

ANCO FAX News

Association of Northern California Oncologists
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INTRODUCTION

The *ANCO FAX News* focuses on ANCO's core activities—advocacy, clinical and professional education, membership benefits, and *Association* news. While membership mailings, FAX broadcasts, and ListServ postings 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* or to contribute items.

The *ANCO FAX News* is FAXed to Individual Member practices, and e-mailed to Group, Institutional, and Corporate (contacts) Members. The next regular *ANCO FAX News* will be published on June 11th. 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.

ADVOCACY

[Editor's Note: ANCO meets regularly with national, regional, and statewide 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, and National Legislative & Regulatory Issues

[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 American Society of Hematology (ASH) share information with members. We regularly participate with these organizations on matters of national importance to cancer care.]

CMS believes *Congress* is working to avert the negative update scheduled to take effect June 1st, 2010. To avoid disruption in the delivery of health care services to beneficiaries and payment of claims for physicians, non-physician practitioners, and other providers of services paid under the *Medicare Physician Fee Schedule*

**There is information in the
ANCO FAX News
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.

(MPFS), CMS has instructed its contractors to hold claims containing services paid under the MPFS for the first 10 business days of June. This hold will only affect MPFS claims with dates of service of June 1st, 2010, and later. This hold should have minimum impact on provider cash flow because, under the current law, clean electronic claims are not paid any sooner than 14 calendar days (29 for paper claims) after the date of receipt.

Congress is poised to vote on HR4213 that includes a provision to avoid the 21% cut in Medicare physician payments that is scheduled to take effect on June 1st. The medical community has long criticized Medicare's sustainable growth rate (SGR) formula as being both flawed and unfair. Although not a permanent repeal, HR4213 would do the following:

- 2010: Provide an increase of 2.2% for the remainder of the year.
- 2011: Provide an increase of 1.0%.
- 2012: Resumes the SGR as in current law, which would mandate a significant cut.

The political realities are that HR4213 is the best chance to avoid month-to-month patches for the next several years. Therefore, ASCO and ANCO are asking that you contact your *Representative* and *Senators* and urge them to support the temporary SGR fix in HR4213 and work immediately on a full repeal of the SGR. In addition, **please sign the Stop Cancer Care Cuts petition at www.communityoncology.org/co-competition/ and add your name to show your support for the future of cancer care.**

On March 23rd, *President* Obama signed into law the *Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act* (PPACA) that includes a number of things that will benefit cancer patients in the short term and long term. Among these are guaranteed insurance coverage for individuals participating in clinical trials, closure of the drug prescription gap in Medicare Part D, removal of the lifetime cap on insurance coverage, and prohibiting the exclusion of children with pre-existing conditions from being covered by their parent's policy. **In addition, the Act amended the time period for filing Medicare fee-for-service**

(FFS) claims as one of many provisions aimed at curbing fraud, waste, and abuse in the Medicare program. Under the new law, claims for services furnished on or after January 1st, 2010, must be filed within one calendar year after the date of service. And, claims for services furnished before January 1st, 2010, must be filed no later than December 31st, 2010. **Another provision in the Act reduces payment for the technical component (TC) of multiple diagnostic imaging procedures effective July 1st, 2010.** Medicare currently makes full payment for the TC of the highest priced imaging procedure and payment at 75% of the *Medicare Physician Fee Schedule* (MPFS) for the TC of each additional imaging procedure when performed during the same session on the same day. Effective July 1st, 2010, the policy stays the same but the payment for additional procedures in the same imaging family is reduced from 75% to 50% of the MPFS when performed during the same session on the same day.

Effective July 30th when billing Medicare for all drugs (except those provided under the *Competitive Acquisition Program* for Part B drugs and biologicals), CMS has instructed providers via *MedLearn Matters* MM6711 (www.cms.gov/MLN MattersArticles/downloads/MM6711.pdf) to **use the JW modifier to identify unused drugs or biologicals from single-use vials or single-use packages that are appropriately discarded.** This modifier, billed on a separate line, will provide payment for the discarded drug or biological.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has extended its enforcement date (to June 1st) of its ruling that would consider physicians who regularly bill their patients (including co-payments and coinsurance) to be creditors. The *American Medical Association*, *American Dental Association*, and *American Osteopathic Association* have asked the FTC to leave health care professionals out of the regulation. If they succeed, the exclusion will most likely apply to all health care providers. For now, physicians must develop and implement written identity theft prevention and detection programs for their practices in order to be in compliance with the FTC's *Red Flag Rule*. **The American Medical Association has developed guidance material** (available at

