

ANCO FAX News

Association of Northern California Oncologists
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Vol. 16, No. 3

February 10th, 2017

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.

In this issue:

- ASCO's *Clinical Cancer Advances 2017*
- Quality Payment Program resources
- *17th Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-based Approach*—
REGISTRATION ENDS FEB 28
- ASCO'S Survey of Oncology Practices

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 February 24th. 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.

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 *Institute for Clinical and Economic Review (ICER)* will develop a report assessing the comparative effectiveness and value of emerging therapies for treatment of ovarian cancer. A three-week "open input" period opened on February 8th and comments are accepted from any and all stakeholders. The report will be the subject of a September 2017 meeting. For more information about ICER, go to icer-review.org.

ASCO's Clinical Cancer Advances 2017: ASCO's Annual Report on Progress Against Cancer is now available online at www.asco.org/research-progress/reports-studies/clinical-cancer-advances. It announces immunotherapy 2.0 as the advance of the year.

A chronic care management (CCM) services changes for 2017 fact sheet is available at www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/ChronicCareManagementServicesChanges2017.pdf. Learn more about 2017 chronic care management coding changes, included services in CCM, and key improvements reducing requirements associated with initiating CCM services.

CMS's Medicare Quality Payment Program website is at 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

- CMS's fact sheet at 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
- 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 and 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
- ACCC's MACRA presentation at www.anco-online.org/ACCCMACRAPresentation.pdf.
- ASH's summary of the final rule at www.hematology.org/Advocacy/Policy-News/2016/6755.aspx, comments on the final rule at www.hematology.org/Advocacy/Testimony.aspx, and MACRA 101 for Hematologists at 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
- The *California Medical Association's (CMA) MACRA Resource Center* at 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.

CMS has extended the deadline from February 28th to March 13th for the 2016 Quality Reporting Document Architecture (QRDA) data submission for the EHR reporting mechanism. This affects all individual eligible professionals and PQRS practices. Eligible professionals who do not satisfactorily report 2016 quality measure data to meet the PQRS requirements will be subject to a downward PQRS payment adjustment on all Medicare Part B Physician Fee Schedule services rendered in 2018. For more information, please go to www.cms.gov/

medicare/quality-initiatives-patient-assessment-instruments/pqrs/analysisandpayment.html.

In related news, ACCC is creating tools and resources for cancer programs as part of its *Optimizing Electronic Health Records (EHRs) education initiative*. To assist ACCC in shaping these resources, please share your EHR pain points and success via their survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/2017ACCCEHR.

ASCO's *Criteria for High-Quality Clinical Pathways in Oncology*, a set of 15 inter-related criteria that provide an overarching framework for assessing pathway programs in the United States, are featured as a special article the *Journal of Oncology Practice* (at ascopubs.org/doi/abs/10.1200/JOP.2016.019836). The criteria focus on three key areas—development, implementation and use, and analytics.

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 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 to subscribe. The February 2017 edition includes:

- Are you exempt from ICD-10 PQRS penalties in 2016?
- Medi-Cal's fiscal intermediary to change name from Xerox
- Webinar: Learn how to manage your professional reputation online
- The Coding Corner: How and when to append modifier 25

Noridian/JEMAC, DHCS/MediCal, & Private Payers

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

- MLN Connects Provider eNews *Announcements*—Clinical Laboratories: Prepare Now to Report Lab Data through March 31; Updated Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule Website
- *Events*—Understanding and Promoting the Value of Chronic Care Management Services Call-February 21
- *Publications*—Telehealth Services Fact Sheet-Revised
- Self-Service Reopenings Available Through Noridian Medicare Portal
- New Waived Tests CR9956
- Radiopharmaceutical Fee Schedule 2016 Updates-Revised
- The Process for Prior Authorization CR9940
- Medicare B News JE January 2017 Bulletin-Now Available
- Enrollment Tutorials for Rural Providers
- Pegfilgrastim (Neulasta) J2505-R1
- DecisionDx-UM Billing Guidelines
- MolDX: NRAS Genetic Testing LCD-R1 and R2
- Intravenous Immune Globulin (IVIg) NCD-R1
- Proper Billing of Modifier AS
- MolDX-Genetic Testing for Lynch Syndrome LCD-R1
- MolDX: bioTheranostics Cancer TYPE ID Billing and Coding Guidelines-R3
- 2017 In-Person Seminars—Your Input Needed

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.

