

# 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).

#### In this issue:

- ASCO's comments on biosimilars
- QPP resources for practices
- ANCO's *The State of Cancer Care* at ASCO's *Best of ASCO*
- Help elect oncologist as AMA *President-Elect*
- ACCC's Financial Advocacy Boot Camp

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 June 9<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 submitted comments to the *United States Food and Drug Administration* (FDA) on their proposed guidance for industry on demonstrating interchangeability of biosimilars with a reference product. The *Society* took the opportunity to reiterate its strongly held position that physicians and patients should have the ability to select evidence-based treatment options—including the specific biologic product—most appropriate for the patients' circumstance. Read ASCO's full comment letter at [www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/Comments-Biosimilar-Interchangeability.pdf](http://www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/Comments-Biosimilar-Interchangeability.pdf).

The *Medicare Quality Payment Program* (QPP), established by the *Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act* (MACRA) began on January 1<sup>st</sup>. This year is a transition year meaning you can "pick your pace" when implementing QPP in your practice. CMS has posted new resources to the QPP website to help clinicians successfully participate in the first year of the QPP. The new resources focus on support for small practices and alternative payment models (APMs). Visit [qpp.cms.gov](http://qpp.cms.gov) for more information.

**Unsure of your MIPS participation status? Clinicians can now use an interactive tool on the CMS Quality Payment Program website to determine if they should participate in MIPS.** Visit [qpp.cms.gov](http://qpp.cms.gov) > Check Now, enter your NPI and information will then be provided on whether or not you should participate in MIPS in 2017 and where to find resources.

CMS is reviewing claims and letting practices know which clinicians need to take part in MIPS. Through May, more than 200,000 practices will get a letter from *Noridian/JEMAC* informing

them of the participation status of each NPI for the qualifying clinicians associated with the TIN of a practice. For more information, visit [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/mips-participation-status-letter-being-sent-practices-late-april?et\\_cid=39205413&et\\_rid=933038345&linkid=MIPS+Participation+Status+Letters+Coming+to+Practices+Through+May](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/mips-participation-status-letter-being-sent-practices-late-april?et_cid=39205413&et_rid=933038345&linkid=MIPS+Participation+Status+Letters+Coming+to+Practices+Through+May).

**CMS is encouraging physicians to sign up for the new CMS QPP listserv to stay up-to-date on new resources, upcoming milestones and deadlines, and CMS webinars on the QPP.** To subscribe to the QPP listserv, go to [qpp.cms.gov](http://qpp.cms.gov) and select "Subscribe to Email Updates" at the bottom of the page.

ASCO recently submitted comments to CMS in response to the agency's call for stakeholder input on measuring and comparing oncologists and other health care providers based on cost under QPP MIPS. ASCO expressed the *Society's* concerns with the proposed method of creating "episodes of care" or "episode groups" to determine the cost of cancer care. The significant variation in conditions and disease states within cancer care creates significant difficulties in designing episodes of care that fairly and accurately attribute costs to oncologists. Read ASCO's full letter at [www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/ASCO-Comments-Episode-Groups-04.24.17.pdf](http://www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/ASCO-Comments-Episode-Groups-04.24.17.pdf).

**ASCO is releasing a series of webinars to guide oncology practices to successful quality reporting:**

- June 19<sup>th</sup>—Quality Payment Program: Scoring for Advancing Care Information and Improvement Activities
- July 10<sup>th</sup>—Quality Payment Program: Optimizing your MIPS Score

All webinars are schedule for 1PM PT. Register at [www.asco.org/macra](http://www.asco.org/macra) > MACRA Webinar Series. For more information and access to ASCO's revamped QPP/MACRA toolkit, educational materials, and resources, go to [www.asco.org/macra](http://www.asco.org/macra). ASH's updated MACRA webpage is at [www.hematology.org/Clinicians/7427.aspx](http://www.hematology.org/Clinicians/7427.aspx).