index/physician-resources/red-flags-rule.shtml) to help physicians comply with the *Rule*. The *California Medical Association* (CMA) has published a tool kit to help physicians and their staffs understand the scope and requirements of the *Red Flag Rule*. The tool kit provides guidance on designing and implementing an identity theft detection and prevention program for the physician practice. CMA's *Red Flag Rule Tool Kit* is free to members at the members-only website. **For a primer on the FTC's *Red Flag Rule*, please see the article at www.anco-online.org/RedFlagRule.pdf.** ANCO has also arranged for *Risk Mitigation Solutions* to offer compliance services to members (visit www.anco-online.org/RiskMitigationSolutions.pdf).

CMS's *Physician Quality Reporting Initiative* (PQRI) provides a financial incentive for eligible professionals to participate in a voluntary quality-reporting program. Eligible professionals who successfully report a designated set of quality measures on claims may earn a lump sum bonus payment. CMS has posted updated 2010 PQRI educational products to the PQRI webpage at www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI. In addition, an updated list of registries that have become "qualified" to submit quality data to CMS on behalf of their eligible professionals for 2010 PQRI and eRx reporting and an updated list of EHR vendors and their programs that have been "qualified" to submit quality data to CMS by eligible professionals for 2010 PQRI reporting are now available on the *Alternative Reporting Mechanisms* page of the PQRI website. **The *American Medical Association* (AMA) has posted PQRI participation tools** at www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/physician-resources/clinical-practice-improvement/clinical-quality/participation-tools-individual.shtml. In addition, **ASCO's PQRI website (www.asco.org/ASCOv2/Public+Policy/Policy+Issues/Medicare+%26+Quality+Care/Regulations+%26+Resources/Information/Physician+Quality+Reporting+Initiative+%28PQRI%29+General+Information?cpsexcurrchannel=1)** includes relevant links and oncology-specific information.

CMS has posted updated 2010 *Electronic Prescribing Incentive* (eRx) *Program* educational

products to the eRx webpage at www.cms.hhs.gov/ERxIncentive. **For additional oncology-specific information, visit ASCO's e-prescribing website at www.asco.org/eprescribing.**

CMS will be hosting a *Special Open Door Call* on 2010 PQRI and eRx with the *American Society for Radiation Oncology* (ASTRO) and **ASCO on Tuesday, June 1st from 2-3:30PM ET. To participate, call (800) 837-1935; conference ID # 76342214. The announcement for the call is available at www.cms.gov/opendoorforums/23_odf_pnahp.asp?.**

Electronic health records (EHRs) are powerful tools that can streamline practice management and reduce errors in patient care. The 2009 *Federal* economic stimulus package includes \$19B for health information technology (HIT), the vast majority of which will be directed to physicians to subsidize the purchase and usage of electronic health record (EHR) systems. Beginning in 2011, qualifying Medicare providers stand to gain up to \$44,000 under the program; qualifying MediCal providers stand to receive as much as \$64,000. A CMS website (www.cms.hhs.gov/Recovery/11_HealthIT.asp) is now available where you can find information pertaining to the Medicare and Medicaid incentives for EHR adoption. **ASCO has identified the EHR as an important vehicle for advancing the quality of cancer care.** The *Oncology Electronic Health Record Field Guide: Selecting and Implementing an EHR* serves as the only comprehensive, oncology-specific handbook on the market. The *EHR Field Guide* has been developed to equip practitioners with the information and resources needed to select and implement current and future EHRs for clinical practice and management as well as quality-of-care measurement and improvement. An essential resource for evaluating and selecting EHRs, the *EHR Field Guide* includes:

- Core functions of an oncology EHR
- EHR selection and making the right choice
- EHR implementation and customization
- Ongoing EHR management and best practices

To purchase your copy of the *EHR Field Guide*, visit <http://www.asco.org/ehrfieldduide>. **Visit the EHR Lab at the ASCO Annual Meeting to learn about ARRA meaningful use measures.** ASCO's 4th EHR Lab provides a standard platform for *Annual Meeting* attendees to gain hands-on experience with the latest EHR technology. This year, EHR vendors will demonstrate the capacity of their products to:

- Comply with select meaningful use measures as outlined under ARRA
- Select patients that meet ASCO's QOPI case selection methodology
- Apply measures that focus on clinical decision support
- Generate a treatment plan and summary

