th at *The Barrel Room, Fusion Restaurant*, 415 Sansome Street, San Francisco. RSVP to Christina Ott at (650) 314-8501 or [cott@seagen.com](mailto:cott@seagen.com).

### Clinical Trial News

**The Food and Drug Administration** and the *Office of Human Research Protections* recently published final guidance on how to use electronic systems and processes to obtain informed consent in clinical investigations. Read the final guidance at [www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM436811.pdf?source=govdelivery&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM436811.pdf?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery).

**Stanford Cancer Center** brings the following oncology clinical trials (not previously listed or changed) to the attention of the ANCO membership:

- A Phase 2 Open-Label, Multicenter Study of MEDI4736 Evaluated as a Single Agent or in Combination with Tremelimumab in Patients with Metastatic Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma [ALPS; NCT02558894]. Principal Investigator: George Fisher, MD, PhD; Contact: Ben Priestley, (650) 723-2990; [ben.priestley@stanford.edu](mailto:ben.priestley@stanford.edu)

Further information is available at [cancer.stanford.edu/trials/](http://cancer.stanford.edu/trials/).

**UC San Francisco** brings the following oncology clinical trials (not previously listed or changed) to the attention of the ANCO membership:

- A Phase II Multicenter, Single Arm Study of Oral BGJ398 in Adult Patients with Advanced or Metastatic Cholangiocarcinoma with FGFR2 Gene Fusions or other FGFR Genetic Alterations Who Failed or Are Intolerant to Platinum-based Chemotherapy (CC#15452). Contact: Hannah Mills, (415) 353-7792, [hannah.mills@ucsf.edu](mailto:hannah.mills@ucsf.edu)
- A Phase I Study of PEGPH20, Gemcitabine Plus Nap-Paclitaxel in Patients With Borderline Resectable Pancreatic Cancer (CC#144515). Contact: Marissa Savoie, (415) 353-7683, [marissa.savoie@ucsf.edu](mailto:marissa.savoie@ucsf.edu)
- A Phase I Dose Escalation Study with Cohort Expansion, to Evaluate the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics, and Preliminary Efficacy of



AbGn-107 Therapy in Patients with Chemo-refractory Locally Advanced, Recurrent, or Metastatic Gastric, Colorectal, or Pancreatic Cancer (CC#169517). Contact: Ilaria Mastroserio, (415) 514-6245; [ilaria.mastroserio@ucsf.edu](mailto:ilaria.mastroserio@ucsf.edu)

- Phase I clinical trial of VX-970 in combination with the topoisomerase I inhibitor irinotecan in patients with advanced solid tumors (CC#169518). Contact: Ilaria Mastroserio, (415) 514-6245; [ilaria.mastroserio@ucsf.edu](mailto:ilaria.mastroserio@ucsf.edu)

- A Phase 2 Study of Cediranib in Combination with Olaparib in Advanced Solid Tumors (CC#169519). Contact: Ilaria Mastroserio, (415) 514-6245; [ilaria.mastroserio@ucsf.edu](mailto:ilaria.mastroserio@ucsf.edu)

- A Phase 3 Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-controlled study of AG-120 in Previously-treated Subjects with Nonresectable or Metastatic Cholangiocarcinoma with an IDH1 Mutation (CC#17451). Contact: Claire Greene, (415) 514-6258; [claire.greene@ucsf.edu](mailto:claire.greene@ucsf.edu)

An open-label phase II study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of PDR001 in patients with advanced or metastatic non-functional neuroendocrine tumors of pancreatic, gastrointestinal (GI), or thoracic origin who have progressed on prior treatment. Contact: Claire Greene, (415) 514-6258; [claire.greene@ucsf.edu](mailto:claire.greene@ucsf.edu)

Further information is available at [cancer.ucsf.edu/trials](http://cancer.ucsf.edu/trials).

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

ANCO's 2016 *Annual Report* is now available online at [www.anco-online.org/AR2016.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/AR2016.pdf) and was mailed to all ANCO physician members the last week in November.

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's *Clinical Affairs Department* is dedicated to providing 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 [\[action/asco's-clinical-affairs-department-opens-new-survey-practice-operations\]\(http://www.asco.org/asco-in-action/asco's-clinical-affairs-department-opens-new-survey-practice-operations\).](http://www.asco.org/asco-in-</a></p>
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ASCO's 2017 *Quality Training Program*, a six-month course in data-driven quality improvement, will now take place in two locations—Dallas and Portland. The session dates for Portland are April 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, June 28-29<sup>th</sup>, and October 18<sup>th</sup>. To learn more about and apply to participate in the Program, visit [www.asco.org/training-education/professional-development/quality-training-program](http://www.asco.org/training-education/professional-development/quality-training-program).