ANCO member practice manager Harvey Bichkoff has authored an *ASCO Connection* commentary entitled *An On-the-Ground Approach to Implementing MACRA in Your Practice*. Read Bichkoff's commentary at [connection.asco.org/blogs](http://connection.asco.org/blogs).

CMA is hosting a webinar entitled *How California Physicians Can Access Free Technical Assistance for MACRA Transition* on May 31<sup>st</sup> at 12:15PM. Register for the webinar at [www.cmanet.org/events](http://www.cmanet.org/events). CMA's *Center for Economic Services* (CES) has published an update to its MACRA preparation checklist entitled *MACRA: What Should I Do Now to Prepare?* available at [www.cmanet.org/macra](http://www.cmanet.org/macra).

CMS has announced that it is now accepting hardship exceptions from the meaningful use requirements of the EHR incentive payment program for the 2016 reporting year. Physicians who can show that demonstrating meaningful use would result in a significant hardship can apply for a one-year exception and avoid a negative payment adjustment in 2018. The deadline is July 1<sup>st</sup>. Go to [www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/PaymentAdj\\_Hardship.html](http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/PaymentAdj_Hardship.html) for more information and applications.

### **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.

**AB72, a new law that will change the billing practices of non-participating physicians providing non-emergent care at in-network facilities, takes effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>.** The law, signed in 2016, is designed to reduce unexpected medical bills when patients go to an in-network facility but receive care from an out-of-network physician. Visit [www.cmanet.org/issues-and-advocacy/cmas-top-issues/ab-72/](http://www.cmanet.org/issues-and-advocacy/cmas-top-issues/ab-72/) for more information.

**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*—Clinical Laboratories: Lab Data Due May 30; SNF Quality Reporting Program: Submission Deadline Extended to June 1; Social Security Number Removal Initiative Reminder: Get Your Systems Ready; Quality Payment Program: Technical Assistance Resource Guide Available; SNF QRP Quality Measure User's Manual *Claims, Pricers, and Codes*—2018 ICD-10-PCS Files Available
- Draft LCDs Published for Review and Comments
- Redetermination Requests Now Accepting Electronic, Digital and/or Digitized Signatures
- NMP22 Bladder Check Test for Monitoring Bladder Cancer Article Retirement-Effective May 15, 2017
- There is Still Time to Evaluate Our Services!
- MRI and CT Scans of the Head and Neck Draft LCD Published for Review and Comments
- Advance Beneficiary Notice of Noncoverage-New Version Effective June 21, 2017
- New Waived Tests CR10055
- EFT Payments and Change of Ownership Updated Guidelines SE17012
- MolDX: Oncotype DX Genomic Prostate Score for Men with Favorable Intermediate Risk Prostate Cancer Draft LCD Published for Review and Comments
- MolDX: EndoPredict Breast Cancer Gene Expression Test Draft LCD Published for Review and Comments

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).

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

- Mammography, Pap Test, Pelvic Exam, and Cervical Cancer with HPV Tests (May 31)
- Supplemental Medical Review Contractor (SMRC; May 31)
- Noridian Medicare Portal Registration and Functionality (June 7, 14)

Visit [med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/education/training-events](http://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/education/training-events) for more information and to register.

**UnitedHealthcare's commercial reimbursement policies will begin requiring biosimilar biological products to include a modifier that identifies the manufacturer of the specific product** for dates of service on or after June 1<sup>st</sup>. Specifically, the modifier for Q5101 (filgrastim) Zarxio will be ZA (Novartis/Sandoz) and the modifier for Q5102 (infliximab) Inflectra will be ZA (Pfizer/Hospira).

## EDUCATION

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

### **The State of Cancer Care: ANCO Event at ASCO's Best of ASCO 2017**

ANCO's *ASCO Highlights* will not take place in 2017 in lieu of our encouragement of members to attend ASCO's *Best of ASCO* in San Francisco ([west-boa.asco.org](http://west-boa.asco.org); June 16-17<sup>th</sup>). However, ANCO will host an event on June 15<sup>th</sup> entitled *The State of Cancer Care* with Margaret Tempero, M.D., and Wes Kidder, M.D., *University of California, San Francisco*, at the *San Francisco Marriott Marquis*. Download the meeting announcement/registration form at [www.anco-online.org/ANCOatBOA2017.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/ANCOatBOA2017.pdf).

