

# ANCO FAX News

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The *ANCO FAX News* focuses on ANCO's core activities—advocacy, clinical and professional education, and *Association* and membership news. While membership mailings and e-mail/FAX broadcasts continue, the *ANCO FAX News* summarizes this information in a regular forum of important news to members. Contact the ANCO office for additional information regarding any item published in the *ANCO FAX News*. Find the *ANCO FAX News* online at [www.anco-online.org/pubs.html](http://www.anco-online.org/pubs.html).

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

The next regular *ANCO FAX News* will be published on January 26<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 CY2018 Medicare *Physician Fee Schedules* have been posted to the Noridian/JEMAC website at [med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/fees-news/fee-schedules/mpfs#2018](http://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/fees-news/fee-schedules/mpfs#2018).

ASCO has asked CMS to rescind its 340B reimbursement cut. The CY2018 *Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System* final rule reduced 340B reimbursement for separately paid drugs to ASP minus 22.5%. Read ASCO's letter at [www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/2018-ASCO-CY-OPPS-Final-Rule-Comments.pdf](http://www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/2018-ASCO-CY-OPPS-Final-Rule-Comments.pdf).

ASCO submitted comments on CMS's Quality Payment Program Rule for 2018. It urged CMS to remove Part B reimbursement from payment adjustments under MIPS and to reconsider the weighting of ASCO quality programs in the MIPS Improvement Activities (IA) category. Read ASCO's comments at [www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/ASCO-Comments-2018-QPP-Final-Rule.pdf](http://www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/ASCO-Comments-2018-QPP-Final-Rule.pdf).

ASCO's *Quality Oncology Practice Initiative (QOPI) Qualified Clinical Data Registry (QCDR)* is available for CMS MIPS reporting. By using the QOPI QCDR for MIPS reporting, practices will be able to report in 2018 to avoid cuts to Medicare reimbursements in 2020. Express your interest in participating in the QOPI QCDR by e-mailing [qopi@asoc.org](mailto:qopi@asoc.org). Practices will be contacted regarding the necessary steps to begin their on-boarding process. For more information, please visit

[www.instituteforquality.org/qopi/about/quality-reporting](http://www.instituteforquality.org/qopi/about/quality-reporting).

ASCO's series of webinars to guide oncology practices to successful quality reporting are available at [www.asco.org/macra](http://www.asco.org/macra) > MACRA Webinar Series. A recording and the slides from their recent *Quality Payment Program: Preparing for 2018, Surviving in 2017* are now available. 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).

### **CMA, MOASC, and State Legislative & Regulatory Issues**

The *California Oncology Political Action Committee* (or CalCancerPAC), formed by ANCO and MOASC, supports candidates sensitive to the needs of hematologists/oncologists and people living with cancer in California. ANCO membership dues include a contribution to CalCancerPAC.

The *California Medical Association (CMA)* has published a summary of the most significant new health laws of interest to physicians. For more details, see *Significant New California Laws of Interest to Physicians for 2018* at [www.cmanet.org/files/assets/news/2018/01/new-laws-2018-long.pdf](http://www.cmanet.org/files/assets/news/2018/01/new-laws-2018-long.pdf).

Sacramento can be a dangerous place for doctors. Many bills impacting medicine wind their way through the *Capitol* on their journey to the *Governor's* desk. And, many of these bills threaten the medical profession with the backing of powerful lobbyists and PACs. It's critical that **physicians have an advocate at work for them every day and who knows how to speak on their behalf.** That advocate is the *California Medical*

**Association (CMA).** While physicians keep a close eye on their patients, CMA is keeping a close eye on those bills...and more. **Got payment delays? Feeling victimized by payers and overwhelmed by the process? Don't let the health plans mistreat you.** The CMA's *Center for Economic Services (CES)* has a team of reimbursement specialists available to assist ANCO's CMA members experiencing payment problems with third-party payers. For membership, please call (916) 551-2042; for reimbursement assistance, please call CMA's *Reimbursement Helpline* at (888) 401-5911.