The Medicare Participating Physician Directory

(MEDPARD) is a list of physicians, suppliers, and practitioners (Medicare health care providers) who have signed an agreement to accept assignment on all claims. Learn more at med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/article-detail/-/view/10542/medicare-participating-physician-directory-information-for-2017.

Forthcoming Noridian/JEMAC meetings/workshops include:

- Ordering, Referring and Prescribing Services (February 14, 16)
- Noridian Medicare Portal Registration for Part B Providers (February 14, 16)
- Chronic Care Management (CCM) Webinar (February 22)
- Radiation Oncology (February 28)
- Duplicate Claims (March 1)

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

Anthem Blue Cross is implementing important changes to its national drug list (formulary) effective April 1st. Review these changes at file.anthem.com.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/64774CAEENABC.pdf.

UnitedHealthcare's Network Bulletin (February 2017) is now available online at unitedhealthcareonline.com > Tools & Resources > News & Network Bulletin and features articles entitled: UnitedHealthcare eligibilityLink App Replacing Other Online Options; The latest information on HEDIS; and, Coverage Determinations for Health Care Services.

EDUCATION

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

17th Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-based Approach REGISTRATION ENDS February 28th

The *17th Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-based Approach* returns to the Silverado Resort and Spa in Napa on March 17-19th. 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 to register.

Additional Education Meetings

February 14th

The Future of Genomics and Precision Medicine
ASCO and SAP

(www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/register-now-free-asco-led-online-course-precision-medicine-class)

February 24th

Update on Thyroid Cancer

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop
(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

March 2nd

ASCO Oncology Practice Conference

ASCO

Orlando

(opc.asco.org)

March 3rd-4th

ASCO Quality Care Symposium: Quality Matters

ASCO

Orlando

(quality.asco.org)

March 6th

Managing Eye and Vision Changes Related to Cancer Treatments

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop
(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

March 7th

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)

March 8th

Understanding the Role of Immunotherapy in

Testing Cancer—Part I of Immunotherapy: A

Promising New Approach to Treating Cancer

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop
(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

March 10th

Living with Cancer Throughout the Cancer Journey

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop
(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

March 11th

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)

March 13th

9th Annual Palliative Care Summit

Coalition for Compassionate Care of California
Sacramento

(<http://ccccsummit.org>)

March 14th

Diagnostics in Small Cell Lung Cancer: How Diagnostics Help Inform Treatment Decisions—Part II of Living with Small Cell Lung Cancer
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop
(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

March 15th

Managing the Side Effects of Immunotherapy—Part II of Immunotherapy: A Promising New Approach to Treating Cancer

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop
(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

March 16-18th

Multidisciplinary Thoracic Cancers Symposium: Bringing Precision Medicine to Thoracic Cancer Care

American Society Clinical Oncology
San Francisco

(<http://www.thoracicsymposium.org/index.aspx>)

March 23rd

Update on Glioblastoma

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop
(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

March 28th

Progress in the Treatment of Follicular Lymphoma

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop
(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

March 29th-31st

Cancerscape: Business & Policy, Value & Quality—ACCC 43rd Annual Meeting

Association of Community Cancer Centers
Washington, DC

(<http://www.accc-cancer.org/meetings/AM2017.asp>)

April 3rd

Advances in the Treatment of Colorectal Cancer

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop
(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

April 5th

Progress in the Treatment of Oral and Head and Neck Cancer

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop
(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

April 6th

Update on Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL)
CancerCare Connect Education Workshop
(www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops)

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

ASSOCIATION & MEMBERSHIP NEWS, RESOURCES, & BENEFITS

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

Board of Directors

The ANCO *Board of Directors* meets by teleconference and occasionally in person to discuss issues affecting the *Association*, clinical and professional education, and ways to better serve the membership. *Board* teleconferences/meetings are open to individual physician members. The **next regularly scheduled ANCO Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for March 21st**. 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 as a .pdf document. We urge all ANCO members to download their own edition of *The ANCO Directory of Members*. Please verify your *Directory* entry and contact the ANCO office at execdir@anco-online.org with any corrections, additions, and/or deletions.