Informational sessions that focus on EHR selection and implementation will also be available. Finally, ASCO has developed an EHR social networking site (ehr.ascoexchange.org) to help oncologists and their practice staff connect and collaborate with other users of EHRs, as well as find information on EHRs and other health information technology tools. The *California Medical Association (CMA)* has established a *Health Information Technology (HIT) Resource Center* on its website designed to educate physicians about the HIT subsidies for physicians in the *Federal* stimulus package. Visit www.cmanet.org/hit for the latest information focusing on materials to help physicians assess their HIT needs and begin the process of choosing an EHR system that works best for their practices and qualifies them to receive the *Federal* funds. The *California Health Information Partnership & Services Organization (CalHIPSO; www.calhipso.org)* is a joint venture between the *California Primary Care Association*, the *California Medical Association*, and the *California Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems* that has been allocated a total of \$17.3M by the *United States Department of Health and Human Services* for helping primary care doctors and other health providers purchase and use technology for electronic health records.

ANCO and ASCO continue to work towards ensuring that people with cancer have access to quality cancer care in the community. Practice

resources are available at www.anco-online.org/mma.html and www.asco.org/mma, including:

- ASCO's *Adapting to Changes in Medicare 2010 PowerPoint* presentation.
- 2010 quarterly updates to the *Average Sales Price (ASP) Medicare Part B drugs pricing file*.

Members may also submit an inquiry to ASCO's *Coding & Reimbursement Hotline* at www.asco.org/billingcoding > member. You must enter your ASCO member ID to send your inquiry.

CMA, MOASC, and State Legislative & Regulatory Issues

[Editor's Note: 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 and MOASC coordinate advocacy activities in California.]

Noteware Government Relations represents ANCO (and MOASC) in Sacramento. They report:

- In response to the state budget shortfall, \$30M from the *General Fund* was saved by reducing eligibility to the breast cancer screening and diagnosis program, *Every Woman Counts*. Until January of this year, women 40 years and older who met other requirements were eligible for the screening program. The policy change reduced eligibility to women aged 50 years and older. *Senator Jenny Oropeza*, a cancer survivor, introduced SB836 that would amend the recent eligibility change to include persons of any age, upon the recommendation of a physician, who meet income level criteria to be eligible for cancer screening program. The bill is pending on the *Senate Appropriations Committee* suspense file.

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 payors and overwhelmed by the process? Don't let the health plans mistreat you.** The CMA's *Center for Economic Services* has a team of reimbursement specialists available to assist ANCO's CMA members experiencing payment problems with third-party payors. For membership, contact Ron Lopp at (916) 551-2042 or rlopp@cmanet.org; for reimbursement assistance, call CMA's *Reimbursement Helpline* at (888) 401-5911.

Effective June 27th, physicians in California must inform their patients that they are licensed by the *Medical Board of California*, and include the Board's contact information. The notice must contain the following information:

NOTICE TO CONSUMERS
Medical doctors are licensed and
regulated by the
Medical Board of California
(800) 633-2333
www.mbc.ca.gov

Physicians may provide this notice by one of three methods:

1. Prominently posting a sign in an area of their offices conspicuous to patients, in at least 48-point type in Arial font.
2. Including the notice in a written statement, signed and dated by the patient or patient's representative, and kept in the patient's file, stating the patient understands the physician is licensed and regulated by the *Board*.
3. Including the notice in a statement on letterhead, discharge instructions, or other document given to a patient or the patient's representative, where the notice is placed immediately above the signature line for the patient in at least 14-point type.

For more information, please contact the *Medical Board's* information officer, Candis Cohen, at

(916) 263-2394 or candis.cohen@mbc.ca.gov.

Palmetto/J1MAC, DHCS/MediCal, & Private Payors

[Editor's Note: ANCO communicates regularly with Palmetto/J1MAC that administers the J1MAC (Medicare) in California, and the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) that administers DHCS/MediCal in California.]

From April 8th through June 1st, Palmetto/J1MAC will be accepting comments on their draft Local Coverage Determination (LCDs) on *Implantable Infusion Pumps for Treatment of Intractable Pain* (DL28268). To view the proposed coverage policy and make comments, please visit www.cms.gov/mcd/viewlcd.asp?lcd_id=30940&lcd_version=3&show=all. The LCD requires providers to submit an invoice for all drugs administered through the pump. Drugs compounded by a pharmacy, should be submitted with HCPCS code J3490 that should be submitted one time with the total charge for all drugs administered. Providers are encouraged to review this information and the outlined articles at www.palmettogba.com/palmetto/providers.nsf/vMasterDID/84YJZS6612?opendocument.