## **SAVE THE DATE ANCO's 2017**

### **Professional Education Meeting**

ANCO will host its 2017 professional education meeting on September 6<sup>th</sup> at the *San José Fairmont*. The agenda will include *QPP/MACRA*, *ASCO's COME HOME Project*, *USP797/7800*, and *California Legislative/Regulatory Updates*. Watch for a meeting announcement in early June.

### **Additional Education Meetings**

June 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>  
*2017 ASCO Annual Meeting*  
ASCO  
Chicago  
([am.asco.org](http://am.asco.org))

June 7<sup>th</sup>  
*Participating in Decisions about Your Care (Part IV of Life with Cancer: A Guide to Getting the Best Care)*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

June 8<sup>th</sup>  
*Transplantation as a Treatment Option for Multiple Myeloma*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

June 9<sup>th</sup>  
*Update on Soft Tissue Sarcoma*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

June 13<sup>th</sup>  
*For Caregivers: Practical Tips to Cope with Your Loved One's Lung Cancer (Part II of Living with Lung Cancer)*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

June 14<sup>th</sup>  
*For Caregivers: Care Coordination for Your Loved One Living with Cancer and Other Health Problems (Part V of Life with Cancer: A Guide to Getting the Best Care)*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

June 14<sup>th</sup>  
*Taking Your Pills on Schedule: The Importance of Adherence in the Treatment of Cancer*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

June 16-17<sup>th</sup>  
*Best of ASCO*  
 ASCO  
 San Francisco  
 (boa.asco.org)

June 20<sup>th</sup>  
*Advances in the Treatment of Metastatic Prostate Cancer (Part I of Living with Prostate Cancer)*  
 CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
 (www.cancercare.org/connect\_workshops)

June 21<sup>st</sup>  
*Update on the Treatment of Bladder Cancer*  
 CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
 (www.cancercare.org/connect\_workshops)

June 22<sup>nd</sup>  
*Current Perspectives on Early Stage Breast Cancer*  
 CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
 (www.cancercare.org/connect\_workshops)

June 26<sup>th</sup>  
*Update in the Treatment of Colorectal Cancer*  
 CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
 (www.cancercare.org/connect\_workshops)

June 27<sup>th</sup>  
*For Caregivers: Coping with a Loved One's Prostate Cancer (Part II of Living with Prostate Cancer)*  
 CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
 (www.cancercare.org/connect\_workshops)

June 29<sup>th</sup>  
*What Are Generic Drugs: Understanding Their Role in Cancer Treatment—Current and Future Perspectives*  
 CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
 (www.cancercare.org/connect\_workshops)

June 29-30<sup>th</sup>  
*POLST: It Starts with A Conversation*  
 Coalition for Compassionate Care of California  
 Long Beach  
 (coalitionccc.org/training-events/polst-education/)

June 30<sup>th</sup>  
*Medical Update on Acute Myelogenous Leukemia (AML)*  
 CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
 (www.cancercare.org/connect\_workshops)

July 14-15<sup>th</sup>  
*16<sup>th</sup> Annual International Congress on the Future of Breast Cancer West*  
 Physicians' Education Resource  
 San Diego  
 (ANCO member discount code IBW17ANCO  
 www.gotoper.com/conferences/ibc/meetings/

16th-annual-international-congress-on-the-future-of-breast-cancer)

July 27-29<sup>th</sup>  
*18<sup>th</sup> Annual International Lung Cancer Congress*  
 Physicians' Education Resource  
 Huntington Beach  
 (ANCO member discount code ILC17ANCO  
 www.gotoper.com/conferences/ilc/meetings/  
 18th-international-lung-cancer-congress)

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 May 30<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