Group Member News

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

ANCO initiated a **Multi Site Group Membership** in 2010 to encourage all physicians (medical and radiation oncologists) from multi-site and multidisciplinary practices to join. ANCO thanks *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's Neuroendocrine Tumors in 2017: New Diagnostics and Therapies takes place on March 4th at Stanford. For more information and to register, go to 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
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
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*

We especially wish to thank and welcome *bioTheranostics* as a new Corporate Member for

2017. Please visit www.anco-online.org/assistance.html for **Corporate Member drug reimbursement and patient assistance program information**. ANCO encourages all member practices to use this resource and enroll all patients at the start of treatment in all available and appropriate patient assistance programs.

AstraZeneca is hosting a dinner program entitled *Multidisciplinary Approach to Diagnostic Testing in Metastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer* with Jeffrey Gregg, M.D., *UC Davis*, on February 13th at Prima Ristorante in Walnut Creek. RSVP to Jason Yonehiro at (415) 205-3699 by February 10th.

Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology has informed ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Opdivo for treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma (mUC) who have disease progression during or following platinum-containing chemotherapy or have disease progression within 12 months of neoadjuvant or adjuvant treatment with a platinum-containing chemotherapy.

Genomic Health has informed ANCO that Oncotype DX is included in the 8th Edition of the *American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC) Criteria for Breast Cancer Staging*. For the first time, AJCC adds molecular markers to the staging criteria, including Oncotype DX along with estrogen receptor (ER), progesteron receptor (PR), and HER2 status. For more information, please visit cancerstaging.org/About/new/Pages/Implementation-of-AJCC-8th-Edition-Cancer-Staging-System.aspx.

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 17th at *Morimoto*, 610 Main Street, Napa. RSVP at www.medforcereg.net/SOMP108529.

nanoString informs ANCO that *Humana* has issued a positive coverage decision for the Prosigna Breast Cancer Gene Signature Assay. *Humana's* coverage decision is in line with updated ASCO guidelines released in February 2016 where Prosigna is considered medically necessary to assess the necessity of adjuvant chemotherapy in ER+, HER-, node-negative breast cancer patients, when adjuvant chemotherapy is not precluded due to any other factor..

Clinical Trial News

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

- A Platform Study Exploring the Safety, Tolerability, Effects on the Tumor Microenvironment and Efficacy of Pembrolizumab (MK-3475) + INCB Combinations in Advanced Solid Tumors (CC#159520). Contact: Claire Hooker, (415) 885-3724, claire.hooker@ucsf.edu
- A phase II multicenter randomized trial evaluating 3-year disease-free survival in patients with locally advanced rectal cancer treated with chemoradiation plus induction or consolidation chemotherapy, and total mesorectal excision or non-operative management. Contact: Lillian Jahan, (415) 353-7252, lillian.jahan2@ucsf.edu
- A Phase 1, Open-Label, Dose-Escalation and Dose Expansion Study Evaluating the Safety, Pharmacokinetics, and Pharmacodynamics and Clinical Effects of Orally Administered CB-5083 in Patients with Advanced Solid Tumors (CC#149511). Contact: Nilson Wu, (415) 353-4084, nilson.wu@ucsf.edu
- A Randomized, Active-Controlled, Partially Blinded, Biomarker Select, Phase III Clinical Trial of Pembrolizumab as Monotherapy and in Combination with Cisplatin+5-Fluorouracil versus Placebo+Cisplatin+5-Fluorouracil as First-Line Treatment in Subjects with Advanced Gastric or Gastroesophageal Junction (GEJ) Adenocarcinoma. (KEYNOTE-062; CC#154525) Contact: Claire Greene, (415) 514-6258, claire.greene@ucsf.edu.
- A Phase 1, Open-Label, Dose-Escalation and Dose Expansion Study Evaluating the Safety, Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics and Clinical Effects of Orally Administered CB-5083 in Patients with Advanced Solid Tumors (CC#149511). Contact: Nilson Wu, (415) 353-4084; nilson.wu@ucsf.edu
- A Phase 1, First-Time-in-Human Study of MEDI9197, a TLR 7/8 Agonist, Administered Intratumorally in Subjects with a Solid Tumor Cancer (CC#159518). Contact: Nilson Wu, (415) 353-4084; nilson.wu@ucsf.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). Contact: Denisha Otis, (415) 748-9513; denisha.otis@ucsf.edu
- A Phase 1b, Open-Label, Dose Escalation and Expansion Study of Demcizumab + Pembrolizumab and Demcizumab + Pembrolizumab, Pemetrexed, and Carboplatin in Patients with Locally Advanced or Metastatic Solid Tumors (CC#159521). Contact: Kamran Abri Lavasani, (415) 353-8337; kamran.abrilavasani@ucsf.edu