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

### **Noridian/JEMAC, DHCS/MediCal, & Private Payers**

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

- MLN Connects Provider eNews *Announcements*—2018 Medicare EHR Incentive Program Payment Adjustment for Eligible Clinicians; Physician Compare: 2016 Performance Information Available; CMS Launches Data Submission System for Clinicians in the Quality Payment Program; Quality Payment Program: Qualified Registries and QCDRs; Quality Payment Program Resources; Hospice Compare Update *Publications*—Hospice Payment System

Booklet-Revised; Medicare Overpayments Fact Sheet-Revised; Avoiding Medicare Fraud & Abuse: A Roadmap for Physicians Booklet-Revised

- MolDX: EndoPredict Breast Cancer Gene Expression Test Final LCD-Effective January 30, 2018
- MolDX: Prometheus IBD sgi Diagnostic Policy Final LCD-Effective January 30, 2018
- Medicare After Hours-Evening Webinars Available for Your Professional Growth
- Modifier 59/NCCI Education on Demand Tutorial Available
- Enrollment Application Status Search Tool Available Soon
- Open Enrollment Participation Program for 2018
- E/M Modifiers Education on Demand
- CLFS and Laboratory Services Subject to Reasonable Charge Payment-2018 Annual Update CR10409
- Chemotherapy Administration-R11
- MolDX: Molecular Diagnostic Tests (MDT) LCD-R4
- MolDX: Breast Cancer Assay: Prosigna LCD-R2
- Lymphedema Decongestive Treatment-R1
- January Webinars-Register Now
- 2018 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Now Available
- MolDX-CDD: ProMark Risk Score LCD-R1
- Immune Globulin Intravenous (IVIg) LCD-R7
- Summary of Policies in the Calendar Year (CY) 2018 Medicare Physician Fee

Schedule (MPFS) Final Rule, Telehealth Originating Site Facility Fee Payment Amount and Telehealth Services List, and CT Modifier Reduction List CR10393

- MolDX: CYP Gene Evidence Analysis Article Retirement-Effective August 24, 2017
- Laboratory NCD Edit Software Changes for April 2018 CR10424
- MolDX: NSCLC, Comprehensive Genomic Profile Testing LCD-R2
- Proper Use of Modifier 59-Revised SE1418
- Erythropoietin Stimulating Agents (ESA) LCD Retirement-Effective January 1, 2018
- MolDX: CHD7 Gene Analysis Billing and Coding Guidelines-R1
- MolDX: BRCA1 and BRCA2 Genetic Testing LCD-R1
- New Waived Tests CR10418
- ASP Medicare Part B Drug Pricing Files and Revisions to Prior Quarterly Pricing Files for April 2018 CR10447

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

- Mammography, Pap Test, Pelvic Exam and Cervical Cancer with HPV Tests Webinar (January 17)
- Evaluation and Management Modifiers Webinar (January 24)
- Modifier 59, NCCI and MUE Webinar (February 7)

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

**Effective February 5<sup>th</sup>, *Noridian/JEMAC* will require providers to use the Enrollment Application Status Search self-service tool to access application related details.** Visit the tool at

[med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/enrollment/enrollment-application-status-search](http://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/enrollment/enrollment-application-status-search). In addition, **effective February 5<sup>th</sup>, *Noridian/JEMAC* will require providers to use the Noridian Medicare Portal (NMP) and/or the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) for all eligibility inquiries.** For more information, visit [med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/topics/nmp/end-user-manual#eligibility](http://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/topics/nmp/end-user-manual#eligibility) and [med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/contact/ivr](http://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/contact/ivr).

**DHCS/MediCal has detailed the requirements of MediCal plans to provide palliative care services to their beneficiaries in accordance with SB1004 (2014).** DHCS/MediCal implemented the palliative care program through managed care and fee-for-service providers on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Learn more about SB1004 at [coalitionccc.org/public-policy/sb1004](http://coalitionccc.org/public-policy/sb1004); read the DHCS all-plan letter at [www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Documents/MMCDAPLsandPolicyLetters/APL2017/APL17-015.pdf](http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Documents/MMCDAPLsandPolicyLetters/APL2017/APL17-015.pdf).

