

# 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:

- MedPAC Part B drug reimbursement recommendations
- CMS's 2018 QPP proposed rule
- ANCO's 2017 Professional Education Meeting

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 July 7<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**

The *Medicare Payment Advisory Commission* (MedPAC) has released its June 2017 report to Congress including several major recommendations related to Medicare Part B drug reimbursement. These include reductions in the ASP add-on payment and a program that would allow providers to use private Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM)-style vendors to negotiate drug prices with manufacturers. Read the full MedPAC Part B report at [medpac.gov/docs/default-source/reports/jun17\\_reporttocongress\\_sec.pdf?sfvrsn=0](http://medpac.gov/docs/default-source/reports/jun17_reporttocongress_sec.pdf?sfvrsn=0) and the *Community Oncology Alliance's* (COA) comments at [www.communityoncology.org/blog/2017/03/28/march-28-coa-comments-on-draft-medpac-medicare-part-b-recommendations/](http://www.communityoncology.org/blog/2017/03/28/march-28-coa-comments-on-draft-medpac-medicare-part-b-recommendations/).

CMS is readying a fraud prevention initiative that removes *Social Security Numbers* from Medicare cards to help combat identity theft and safeguard taxpayer dollars. The new cards will use a unique, randomly-assigned number called a *Medicare Beneficiary Identifier* (MBI) to replace the *Social Security-based Health Insurance Claim Number* (HICN) currently used on the Medicare card. CMS will begin mailing new cards in April 2018. For more information, visit the CMS *Social Security Removal Initiative* (SSNRI) website at [www.cms.gov/medicare/ssnri/](http://www.cms.gov/medicare/ssnri/).

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.

CMS has issued a proposed rule that would make changes in the second year of the QPP. The proposed rule “aims to simplify the program, especially for small, independent, and rural practices.” Read the CMS fact sheet at [www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Value-Based-Programs/MACRA-MIPS-and-APMs/Proposed-rule-fact-sheet.pdf](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Value-Based-Programs/MACRA-MIPS-and-APMs/Proposed-rule-fact-sheet.pdf); read ASCO’s summary at [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/proposed-2018-qpp-rule-adds-flexibility-questions-medicare-part-b](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/proposed-2018-qpp-rule-adds-flexibility-questions-medicare-part-b); and, read Bobbi Buell’s analysis at [www.anco-online.org/BBMIPS2018.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/BBMIPS2018.pdf).

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

- July 10<sup>th</sup>—Quality Payment Program: Optimizing your MIPS Score

All webinars are scheduled for 1PM PT. Register at [www.asco.org/macra](http://www.asco.org/macra) > MACRA Webinar Series and watch recordings and view slides of

previous webinars at [www.asco.org/macra](http://www.asco.org/macra) > MACRA Webinar Series. **ASCO has developed a MACRA decision tree tool to help oncology practices find precise information on their QPP participation status** at [www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/billing-coding-reporting/macra-quality-payment-program/macra-practice-tools/determine-status](http://www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/billing-coding-reporting/macra-quality-payment-program/macra-practice-tools/determine-status). 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'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.

**CMA On-Call, the *California Medical Association's* online health law library, has been updated with 2017 content**. New documents for 2017 include *Promoting Quality of Life for Older Patients* (#3504), *MACRA Overview* (#7210), *California's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program: The Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System* (#3212). Other recently updated documents of particularly timely interest include *The California End of Life Option Act* (#3459), *Non-Contracting Physicians* (#7508). Access On-Call documents at [www.cmanet.org/cma-on-call](http://www.cmanet.org/cma-on-call).

**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. CMA has published resources to help physicians navigate the new law, including an FAQ, instructions for obtaining patient consent, a sample consent form, and an overview of billing requirements under the new law. Visit [www.cmanet.org/ab-72](http://www.cmanet.org/ab-72) 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.

#### Forthcoming CMA webinars include:

- Transitioning your Practice: Retiring, Selling or Buying a Practice (June 28)

Contact CMA's member help center at (800) 786-4262 or [memberservice@cmanet.org](mailto:memberservice@cmanet.org) for more information. Register online at [www.cmanet.org/events](http://www.cmanet.org/events).