- A Multicenter Phase I Ascending Dose Study of DCC-2701 to Assess Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics in Patients with Advanced Solid Tumors (CC#169512). Contact: Kamran Abri Lavasani, (415) 353-8337; kamran.abrilavasani@ucsf.edu
 - A Phase IB Dose Escalation Study of ADXS31-164 in Subjects with HER2 Expressing Solid Tumors (CC#159519). Contact: Kamran Abri Lavasani, (415) 353-8337; kamran.abrilavasani@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: Kamran Abri Lavasani, (415) 353-8337; kamran.abrilavasani@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: Kamran Abri Lavasani, (415) 353-8337; kamran.abrilavasani@ucsf.edu
 - A Phase 2 Study of Cediranib in Combination with Olaparib in Advanced Solid Tumors (CC#169519). Contact: Kamran Abri Lavasani, (415) 353-8337; kamran.abrilavasani@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 (CC#17452). Contact: Claire Greene, (415) 514-6258; claire.greene@ucsf.edu

Further information is available at cancer.ucsf.edu/trials.

Publications, Resources, Services, & Surveys

A team from ASCO's Leadership Development Program is conducting a survey to understand how ASCO can better engage practices without losing sight of individual members. They are interested in determining who within the practice is making decisions regarding the potential update and use of ASCO's educational services. Take the survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/QT5TC9V by February 12th.

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.

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 20th-21st, June 28-29th, and October 18th. To learn more about and apply to participate in the Program, visit www.asco.org/training-education/professional-development/quality-training-program.

ASCO invites interested stakeholders to submit comments on its draft clinical practice guideline update on antiemetics by February 13th. To participate, visit www.asco.org/open-comment-guidelines.

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 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 at 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.

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 1st, 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). Learn more about ASCO's physician payment reform efforts at www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/policies-positions-guidance/coverage-reimbursement/physician-payment-reform.

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 for more information.

The January/February issue of ACCC's *Oncology Issues* includes articles entitled *Telehealth—Connecting Patients with Nutrition Services* and *Building a Palliative Care Program from the Inside Out*. Visit 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/.

ACCC's enhanced set of *Financial Advocacy Network* resources are at 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.

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 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 acc-fan-app.org. **ASH also has a webpage (at 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) **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 to learn more.

The *Community Oncology Alliance* (COA) is hosting a webinar on specialty and oncology pharmacy accreditation on February 23rd at 9AM PT. Register at [zoom.us/meeting/register/1abe21cc2c2d271334538d7d4481ef37](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/1abe21cc2c2d271334538d7d4481ef37).

NCCN has published and/or updated their *Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology* and/or *Drugs & Biologics Compendium* for esophageal and esophagogastric junction cancers (V2.2016); head and neck cancers (V1.2017); soft tissue sarcoma (V2.2017); systemic light chain amyloidosis (V1.2017); and, Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia/Lymphoplasmacytic Lymphoma (V1.2017). Go to 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.

Individual Membership Dues for 2017

Second notices of membership renewal for 2017 were mailed to all members in early February. 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 30th will be deleted from the *Directory of Members*, and will no longer be eligible for any ANCO benefits. Contact the ANCO office if you do not receive or misplaced your membership dues renewal notice.

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!