***Anthem Blue Cross* recently announced that it would reduce the magnitude of its modifier 25 payment cut from 50% to 25% and would delay implementation until March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.** *Anthem* will be issuing formal guidance to network physicians communicating these changes.

**The *Anthem Blue Cross Network eUpdate* (December 2017) is now available online at [www11.anthem.com/ca/provider/f5/s3/t3/pw\\_g325671.pdf](http://www11.anthem.com/ca/provider/f5/s3/t3/pw_g325671.pdf).**

***UnitedHealthcare's Network Bulletin* (January 2018) is now available online at [www.unitedhealthcareonline.com](http://www.unitedhealthcareonline.com) > Tools & Resources > News & Network Bulletin and features articles on notification/prior authorization requirements for CAR-T therapy, change in advance notification and prior authorization requirements, new procedure codes for injectable medications (effective Jan. 1, 2018).**

## EDUCATION

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

### **ANCO's Medicare Reimbursement for Oncology 2018**

ANCO hosted its annual *Medicare* update programs entitled *Medicare Reimbursement for Oncology in 2018* on January 3<sup>rd</sup> in San José and January 4<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento. Roberta Buell, M.B.A., *onPoint Oncology*, provided the latest information impacting Medicare's reimbursement for oncology in 2018 as well as a *Revenue Cycle State of the State* with northern California data on denial rates, days to pay, and days to file. Download the presentations at [www.anco-online.org/index.html](http://www.anco-online.org/index.html).

### **Best of SABCS San Francisco**

ANCO, in association with the Organizing Committee of the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium and Encore Medical Education, is hosting the **Best of San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium San Francisco (Best of SABCS San Francisco)** at *The Claremont Hotel* on **Saturday morning, January 27<sup>th</sup>**. This program is an enhancement of ANCO's traditional *SABCS Highlights*. Hope S. Rugo, M.D., *UC San Francisco*, is the *Regional Director for Best of SABCS San Francisco*. Register at [s3.goeshow.com/encoremededu/BestofSABCSSanFrancisco2018/ereg101626.cfm?pg=home](http://s3.goeshow.com/encoremededu/BestofSABCSSanFrancisco2018/ereg101626.cfm?pg=home).

### **18<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-based Approach**

The *18<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-based Approach* returns to the *Silverado Resort and Spa* in Napa on March 16-18<sup>th</sup>. The meeting is sponsored by the *Association of Northern California Oncologists*, *Stanford Cancer Institute*, *UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center*, and the *UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center*. Go to

[www.multicancers.org](http://www.multicancers.org) for more information including registration and housing.

### **Additional Education Meetings**

January 12-13<sup>th</sup>

*2018 Highlights of ASH*

ASH

San Francisco

([www.hematology.org/Highlights/](http://www.hematology.org/Highlights/))

January 13<sup>th</sup>

*Evolving Treatment Options in Lung Cancer*

(with David Gandara, M.D., Matthew Gubens, M.D., Jonathan Riess, M.D., & Helen Shih, N.P.)

MedPro Master Lecture Series

San Francisco

([www.cvent.com/d/ptqlwn](http://www.cvent.com/d/ptqlwn))

January 18-20<sup>th</sup>

*Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium*

ASCO

San Francisco

([www.gicasym.org](http://www.gicasym.org))

January 23<sup>rd</sup>

*Update on Lymphoma from the 2017 ASH Annual Meeting*

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop

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

January 25-27<sup>th</sup>

*Clinical Immuno-Oncology Symposium*

ASCO-SITC

San Francisco

([www.immunosym.org](http://www.immunosym.org))