*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*—MIPS Group Reporting: Registration Period Ends June 30; MIPS Performance Categories: Accepting Future Measures and Activities until June 30; Chronic Care Management Services: New Connected Care Materials; CMS Proposes Quality Payment Program

Updates to Increase Flexibility and Reduce Burdens; Coming in April 2018: New Medicare Card-New Number; Quality Payment Program: New Resources Available; Quality Payment Program: View Recordings of Recent Webinars *Claims, Pricers, and Codes*—2018 ICD-10-CM Code Files Available

- ASC Payment System-July 2017 Update-Revised CR10138
- ICD-10 Coding Revisions to NCDs CR10086
- Radiopharmaceutical Fee Schedule 2017 Updates
- Screening for Lung Cancer with LDCT-Second Revision CR9246
- New Process for Providers and Suppliers Submitting Redeterminations and Reopenings via NMP-Effective June 16, 2017
- Medicare After Hours-Evening Webinars Available for Your Professional Growth
- Provider Enrollment Revalidation-Cycle 2-Second Revision SE1605

*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/webinars/workshops include:

- Supplemental Medical Review Contractor (June 28)
- Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP; June 28)
- Medicare Secondary Payer Calculations (June 29)

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

information and to register.

## EDUCATION

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

### **ANCO's The State of Cancer Care**

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. However, ANCO hosted 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 presentation at [www.anco-online.org/TemperoKidder2017.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/TemperoKidder2017.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*, *USP797/800*, and *California Legislative/Regulatory Updates*. Watch for a meeting announcement in early July.

#### **Additional Education Meetings**

June 26<sup>th</sup>

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

June 29<sup>th</sup>

*What Are Generic Drugs: Understanding Their Role in Cancer Treatment*  
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://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/](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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* teleconferenced on **June 21<sup>st</sup>** to discuss and/or act upon the following:

- California legislation
- Educational program collaborations
- ANCO e-communications policy
- New activities and services, governance By-Laws amendment, branding, and membership recruitment

Contact the ANCO office for additional information on any of these items.

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 September 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**

**Barbara McAneny, M.D., was elected *President-Elect* of the *American Medical Association (AMA)*.** She is a medical oncologist/hematologist from New Mexico and is the first oncologist elected to serve as *AMA President* (assuming office in June 2018). 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*.

**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*

***Stanford Cancer Institute* is co-sponsoring a *State of Science Summit: Updates in the Management of Adenocarcinoma of the Lung* on Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at 9AM.** The meeting takes place at the *San Jose Fairmont* and is Chaired by Heather Wakelee, M.D. To register, please contact Allison Cooper at [acooper@curetoday.com](mailto:acooper@curetoday.com) or visit [www.onclive.com/meetings/soss](http://www.onclive.com/meetings/soss).

### **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.

**Genentech BioOncology** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved the Rituxan Hycela for adult patients with follicular lymphoma, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, and chronic lymphocytic leukemia.

**Sanofi Genzyme** is hosting an educational dinner meeting on July 13 entitled *What's Behind Your Patient's Hematological Abnormalities* with Seymour Pack, MD, *University of California, San Francisco*. The meeting takes place at 6:30PM at *A16 Rockridge*. RSVP to Sandra Brink at (866) 700-9297.

### **Clinical Trial News**

**ASCO joined more than 35 other organizations, including professional societies, patient advocacy**

**groups, and research institutions, to encourage the *United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)* to develop guidance on plain language summaries for clinical trial results.** Read the letter and accompanying recommendations at [www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/blog-release/documents/2017-FDA-PLS-Guidance-Recommendation-Letter.pdf](http://www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/blog-release/documents/2017-FDA-PLS-Guidance-Recommendation-Letter.pdf) and [www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/blog-release/documents/2017-Draft-FDA-Guidance-Submission.pdf](http://www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/blog-release/documents/2017-Draft-FDA-Guidance-Submission.pdf).