ASCO has endorsed Barbara McAneny, M.D., in her campaign for *President-Elect of the American Medical Association (AMA)*. She is a medical oncologist/hematologist from New Mexico and would be the first oncologist elected to serve as *AMA President*. Dr. McAneny is an active ASCO volunteer who has served on the *ASCO Board of Directors* (2005-2008) and as a liaison to the *AMA House of Delegates* (2002-2013). She has also long been active in the AMA, and is past *Chair* and member of the *AMA Board of Trustees*. ANCO asks all members who are also AMA members to reach out to their AMA delegates and encourage them to vote for Dr. McAneny for *President-Elect* in the June 2017 election. For more information, visit [www.barbaramcaneny.com](http://www.barbaramcaneny.com).

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*

### **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 • Agendia • Alexion Pharmaceuticals  
AMGEN • ARIAD Pharmaceuticals  
Astellas Oncology • AstraZeneca  
Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals  
bioTheranostics  
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  
Kite Pharmaceuticals • Lilly Oncology •  
Merrimack Pharmaceuticals  
Medivation • Merck  
nanoString • Novartis Oncology  
Oncology Supply/ION • Pfizer Oncology  
Pfizer US Biosimilars • Pharmacyclics  
Sandoz Biopharmaceuticals • Sanofi Genzyme  
Seattle Genetics • Taiho Oncology  
Takeda Oncology • Tesaro • TEVA Oncology*

We especially wish to thank and welcome *Agendia, bioTheranostics, EMD Serono, Kite Pharmaceuticals, and Pfizer US Biosimilars* as new Corporate Members for 2017. 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.

*Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals* informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has expanded the approved use of Stivarga to include treatment of patients with hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC or liver cancer) who have been previously treated with the drug sorafenib.

*Merck* informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* (FDA) has approved Keytruda for patients with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma who have disease progression during or following platinum-containing chemotherapy or within 12 months of neoadjuvant treatment with platinum-containing chemotherapy. In addition, the FDA has approved Keytruda for adult and pediatric patients with unresectable or metastatic, microsatellite instability-high (MSI-H) or mismatch repair deficient (dMMR) solid tumors that have progressed following prior treatment and who have no satisfactory alternative treatment options or with MSI-H or dMMR colorectal cancer that has progressed following

treatment with a fluoropyrimidine, oxaliplatin, and irinotecan. Finally, *Merck* will host a webinar entitled *First-line Treatment Options for Metastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC)* on May 30<sup>th</sup> (3:30PM PDT) and June 13<sup>th</sup> (2:30PM PDT). Visit [www.lungwebcast.com](http://www.lungwebcast.com) for more information.

*Novartis Oncology* informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved the Kisqali Femara Co-Pack for the treatment of hormone receptor-positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative (HR+/HER2-) advanced or metastatic breast cancer in postmenopausal women.

### **Clinical Trial News**

The ASCO Research Community Forum 2017 Annual Meeting is being held on September 24-25<sup>th</sup> at ASCO. The theme of this year's meeting is advancing cancer care through research partnerships. Register today at [www.asco.org/research-progress/research-community-forum/forum-annual-meeting?](http://www.asco.org/research-progress/research-community-forum/forum-annual-meeting?)

The Spring 2017 edition (as well as past editions) of *Stanford's Clinical Research Newsletter* is now available at [cancer.stanford.edu/trials/mdcommunity\\_newsletter/](http://cancer.stanford.edu/trials/mdcommunity_newsletter/). This edition focuses on the lymphoma, blood and marrow transplantation, adolescent and young adult cancer programs, and developmental therapeutics

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

- A Pilot Study of Brentuximab Vedotin (SGN-35) in the Treatment of Stage II-IV HIV-associated Hodgkin Lymphoma (AMC085/NCT02298257). Principal Investigator: Scott Christensen, M.D.; Contact: Sarah Benedetti, (916) 914-6319, [smbenedetti@ucdavis.edu](mailto:smbenedetti@ucdavis.edu)
- A Phase I Study of Ipilimumab and Nivolumab in Advanced HIV Associated Solid Tumors with an Expansion Cohort in HIV Associated Solid Tumors (AMC095/NCT02408861). Principal Investigator: Scott Christensen, M.D.; Contact: Sarah Benedetti, (916) 914-6319, [smbenedetti@ucdavis.edu](mailto:smbenedetti@ucdavis.edu)

Further information is available at [www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/cancer/clinical\\_trials/](http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/cancer/clinical_trials/).