January 27<sup>th</sup>

*Blood Cancer Conference*

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

San Francisco

([www.lls.org/blood-cancer-conference](http://www.lls.org/blood-cancer-conference))

January 31<sup>st</sup>-February 3<sup>rd</sup>

*PRIMO 2018: Personalized Cancer Education*

PRIMO

Maui

([www.PRIMOMeeting.org](http://www.PRIMOMeeting.org))

February 6<sup>th</sup>

*Advances in the Treatment of Lung Cancer (Part I of Living With Lung Cancer)*

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

February 8-10<sup>th</sup>

*Genitourinary Cancers Symposium*

ASCO

San Francisco

([www.gucasym.org](http://www.gucasym.org))

February 9<sup>th</sup>

*Update on Thyroid Cancer*

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

February 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))

February 26<sup>th</sup>

*Managing Eye and Vision Changes Related to Cancer Treatments*

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

February 28<sup>th</sup>

*Triple Negative Breast Cancer in the African American Community*

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

March 1<sup>st</sup>

*Life with Graft vs. Host Disease (GVHD) Post Allogeneic Stem Cell or Bone Marrow Transplantation: New Treatment Approaches*

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

March 3<sup>rd</sup>

*The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual CPIC Breast Cancer Conference*

Cancer Prevention Institute of California

San Francisco

([www.cpic.org](http://www.cpic.org))

March 9<sup>th</sup>

*Treatment Update on Renal Cell Cancer*

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://www.cancercare.org/connect_workshops))

March 12<sup>th</sup>

*Advances in the Treatment of Mesothelioma*

CancerCare Connect Education Workshop  
([www.cancercare.org/connect\\_workshops](http://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.]

**ANCO Online**

ANCO's website, [www.anco-online.org](http://www.anco-online.org), features a general description and introduction to the Association—its activities, leadership, and membership benefits; advocacy information (including ANCO and ASCO resources); clinical and professional education meeting announcements and distributed materials; survey reports and publications; clinical trials information; links to affiliated organizations; updated physician, nurse, manager, and patient resources; and, updated Corporate Member drug reimbursement and patient assistance program information.

**Annual Election Results**

The ANCO membership elected the following members to the *Board of Directors* (location, for terms ending in 2020, inclusive):

Bradley Ekstrand, M.D.

(San Mateo, 2020)

Joel Neal, M.D.

(Stanford, 2020)

Mingui Pan, M.D.

(Santa Clara, 2020)

Thach-Giao Truong, M.D.

(Vallejo, 2020)

Drs. Colevas (Stanford, 2018), Gandara (Sacramento, 2018), Johnson (Stanford, 2019), Koontz (Morgan Hill, 2019), Liu (San Francisco, 2018), Melnyk (Antioch, 2019), Mirda (Napa,

2018), and Robles (Pleasant Hill, 2019) continue on the *Board*. ANCO also thanks Dr. Kankipati for her service on the *Board* and Drs. Kankipati, Limvarapuss and Marsland for standing for election.

### **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. 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 is accepting applications for its one-year Health Policy Fellowship, which provides a meaningful and unique opportunity for the Society's members and volunteers to develop expertise in health policy.** For the first time, the *Fellowship* is open to all oncologists at any stage in their career. Applications are being accepted through January 19<sup>th</sup> at [www.asco.org/node/7556](http://www.asco.org/node/7556). Similarly, **ASH is accepting applications for the 2018-2019 ASH Congressional Fellowship Program through January 31<sup>st</sup>.** Learn more at [www.hematology.org/Advocacy/6872.aspx](http://www.hematology.org/Advocacy/6872.aspx).

**ASCO seeks applications for volunteers at its ASCO Volunteer Portal (<https://volunteer.asco.org/>).** Your application will be used for all upcoming Volunteer Corps opportunities and 2018 committee consideration. Apply by January 31<sup>st</sup> for 2018 committee consideration.

