

# ANCO FAX News

Association of Northern California Oncologists  
Post Office Box 151109, San Rafael, California 94915-1109  
Voice: (415) 472-3960 • FAX: (415) 472-3961  
[execdir@anco-online.org](mailto:execdir@anco-online.org) • [www.anco-online.org](http://www.anco-online.org)

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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:

- ANCO urges legislative fix to MIPS adjustment on Part B drug payments
- *Best of SABCS San Francisco*
- *Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers*

#### 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 9<sup>th</sup>. Send your comments or contributions to ANCO, P.O. Box 151109, San Rafael, CA 94915-1109; Voice: (415) 472-3960; FAX: (415) 472-3961; [execdir@anco-online.org](mailto:execdir@anco-online.org).

**The *ANCO FAX News* has information for every member of your practice or organization. Pass it along!**

- Physician Members
- Nurses & Office Managers
- Office Staff
- Colleagues & Representatives

The *Association of Northern California Oncologists* (ANCO) is an association of hematologists/oncologists dedicated to promoting high professional standards of cancer care by providing a forum for the exchange of ideas, data, and knowledge.

The material contained in the *ANCO FAX News* is intended as general information for ANCO members. Because diagnostic, treatment, contracting, coding, and billing decisions should be made on a case-by-case basis, any such information contained in the *ANCO FAX News* may not apply in any given situation. Members are encouraged to contact their own consultants or advisors to obtain specific advice on matters relating to contracting, coding, and billing. The information contained in the *ANCO FAX News* should not be used as a substitute for such advice.

## ADVOCACY

[Editor's Note: ANCO is a member of the Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC) and a state/regional affiliate of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). ANCO and the Medical Oncology Association of Southern California (MOASC) are members of the California Medical Association's (CMA) Council on Legislation, House of Delegates, and specialty delegation. ANCO meets regularly with these and other organizations to discuss issues of importance to hematology/oncology practices and people living with cancer. We continually seek input from members on agenda items for these meetings. Send your issues to the ANCO office.]

### **ACCC, ASCO, ASH, COA, and National Legislative & Regulatory Issues**

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 and ASCO's State/Regional Affiliates (including ANCO), along with 62 other national provider groups, state/local organizations, and patient groups signed on to a letter that was delivered to the *House* and *Senate* requesting a legislative fix to ensure the MIPS score adjustment is not applied to Part B drug payments. Read the *House* letter at [asco1.sharefile.com/share/view/s125da71bf1741519?](http://asco1.sharefile.com/share/view/s125da71bf1741519?) ASCO also 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).

CMS has announced that doctors and other eligible clinicians participating in the Quality Payment Program can begin submitting their 2017 performance data using a new system on the Quality Payment Program website ([qpp.cms.gov](http://qpp.cms.gov)). For a fact sheet on the Quality Payment Program data submission system, please visit [www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Payment-Program/Resource-Library/QPP-2017-Data-Submission-Factsheet.pdf](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Payment-Program/Resource-Library/QPP-2017-Data-Submission-Factsheet.pdf). In addition, the San

Francisco Regional Office of CMS is hosting a provider call on February 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss data submission as part of MACRA QPP. Learn more and register at [www.eventbrite.com/e/cms-region-9-clinician-call-on-data-submission-for-the-quality-payment-program-tickets-42007585820](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/cms-region-9-clinician-call-on-data-submission-for-the-quality-payment-program-tickets-42007585820).

ASCO and the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) have launched their new, joint platform for quality reporting, making it easier for oncologists to comply with Federal government reporting requirements for 2018. The new QOPI Reporting Registry, a Qualified Clinical Data Registry (QCDR), now makes it possible for any practice with at least one active ASCO or ASTRO member to report their quality performance data either electronically or manually, based on their preference. Learn more at [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/new-ASCO-ASTRO-QOPI-reporting-registry-jan-2018](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/new-ASCO-ASTRO-QOPI-reporting-registry-jan-2018).

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-](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).

**The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has released an updated statement on the IV fluid shortage that provides updates on product availability and on efforts to extend expiration dates.** The FDA is working with manufacturers to ensure that their Puerto Rico facilities can operate at full capacity and has worked with manufacturers to import product into the United States from their foreign facilities; the FDA is looking at additional potential import sites for both small and larger volume IV saline bags; and, the FDA is asking companies to submit data to extend expiration dates for these products. The FDA encourages health care organizations to contact them directly if they are not receiving the products they need. Read *Commissioner Gottlieb's* statement at [www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm592617.htm?](http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm592617.htm?).

### **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*—New Payment Model to Improve Quality, Coordination, and Cost-effectiveness for Both Inpatient and Outpatient Care; SNF Quality Reporting Program Confidential Feedback Reports;

Proper Use of the KX Modifier for Part B Immunosuppressive Drug Claims-Reminder; 2018 Value Modifier Results and Payment Adjustment Factor; CMS Provider Minute Video: CT Scans-Reminder; CMS Updates Open Payments Data; Improved Open Payments Data Website; SNF Quality Reporting Program: Submission Deadline Extended to May 15; Hospice Quality Reporting Program: Quality Measure User's Manual Version 2; Reporting Changes in Ownership-Reminder

*Events*—MIPS Annual Call for Measures and Activities Webinar-February 5

*Publications*—Medicare-Required SNF PPS Assessments Educational Tool-Revised; QRUR Video Presentation-New; Avoiding Medicare Fraud & Abuse: A Roadmap for Physicians Web-based Training-Revised; How to Use the Medicare Coverage Database Booklet-Revised