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

ANCO encourages all members to participate in

*ASCO's Practice Census*, the only annual survey of the entire oncology community that aims to capture and describe changes in cancer care and oncology practice over time. Be counted by going to <https://apps.asco.org/oncology-practice-central/survey>.

*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 [www.asco.org/asco-in-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).

*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.

The May 2017 issue of ASCO's *Journal of Oncology Practice* (JOP) is available online and features articles entitled *Importance of Costs and Cost-Effectiveness of Palliative Care; Making the Right Thing Easier to Do: Standardized Integration of Oncology and Palliative Care; Clinical Pathways: Management of Quality and Cost in Oncology Networks in the Metastatic Colorectal Cancer Setting*. Visit [jop.ascopubs.org](http://jop.ascopubs.org) for more information.

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 visit [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/asco-come-home-here-offering-direct-support-practices-transitioning](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/asco-come-home-here-offering-direct-support-practices-transitioning).

**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. For more information, please visit [www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/billing-coding-reporting/macra-quality-payment-program/macra-resources](http://www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/billing-coding-reporting/macra-quality-payment-program/macra-resources).

**The May/June issue of ACCC's *Oncology Issues*** includes articles entitled *Improving Pain Management in Patients with Cancer*; *The Study of High-Cost Oncology Patients to Improve Care & Curb Costs*. Visit [www.accc-cancer.org/oncology\\_issues](http://www.accc-cancer.org/oncology_issues) to read this issue.

**ACCC's online *Oncology Drug Database* provides quick access to information on oncology drug coding, billing, and reimbursement** at [www.accc-cancer.org/drugdatabase/](http://www.accc-cancer.org/drugdatabase/).

**The cost of cancer care continues to be a top concern for patients and their healthcare providers. In response, ACCC has launched *The Financial Advocacy Boot Camp***, the first free online training program designed for all those who work to assist cancer patients in navigating financial issues related to their cancer treatment. Learn more at [www.accc-cancer.org/resources/FinancialAdvocacy-bootcamp.asp](http://www.accc-cancer.org/resources/FinancialAdvocacy-bootcamp.asp).

**ACCC's 2017 *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-Guide-2017.pdf](http://www.accc-cancer.org/publications/pdf/Patient-Assistance-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). **ASH also has a webpage (at [\*\*Drugs/Programs/\) that provides a consolidated list of resources for hematologists and patients trying to access high cost hematologic drugs.\*\* Finally, \*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 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.](http://www.hematology.org/Clinicians/</a></b></p>
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**ASH is now accepting nominations for members to participate in its 7<sup>th</sup> annual *Advocacy Leadership Institute*** taking place September 27-28<sup>th</sup> in Washington, D.C. This two-day workshop is an opportunity for ASH members who wish to learn about legislation and health policy affecting hematology research and practice. Nominations are being accepted through June 16<sup>th</sup>. Learn more at [www.hematology.org/Advocacy/ALI.aspx](http://www.hematology.org/Advocacy/ALI.aspx).

**NCCN has published and/or updated their *Chemotherapy Order Templates, Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology, Drugs & Biologics Compendium, Guidelines for Patients, Imaging Appropriate Use Criteria, and/or Radiation Therapy Compendium*** for adult cancer pain (V2.2017); bladder cancer (V5.2017); colorectal cancer screening (V1.2017); non-small cell lung cancer (V6.2017); ovarian cancer (V1.2017); pancreatic cancer (V1.2017); thyroid carcinoma (V2.2017). 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***

**Final notices of membership renewal for 2016 were mailed in early May.** 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.