**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.

Come and join the *Permanente* community for the very first ***Kaiser Permanente National Oncology Symposium*** at the *San Francisco Marriot Marquis Hotel* on April 27-28<sup>th</sup>. For updates, please visit [www.kpsymposia.com](http://www.kpsymposia.com)

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*, and *Palo Alto Medical Foundation* 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 • Agios Pharmaceuticals*  
*Alexion Pharmaceuticals*  
*AMGEN • ARIAD Pharmaceuticals*  
*Astellas Oncology • AstraZeneca*  
*Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals*  
*bioTheragnostics*  
*Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals*  
*Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology*  
*Cardinal Health Specialty Solutions*  
*Celgene • Clovis Oncology • Daiichi Sankyo*  
*Eisai • EMD Serono • Exelixis*  
*Foundation Medicine • Genentech BioOncology*  
*Genomic Health • Gilead Sciences*  
*Guardant Health • Helsinn Oncology*  
*Heron Therapeutics • Incyte*  
*Janssen Oncology • Jazz Pharmaceuticals*  
*Kite Pharmaceuticals • Lilly Oncology • Merck*  
*nanoString • Novartis Oncology*  
*Oncology Supply/ION • Pfizer Oncology*  
*Pfizer US Biosimilars • Pharmacyclics*  
*Puma Biotechnology • Sandoz Biopharmaceuticals*  
*Sanofi Genzyme • Seattle Genetics*  
*Taiho Oncology • Takeda Oncology*  
*TerSera Therapeutics • Tesaro*  
*TEVA Oncology*

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

**AMGEN** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Xgeva for the prevention of skeletal-related events in patients with multiple myeloma.

**Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Opdivo for the adjuvant treatment of patients with melanoma with involvement of lymph nodes or in patients with metastatic disease who have undergone complete resection.

**EMD Serono** informs ANCO that CMS has assigned HCPCS code J9023 to Bavencio (10mg) effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

**Exelixis** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Cabometyx for the treatment of patients with advanced renal cell carcinoma (RCC).

**Genentech BioOncology** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* (FDA) has approved Avastin for the treatment of adults with glioblastoma that progressed following prior therapy. In addition, the FDA has approved Perjeta, in combination with Herceptin and chemotherapy, for adjuvant treatment of HER2-positive early breast cancer at high risk of recurrence.

**Lilly Oncology** informs ANCO that CMS has assigned HCPCS code J9285 to Lartruvo (10mg) effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

**Novartis Oncology** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has updated the label for Tasigna to include information on its discontinuation, post-discontinuation monitoring criteria, and guidance for treatment re-initiation in patients taking Tasigna for Philadelphia chromosome positive (Ph+) chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) who have achieved a sustained molecular response (MR4.5).

**Pfizer Oncology** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has expanded the approval of Bosulif to include adult patients with newly diagnosed chronic phase, Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid leukemia (Ph+ CML).

**Pfizer Oncology** informs ANCO that CMS has assigned HCPCS code J9203 to Mylotarg (.1mg).

### **Clinical Trial News**

For the latest clinical trials being offered at ANCO's **Institutional Members**, please visit:

- [med.stanford.edu/cancer/trials.html](http://med.stanford.edu/cancer/trials.html)
- [ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/cancer/clinical-trials/search/index.html](http://ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/cancer/clinical-trials/search/index.html)
- [cancer.ucsf.edu/clinical-trials/](http://cancer.ucsf.edu/clinical-trials/)

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

ANCO's 2017 *Annual Report* is now available online at [www.anco-online.org/AR2017.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/AR2017.pdf) and was mailed to all ANCO physician members the last week in November.

ANCO and MOASC jointly publish a weekly e-publication entitled *California Oncology Weekly*. The *Weekly* is e-mailed and FAXed to all current ANCO recipients of the *ANCO FAX News* and digests national, California, ANCO, MOASC, and industry news. Please send an e-mail to [execdir@anco-online.org](mailto:execdir@anco-online.org) if you are not receiving the *Weekly* via e-mail or FAX.