ASCO, the *Association for Molecular Pathology* and the *College of American Pathologists* have issued a joint consensus statement on standardizing the interpretation and reporting of sequence variants in cancer in the January issue of *The Journal of Molecular Diagnostics* at [http://jmd.amjpathol.org/article/S1525-1578\(16\)30223-9/abstract](http://jmd.amjpathol.org/article/S1525-1578(16)30223-9/abstract).

ASCO's PracticeNET is a collaborative network in which practices share and receive insights to enhance their business operations and quality of care. 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. Go to [www.asco.org/PracticeNET](http://www.asco.org/PracticeNET) for more information.

ASCO has launched its 2018 Survey of Oncology Practice Operations (SOPO), an annual survey of business and operational issues in oncology practices. The *Society* aims to capture the current state of oncology management practices to help practices navigate the evolving cancer care delivery system. Complete the survey by January 27<sup>th</sup> at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZCV5GWB](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZCV5GWB).

A new collaboration between ASCO and the *American Board of Internal Medicine* (ABIM) enables participants of ASCO's *Quality Oncology Practice Initiative* (QOPI) to receive *Maintenance of Certification* (MOC) Practice Assessment points from ABIM. For more information on ABIM MOC, eligibility and requirements, please visit [university.asco.org/practice-assessment-activities](http://university.asco.org/practice-assessment-activities).

ASCO and *Innovative Oncology Business Solutions* (IOBS) have announced a new collaboration, ASCO COME HOME—an oncology medical home program designed to transition community

**oncology practices from volume-based to value-based care by structuring reimbursement around the full range of services needed by patients with cancer.** ASCO COME HOME will also prepare oncology practices for full implementation of the Quality Payment Program under MACRA and will be available across the country starting on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. ASCO is now recruiting practices for the fee-based 2017 ASCO COME HOME program. For more information, please contact Elaine Towle ([elaine.towle@asco.org](mailto:elaine.towle@asco.org)). Learn more about ASCO's physician payment reform efforts at [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/policies-positions-guidance/coverage-reimbursement/physician-payment-reform](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/policies-positions-guidance/coverage-reimbursement/physician-payment-reform).

**Free PQRS reporting is now available through ASCO's Quality Oncology Practice Initiative (QOPI).** All users will be able to use the QOPI system to fulfill the Oncology Measures Group set of seven measures for PQRS reporting. By completing the PQRS module by January 31<sup>st</sup>, practices can avoid a 2% reduction in Medicare reimbursement beginning in 2018. Learn more at [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/complete-free-pqrs-reporting-through-qopi-by-december-31-2016](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/complete-free-pqrs-reporting-through-qopi-by-december-31-2016). QOPI is designed to promote excellence in cancer care by helping oncologists create a culture of self-examination and improvement.

**In 2017, practices will also be able to use the QOPI platform to meet the MIPS reporting requirement of one measure through manual reporting.** While one measure is the minimum requirement to avoid the 2019 penalty, ASCO encourages all practices to report on at least four measure to become fully acquainted with the system and ensure that the CMS requirements are met.

**See what you missed at this year's ASH Annual Meeting by visiting ASH on Demand to access more than 100 hours of recorded sessions.** Go to [ashondemand.org/Meetings/Annual-Meetings](http://ashondemand.org/Meetings/Annual-Meetings) for more information.

**ACCC's 2016 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/publications/pdf/Patient-Assistance-](http://www.accc-cancer.org/publications/pdf/Patient-Assistance-Guide-2017.pdf)

[Guide-2017.pdf](#) 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). **assistPoint is your website for complimentary one-stop cancer Patient Assistance.** You can search by generic, brand name, manufacturer, or diagnosis for the enrollment forms you need; get enrollment form PDFs for 113 cancer drugs; get NDC numbers for all of those drugs; find the HCPCS J-code for each drug; get coding and billing guidelines for many drugs; and, learn more about the drugs you give. Go to [www.assistpoint.com](http://www.assistpoint.com) to learn more.

**NCCN has published and/or updated their Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology and/or Drugs & Biologics Compendium** for bladder cancer (1.2017); breast cancer risk reduction (V1.2017); cancer-related fatigue (V1.2017); cervical cancer (V1.2017); chronic myeloid leukemia (V1.2017); colon cancer (V1.2017); penile cancer (V1.2017); prevention and treatment of cancer-related infections (V1.2017); prostate cancer (V1.2017); rectal cancer (V2.2017); soft tissue sarcoma (V1.2017). Go to [www.nccn.org](http://www.nccn.org) for more information. NCCN is pleased to offer pocket-sized versions of the NCCN *Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology* for a number of their guidelines at [www.nccn.org/redirects/nicelines.asp?Type=general](http://www.nccn.org/redirects/nicelines.asp?Type=general).

### **Individual Membership Dues for 2017**

**Membership renewal notices for 2017 were mailed to all members in late November, along with annual election ballots and the 2016 Annual Report.** If you have not yet done so, then please return your 2017 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.