Palmetto/J1MAC's 2010 Coding &

Reimbursement Update contains a wealth of information that will be helpful to your office, including additions, deletions, and changes for HCPCS; CDT; CPT codes and modifiers; and, proper use of modifiers. Visit [www.palmettogba.com/Palmetto/Providers.nsf/files/2010_Coding_&_Reimbursement_Update_Part_B_J1.pdf/\\$File/2010_Coding_&_Reimbursement_Update_Part_B_J1.pdf](http://www.palmettogba.com/Palmetto/Providers.nsf/files/2010_Coding_&_Reimbursement_Update_Part_B_J1.pdf/$File/2010_Coding_&_Reimbursement_Update_Part_B_J1.pdf) to download your copy.

The Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 established the Medicare Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC) program to identify fraud and waste in the Medicare system. Audit contractors are expected to focus on companies and individuals whose billings for specific Medicare services are higher than the majority of providers in their communities. Auditors cannot request more than 10 patient records from a practice in any 45-day period. The *California Medical Association* (CMA) has developed a tool kit to help physicians understand the program and, if necessary, navigate the audit process. The tool

kit is available free to CMA members. Palmetto/J1MAC has published an article entitled *Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC) Program* and added a new RAC category under *Articles* on the Palmetto/J1MAC website. Visit www.palmettogba.com/palmetto/providers.nsf/vMasterDID/7T6K7W3608?opendocument or www.anco-online.org/MedicareRACs.pdf for more information on the RAC program. **HealthDataInsights (HDI), the Medicare RAC for Region D (that includes California), has posted the first group of CMS-approved audit issues for RAC review at racinfo.healthdatainsights.com.**

Palmetto/J1MAC's June Medicare Advisory is available at [www.palmettogba.com/Palmetto/Providers.nsf/files/j1_medicare_advisory_June2010.pdf/\\$File/j1_medicare_advisory_June2010.pdf](http://www.palmettogba.com/Palmetto/Providers.nsf/files/j1_medicare_advisory_June2010.pdf/$File/j1_medicare_advisory_June2010.pdf). Of specific relevance to oncology, the current edition features:

- **Circulating Tumor Cells Response to Comments**
- **Multiple Procedure Payment Reduction (MPPR) on the Technical Component (TC) of Certain Diagnostic Imaging Procedures**
- **Discarded Drugs and Biologicals Updates**
- **Evaluation and Management (E/M) Coding Reminder**
- **Part B LCD Updates**
- **Maximum Allowed Units Update: April 20, 2010**
- **Part B Self-Administered Drugs Exclusion List 2010**

Did you know that the California has a quick, easy, and free way for physicians to get help with claims payment problems? The *Department of Managed Health Care's (DMHC) Provider Complaint Unit (PCU)* has recovered more than \$16M in additional payments owed by health plans to physicians since it was created in 2005. The DMHC PCU was created as an alternative way for physicians to resolve claims payment issues without having to go to court. An online *Provider Complaint System* evaluates claim reimbursement disputes such as timely submission and payment of claims, failure to pay

according to contracts, coding disputes, and enforcement of the provider bill of rights. The PCU investigates and addresses individual claims problems and also systemic unfair payment or billing patterns among health plans. The DMHC is the *State* agency that regulates all California HMOs, and *Anthem Blue Cross* and *Blue Shield* PPOs. If you are a physician and would like to report a problem regarding claims payment, please contact DMHC at (877) 525-1295 or visit www.healthhelp.ca.gov. DMHC is especially interested in current preauthorization/certification, claims processing, and payment problems facing the hematology/oncology community. Visit www.anco-online.org/Resources.pdf for specific instructions on how to report your issues to DMHC. The independent dispute resolution process is described at dmhc.ca.gov/providers/clm/clm_idrp.aspx. Practices can review past DMHC enforcement actions at www.hmohelp.ca.gov/healthplans/enf/enf_default.aspx; or past independent medical review findings at www.hmohelp.ca.gov/dmhc_consumer/pc/pc_imrdec.aspx.

EDUCATION

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

ASCO Annual Meeting

ASCO's *Annual Meeting* will take place June 4-8th in Chicago. You may now reserve your room and register at chicago2010.asco.org/Home.aspx.