ASCO's *Clinical Affairs Department* provides services, education, and resources to support oncology practices. It offers hands-on assistance in areas such as practice management, quality care assessment and improvement, and efficiency and business intelligence to meet the needs and demands of the current oncology landscape. Resources on the business of oncology, practice management (staffing, technology), practice transformation, and market analysis are available from the *Department*. For more information, visit [www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-support](http://www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-support).

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 2018 *Quality Training Program*, a comprehensive program designed to train oncology health care providers to investigate and implement data-driven quality improvement and

manage clinical and non-clinical processes and outcomes, will take place in two locations—Miami and Alexandria. To learn more about and apply to participate in the *Program*, visit [www.asco.org/training-education/professional-development/quality-training-program](http://www.asco.org/training-education/professional-development/quality-training-program).

ASCO'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. Learn more and enroll at [www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-support/practicenet?et\\_cid=39764896&et\\_rid=933038345&linkid=Enroll+in+PracticeNET](http://www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-support/practicenet?et_cid=39764896&et_rid=933038345&linkid=Enroll+in+PracticeNET).

ASCO's *Practice Engagement Program* helps administrators, physicians, and other members of the care team navigate ASCO tools, programs, and resources available to help oncology practices respond to the changes occurring in the cancer care delivery system. Building on an array of resources developed to help practices remain viable and thrive during this turbulent period, the new *Practice Engagement Team* will help participating practices learn more about the specific ASCO services and programs that can best support their needs. Learn more at [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/new-practice-engagement-program-connects-practices-specific-resources](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/new-practice-engagement-program-connects-practices-specific-resources).

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 currently accepting practices for the fee-based program. For more information, please visit [www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-support/asco-consulting-services/asco-come-home](http://www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-support/asco-consulting-services/asco-come-home).

The December 2017 issue of ASCO's *Journal of Oncology Practice (JOP)* is available online and features articles entitled *MACRA in Oncology Care: Are We Ready?; Challenges in the Clinical Application of the ASCO Value Framework: A Medicare Cost-Benefit Analysis in Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia*; and, *ASCO Value Framework Highlights the Relative Value of Treatment Options in Ovarian Cancer*. Visit [jop.ascopubs.org](http://jop.ascopubs.org) for more information.

The *American Board of Medical Specialties (ABIM)* has announced that *Maintenance of Certification (MOC)* point requirements for Practice Assessment (Part IV) will not return. This means that no one will lose certification if points in this category are not earned. However, those that do participate in activities approved for Practice Assessment/Patient Safety points may apply them to their overall point requirements for MOC.

ACCC's 2018 *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/2018-ACCC-Patient-Assistance-&-Reimbursement-Guide.pdf](http://www.accc-cancer.org/publications/pdf/2018-ACCC-Patient-Assistance-&-Reimbursement-Guide.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).

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: AIDS-Related Kaposi Sarcoma (V1.2018), bladder cancer (V1.2018), chronic myeloid leukemia (V3.2018), diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (V7.2017), distress management (V1.2018), follicular lymphoma (V7.2017), Hodgkin lymphoma (V1.2018), non-small cell lung cancer (V2.2018), palliative care (V1.2018), penile cancer (V1.2018), primary cutaneous B-cell lymphomas (V2.2018), T-cell lymphomas (V2.2018). Go to [www.nccn.org](http://www.nccn.org) for more information.

### **Individual Membership Dues for 2018**

Membership renewal notices for 2018 were mailed to all members in late November, along with annual election ballots and the *2017 Annual Report*. If you have not yet done so, then please return your 2018 membership dues to ANCO now to ensure your inclusion in *The ANCO Directory of Members*. Be sure to provide ANCO with your e-mail address and the name(s) and e-mail address(es) of office and/or nurse manager contact(s). Those not renewing their membership by June 30<sup>th</sup> will be deleted from the *Directory of Members*, and will no longer be eligible for any ANCO benefits. Contact the ANCO office if you do not receive or misplaced your membership dues renewal notice.