- Therapy Claims for January 2018 and Overutilization of the Modifier KX-Reminder
- MolDX: SLCO1B1 Genotype Billing and Coding Guidelines-R1
- MolDX: MGMT Promoter Methylation Analysis LCD-R1
- MolDX: Vysis Kit by Abbott Coding and Billing Guidelines Article Retirement-Effective October 24, 2016
- MolDX: SMPD1 Genetic Testing Billing and Coding Guidelines-R1
- NMP and/or IVR Use Required for Eligibility Inquiries-Effective February 5, 2018
- Enrollment Application Status Tool Use Required-Effective February 5, 2018
- MolDX: Next Generation Sequencing Billing and Coding Guidelines-R1

- HCPCS Codes Subject to and Excluded from CLIA Edits CR10446
- Self-Service Reopenings Required Use-Effective February 5, 2018
- MolDX: Cystatin C Measurement Draft LCD Published for Review and Comments
- MolDX: FDA Approved ALK Companion Diagnostic Tests Billing and Coding Guidelines Article Retirement-Effective February 27, 2018
- Open Public Meeting Announcement-February 1, 2018
- MolDX: Guardant360 Plasma-Based Comprehensive Genomic Profiling in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) Draft LCD Published for Review and Comments
- ICD-10 and Other Coding Revisions to NCDs-Revised CR10318

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

- Advance Beneficiary Notice of Noncoverage (ABN) Webinar (February 6)
- 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/](http://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/topics/nmp/)

end-user-manual#eligibility and  
 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.

## EDUCATION

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

### **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 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 2<sup>nd</sup>

*Update on Clinical Trials: How They Work*  
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))

March 14<sup>th</sup>

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

March 14-16<sup>th</sup>

44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Cancer Center Business Summit  
ACCC  
Washington, D.C.  
([www.accc-cancer.org/meetings/AM2018.asp?](http://www.accc-cancer.org/meetings/AM2018.asp?))

March 15<sup>th</sup>

*Updates from the 2017 American Society of*

*Hematology (ASH) Annual Meeting*

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

March 21<sup>st</sup>

*For Caregivers: Practical Tips to Cope with Your Loved One's Bladder Cancer (Part II of Living with Bladder Cancer)*

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.

### **Board of Directors**

The ANCO *Board of Directors* teleconferenced on January 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss and/or act upon the following:

- Annual meeting with Sustaining and Diamond Level Corporate Members
- Annual election results
- Conflict of interest policy
- Election of *President & Vice President*
- FY2018 Budget

- 2018 *Board* meeting/teleconference schedule

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* teleconference is scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup>**. Please call José Luis González, *ANCO Executive Director*, at (415) 472-3960 if you wish to participate in a future teleconference/meeting.

### **Individual Member News**

ASCO 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.

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).

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 and in patients with bone metastases from solid tumors.

**AstraZeneca** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Lynparza for use in patients with deleterious or suspected deleterious germline BRCA-mutated (gBRCAm), human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative metastatic breast cancer (MBC) who have been previously treated with chemotherapy in the neoadjuvant, adjuvant or metastatic setting. Patients with hormone receptor positive (HR+) breast cancer should have been treated with a prior endocrine therapy or be considered inappropriate for endocrine treatment. Patients are selected for therapy based on an FDA-approved companion diagnostic for Lynparza.

**AstraZeneca** will host a dinner program entitled *Head to Head Progression-Free Survival Data for Patients who have Progressed After EGFR TKI*

*Therapy with Hatim Husain, M.D., Moores Cancer Center, University of California, San Diego, on March 17<sup>th</sup> at Morimoto Restaurant in Napa. RSVP to Jason Yonehiro, (415) 205-3699 or [jason.yonehiro@astrazeneca.com](mailto:jason.yonehiro@astrazeneca.com).*

**Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Gilotrif for first-line treatment of patients with metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) whose tumors have non-resistant epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) mutations as detected by an FDA-approved test.

**Pfizer Oncology** informs ANCO that CMS has assigned HCPCS code C9028 to Besponsa (.1mg) effective for dates of service on or after January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Teva Oncology** informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Trisenox in combination with tretinoin for the treatment of adults with newly-diagnosed low-risk acute promyelocytic leukemia (APL) whose APL is characterized by the presence of the t(15;17) translocation or APL/RAR-alpha gene expression.

### **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).

**ASCO has released a clinical practice guideline on the treatment of malignant pleural mesothelioma (MPM)**, including recommendations on diagnosis, staging, and treatment with chemotherapy, surgical cytoreduction, and radiation therapy. The guideline was published in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology* and is available at [www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/quality-guidelines/guidelines/thoracic-cancer#/29376](http://www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/quality-guidelines/guidelines/thoracic-cancer#/29376). 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).

**Read the results of ACCC's 2017 Trends Survey in *Trending Now in Cancer Care*** at [www.accc-cancer.org/surveys/CancerProgramTrends-2017.asp?](http://www.accc-cancer.org/surveys/CancerProgramTrends-2017.asp?).

**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, tablet, 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: adult cancer pain (V1.2018), cancer-related fatigue (V1.2018), colon cancer (V1.2018), lung cancer screening (V3.2018), melanoma (V2.2018), occult primary (V1.2018), rectal cancer (V4.2017), small cell lung cancer (V2.2018), testicular cancer (V1.2018). 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.

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!**