Washington Update: Legislative/Regulatory Impact on Oncology Practice

ANCO is pleased to present a *Washington Update: Legislative/Regulatory Impact on Oncology Practice* with Joseph S. Bailes, M.D., *Co-Chair, ASCO Government Relations Council*, on July 15th at 5:30PM at *The Palace Hotel* in San Francisco. This is the evening before ASCO's *Best of ASCO* meeting starts. A copy of the meeting announcement and registration form is attached and will be mailed to all ANCO members in early June. Visit www.anco.org/washington2010.html for more information.

ASCO's Best of ASCO

ASCO's 2010 *Best of ASCO* takes place at *The Palace Hotel* in San Francisco on July 16-17th. This meeting will feature the premier abstracts in sessions on breast, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, and lung cancers, and malignant hematology from the ASCO *Annual Meeting* that represent the most relevant and timely research in oncology today. Visit boa2010.asco.org/BestofASCOSanFrancisco.aspx for more information.

6th Annual Oncology Congress



The 6th *Annual Oncology Congress* will take place October 15-17th at *The Palace Hotel* in San Francisco. This event is an interactive CME conference providing practicing oncologists with the latest clinical data, best practices, and new technologies that are directly applicable to the practice of oncology today. Discounted ANCO physician member and nurse registration is available by using priority code ANCO at oncologycongress.com/en/San-Francisco-CA.

Additional Education Meetings

Other meetings of possible interest to ANCO member practices are:

June 10th
Medical Update on Mantle Cell Lymphoma
CancerCare
Telephone Education Workshop

June 10-13th
Food As Medicine: Professional Nutrition Training Program
Center for Mind-Body Medicine
Washington, D.C.

June 11th
Understanding and Managing Chemotherapy Side Effects
CancerCare
Telephone Education Workshop

June 15th

Breast Cancer and Hispanic Women
CancerCare
Telephone Education Workshop
June 16th
Ovarian Cancer: Treatment Options and Current Perspectives
CancerCare
Telephone Education Workshop
June 17th
Update on the Treatment of Metastatic Renal Cell Cancer
CancerCare
Telephone Education Workshop

June 18th
Progress in the Treatment of Metastatic Breast Cancer
CancerCare
Telephone Education Workshop

June 22nd
The Eighth Annual Cancer Survivorship Series: Living With, Through, and Beyond Cancer, Part III—Survivorship and Workplace Transitions
CancerCare
Telephone Education Workshop

June 23rd
What's New in Lung Cancer: Update from the 2010 ASCO Annual Meeting
CancerCare
Telephone Education Workshop

June 24th
Caring for Your Bones When You Have Multiple Myeloma
CancerCare
Telephone Education Workshop

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

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Board of Directors

The ANCO *Board of Directors* meets regularly by teleconference and occasionally in person to discuss issues affecting the *Association*, clinical and professional education, and ways to better serve the membership. *Board* meetings are open to individual physician members. The next regularly

scheduled ANCO *Board of Directors* meeting will take place on June 16th. Please call José Luis González, ANCO *Executive Director*, at (415) 472-3960 if you wish to participate in a future meeting.

Individual Member News

Need vacation coverage? Mike Turbow, M.D., ANCO member, *Past President*, and **retired oncologist, is interested in doing locum tenens**. Contact Dr. Turbow at mturbowmd@mac.com or (650) 759-9861.

A regularly updated online (.pdf) edition of *The ANCO Directory of Members* is available at www.anco-online.org/pubs.html. Please verify your *Directory* entry and contact the ANCO office with any corrections, additions, and/or deletions. The next *Directory* will be published and distributed in July 2010.

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 thanks *The Permanente Medical Group* for joining ANCO.

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 University Medical Oncology*
- *University of California, Davis, Cancer Center*
- *University of California, San Francisco*

For information on **continuing medical education meetings organized by our Institutional Members**, please visit:

- med.stanford.edu/seminars/cmecalendar.do

- www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/cme/conferences
- www.cme.ucsf.edu/cme

Stanford's Division of Oncology is hosting a *Stanford Oncology Alumni Reunion for Stanford oncology alumni, faculty, and fellows during the ASCO Annual Meeting in Chicago*. The reunion will take place on Monday evening, June 7th, at 6PM, at *The Grill on the Alley Restaurant (Westin Hotel Michigan)*. Please RSVP by FAX by June 1st to Leslie Quiroz or Christina Kasson at (650) 725-1420 or via e-mail to lquiroz@stanford.edu or ckasson@stanford.edu.