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

- A Two-Arm, Open-label, Randomized Phase II Study of Pembrolizumab (MK-3475) Monotherapy versus Standard Chemotherapy in Platinum Pre-treated, Recurrent or Metastatic Nasopharyngeal Cancer (NPC; Keynote-122; NCT02611960). Principal Investigator: Alain Algazi, M.D.; Contact: Christelle Salomon, (415) 476-4873, [christelle.salomon@ucsf.edu](mailto:christelle.salomon@ucsf.edu)
- A Multicentre, Randomized, Open-Label, Phase III Clinical Trial Of Gemcitabine And Carboplatin Followed By Epstein-Barr Virus-Specific Autologous Cytotoxic T Lymphocytes Versus Gemcitabine and Carboplatin As First Line Treatment For Advanced Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma Patients (NCT02578641). Principal Investigator: Alain Algazi, M.D.; Contact: Melinda Lem, (415) 502-3569, [melinda.lem@ucsf.edu](mailto:melinda.lem@ucsf.edu)
- A Phase 1b/2, Open-Label, Multicentre Study Assessing the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics, and Preliminary Anti-tumor Activity of MEDI4736 in Combination With AZD9150 or AZD5069 in Patients With Advanced Solid Malignancies and Subsequently Comparing AZD9150 and AZD5069 Both as Monotherapy and in Combination with MEDI4736 as Second line Treatment in Patients With Recurrent and/or Metastatic Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck (NCT02499328). Principal Investigator: Alain Algazi, M.D.; Contact: Carter Hultman, (415) 502-4707, [carter.hultman@ucsf.edu](mailto:carter.hultman@ucsf.edu)
- A Double-Blind, Randomized, Two Arm Phase 2 Study of Nivolumab in Combination with

Ipilimumab versus Nivolumab in Combination with Ipilimumab or Placebo in Recurrent Metastatic Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck (SCCHN; BMS CA209-714; NCT02823574). Principal Investigator: Alain Algazi, M.D.; Contact: Melinda Lem, (415) 502-3569, [melinda.lem@ucsf.edu](mailto:melinda.lem@ucsf.edu)

Further information is available at [cancer.ucsf.edu/trials](http://cancer.ucsf.edu/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 [apps.asco.org/oncology-practice-central/survey](http://apps.asco.org/oncology-practice-central/survey).

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

**ASCO's Clinical Affairs Department 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/practice-guidelines/practice-support](http://www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-support).

The June 2017 issue of ASCO's *Journal of Oncology Practice* (JOP) is available online and

features articles entitled *Why Burnout Is So Hard to Fix*, *Toward Implementing Patient Flow in a Cancer Treatment Center to Reduce Patient Waiting Time and Improve Efficiency*, *Cancer Drugs: An International Comparison of Postlicensing Price Inflation*. 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. 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 measures 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).

**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/).

**ACCC's enhanced set of Financial Advocacy Network resources** are at [www.accc-cancer.org/resources/FinancialAdvocacy-Overview.asp](http://www.accc-cancer.org/resources/FinancialAdvocacy-Overview.asp). This "one-stop" destination for comprehensive financial advocacy information



includes online training materials, practical financial advocacy tools, peer-to-peer networking, and more.

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 [www.hematology.org/Clinicians/Drugs/Programs/](http://www.hematology.org/Clinicians/Drugs/Programs/)) that provides a consolidated list of resources for hematologists and patients trying to access high cost hematologic drugs.** And, at NCCN's **Reimbursement Resource Room** ([www.nccn.org/reimbursement\\_resource\\_room/default.asp](http://www.nccn.org/reimbursement_resource_room/default.asp)) **you can select a cancer diagnosis or supportive care indication and learn about reimbursement help and services available to you.** 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.

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 (V3.2017); B-cell lymphomas (V3.2017); colon cancer (V1.2017); distress management (V1.2017); esophageal and esophagogastric junction cancers (V2.2016); head and neck cancers—cancer of the lip and oral cavity (V2.2017); hepatocellular carcinoma and gallbladder cancer (V2.2017); non-small cell lung cancer (V6.2017); neuroendocrine tumors (V3.2017); prostate cancer early detection (V1.2017); soft tissue sarcoma (V2.2017); 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 2017 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.

ANCO seeks new members. **All members of a practice should join ANCO. And, ANCO seeks to enroll radiation oncologists as members,** so please send us contact information for the radiation oncologists within your practice and/or to whom you refer patients.

**Remember, a larger ANCO is a stronger ANCO!**