UCSF will host a reception honoring Frank McCormick, Ph.D., F.R.S., *Director, UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center*, and the 2010 *ASCO Science of Oncology Award* recipient, during the *ASCO Annual Meeting in Chicago*. The reception will take place on Sunday evening, June 6th, in the *Waldorf Room, The Hilton Chicago*, at 5:30PM. Please RSVP to Victoria Karno at (415) 885-3846 or vkarno@medicine.ucsf.edu.

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:

*Abraxis Oncology • Agendia • Alaven
Alexion Pharmaceuticals • Allos Therapeutics
AMGEN • AstraZeneca
Bayer Healthcare/Onyx Pharmaceuticals
biogenIDEC • bioTheranostics
Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology
Celgene • Centocor Ortho Biotech
Cephalon Oncology • Eisai
Enzon Pharmaceuticals
Genentech BioOncology
Genomic Health • Genzyme Oncology
GlaxoSmithKline Oncology
Lash Group Healthcare Consultants
Lilly Oncology • Merck • Millennium
Novartis Oncology
Oncology Supply/ION • OSI Pharmaceuticals
Onmark,*

a McKesson Specialty Care Solutions Company
 Pathwork Diagnostics • Pfizer Oncology
 Response Genetics • Sanofi Aventis Oncology
 Spectrum Pharmaceuticals
 US Oncology Physician Services • Vidacare

We especially wish to thank and welcome *bioTheranostics* as a new Corporate Member in 2010.

Please visit www.anco-online.org/assistance.html for updated Corporate Member drug reimbursement and patient assistance program information.

Allos Therapeutics informs ANCO that it is offering two educational programs on advancements in the treatment of relapsed or refractory peripheral T-cell lymphoma. The first, with Babis (Charalambos) Andreadis, M.D., University of California, San Francisco, takes place on Wednesday, June 9th at 6:30PM at *Galletto Restaurant* in Modesto; the second, with Leslie Popplewell, M.D., City of Hope National Medical Center, takes place on Wednesday, June 16th at 6:30PM at *Paolo's Restaurant* in San Carlos. Register for these meetings by calling Alicia Tantisira at (805) 338-5802 or e-mailing atantisira@allos.com.

Onmark informs ANCO that it will host a CORE Webcast entitled *Managing the Impact of REMS Programs* on June 1st and 2nd. Visit www.onmarkservices.com/onmarksite/content/static/events/calendar.jsp for more information and to register.

Publications, Resources, Services, & Surveys

ANCO and *SullivanLuallin* have cooperated on *Patient Satisfaction Surveys* for the past several years. Another *Patient Satisfaction Survey* will be offered in 2010. ANCO is using its negotiating leverage to offer you expert and reliable *Patient Satisfaction Surveys* at steep discounts. ANCO will fund the set-up fee so that members may participate at discounted per physician rates. An announcement of the *Patient Satisfaction Survey* was mailed and FAXed to all ANCO community-based member practices the week of May 3rd. For more information, visit www.anco-online.org/pxsrvy.html.

ASCO's *Oncology Practice Insider* is an interactive biweekly communication specifically devoted to oncology practice management issues and for practice managers. Subscribe to the *Oncology Practice Insider* via e-mail to practice@asco.org. The current issue features:

- FDA Announces Safety Review of Prostate Cancer Drugs

The March (Vol. 6, Issue 3) issue of ASCO's *Journal of Oncology Practice* features articles entitled *Challenges to National Cancer Institute-Supported Cooperative Group Clinical Trial Participation: An ASCO Survey of Cooperative Group Sites*, *Importance of Testing for Usability When Selecting and Implementing an Electronic Health or Medical Record System*, *APPRISE Oncology Program for Erythropoiesis-Stimulating Agents*, and *Use of Locum Tenens Physicians in Oncology Practice*. Visit www.jopasco.org for more information.

NCCN has updated their *Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology and/or Drugs & Biologics Compendium* for bladder, breast, and prostate cancers and breast cancer risk reduction. Visit www.nccn.org for the latest information.

The May issue of *Oncology Business Review* features articles entitled *NCCN: Clinical and Economic Issues Impacting Cancer Care Delivery* and *Payers Must Create Defensible Oncology Management Strategies*. Visit www.oncbiz.com for more information.

Individual Membership Dues for 2010

Final notices of membership renewal were mailed in early April. If you have not yet done so, then please return your 2010 membership dues to ANCO now to ensure your inclusion in *The ANCO Directory of Members 2010*. 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 July 1st will be deleted from the *Directory of Members*, and will no longer be eligible for any ANCO benefits. Contact the ANCO office if you did not receive or misplaced your membership dues renewal notice.