

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 25th. 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.]

Congress is working to reverse the negative update in the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) that took effect on June 1st. The *House* passed HR4213, and the *Senate* is currently considering similar legislation. HR4213 would:

- Provide an increase of 2.2% for the

**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.

remainder of 2010.

- Provide an increase of 1.0% in 2011.
- Resume the SGR as in current law for 2012, which would mandate a significant cut.

Current *Senate* legislation would delay the scheduled 21% reduction through 2013. In the meantime, **CMS has instructed its contractors to hold claims containing services paid under the MPFS through June 14th.** This hold will only affect MPFS claims with dates of service of June 1st and later. ASCO and ANCO are asking that you contact your *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/coa-competition/ and add your name to show your support for the future of cancer care.**

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 December 31st) of its ruling that would consider physicians who regularly bill their patients (including co-payments and coinsurance) to be creditors. *Congress* is currently considering legislation (HR3763/S3416) that would exempt physicians from this rule. **The *American Medical Association* has developed guidance material** (available at www.ama-assn.org/ama/no-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.**

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/ehrfieldguide>. **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. CalHIPSO plans to begin enrolling doctors for services to help them buy and install EHR systems and will also begin offering EHR technology packages to doctors at a discount in the next couple of months. The *California Medical Association* plans to offer several EHR systems at a cost savings as well that meet CMS standards.

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.]

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.

The *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. The current issue includes:

- Medicare Internet-based PECOS Enrollment Guide for Individuals
- *United Healthcare* Settlement Resource Center
- Know Your Rights: Quick Guide to Appeals & Timeframes for Appeals
- Back to Basics: A Step-by-Step Guide to Maximizing Your Cash Flow

Visit www.cmanet.org/news/cpr to subscribe.

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.]

The Palmetto/J1MAC Local Coverage Determination (LCD L30697) for *In Vitro* Chemosensitivity & Chemoresistance Assays has been revised. Visit www.palmettogba.com/palmetto/providers.nsf/vMasterDID/868ST27336?opendocument for more information.

Palmetto/J1MAC has published an updated self-administered drugs exclusion list at www.palmettogba.com/palmetto/providers.nsf/vMasterDID/7QWPBL3352?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).

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.]

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 was mailed to all ANCO members the first week in 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 15th

Breast Cancer and Hispanic Women
CancerCare

Telephone Education Workshop

June 16th

Do The Numbers Add Up? How Data Impacts Your Decision Making
California Hospice & Palliative Care Association
Webinar

(www.calhospice.org/Numbers_Add_Up_Registration_form.pdf)

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

June 26th

Bladder Cancer Symposium
Community Cancer Foundation
Saratoga

(www.communitycancerfoundation.org)

July 7th

Update on Lymphoma Treatment from the 2010 ASCO Annual Meeting
CancerCare

Telephone Education Workshop

July 13th

The Eighth Annual Cancer Survivorship Series: Living With, Through, and Beyond Cancer, Part IV—Survivors Too, Communicating With and Among Family, Friends, and Loved Ones
CancerCare

Telephone Education Workshop

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

MEMBERSHIP RESOURCES

ANCO Online

ANCO's website, 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 Medicare resources).

- clinical and professional education meeting announcements and distributed materials.
- survey reports, publications, ListServ, and Weblog.
- clinical trials information.
- links to affiliated organizations.
- updated physician, nurse, manager, and patient resources.
- updated Corporate Member drug reimbursement and patient assistance program information.

ANCO Online ListServ

The ANCO *Online ListServ* is available to all ANCO physician members, nurses, practice managers, and Corporate Member representatives. It is a source for the latest ANCO news and other information impacting hematology/oncology practices. To subscribe to the ANCO *Online ListServ*, send an e-mail to ListServ@anco-online.org.

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 July 1st. Please call José Luis González, ANCO Executive Director, at (415) 472-3960 if you wish to participate in a future meeting.

Individual Member News

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 no later than June 25th. 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

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 an educational program on advancements in the treatment of relapsed or refractory peripheral T-cell lymphoma with Leslie Popplewell, M.D., *City of Hope National Medical Center*, on Wednesday, June 16th at 6:30PM at *Paolo's Restaurant* in San Carlos. Register for this meeting by calling Alicia Tantisira at (805) 338-5802 or e-mailing atantisira@allos.com.

Pfizer Oncology informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* is alerting healthcare professionals not to use certain intravenous bags of metronidazole, ondansetron, and ciprofloxacin sold under the *Claris, Sagent Pharmaceuticals, Pfizer, and West-Ward Pharmaceuticals* labels because of possible contamination. Visit www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/PostmarketDrugSafetyInformationforPatientsandProviders/ucm214035.htm for more information.

US Oncology Physician Services informed ANCO that its new *iKnowMed Technology Platform* to support community oncologists is now available. For more information, please visit www.usoncology.com/corporate/NewsRoom/NewsReleases?p_mo=06&p_yyyy=2010&p_

newsitem=86311.

Clinical Trial News

Kaiser Permanente's cancer clinical trials program in Northern California is affiliated with several national cooperative research groups, including the *National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project* (NSABP), *Southwest Oncology Group* (SWOG), *Radiation Therapy Oncology Group* (RTOG), and *Clinical Trials Support Unit* (CTSU). For more information about Kaiser Permanente's clinical trials program at the Santa Clara campus, please visit www.kpsantaclaracancercare.org/clinical_trials/.

UC Davis brings the following oncology clinical trials to the attention of the ANCO membership:

- PHI-64: Phase I Trial of Escalating Doses of the Anti-IGF-1R Monoclonal Antibody IMCA12 & Standard Dose Sorafenib for Treatment of Advanced HCC (NCI #8155)
- PHII-83: Phase II Trial of Dasatinib (BMS-354825) in Advanced Hepatocellular Carcinoma (NCI #7792)
- PHII-92: Phase II Trial of CCI-779 & Bevacizumab in Patients with Endometrial, Ovarian, Hepatocellular Carcinoma, Carcinoid or Islet Cell Cancer (NCI #8233)

For more information, contact Corinne Turrell, *Clinical Trials Navigator*, at (916) 734-3089 or corinne.turrell@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu.

ANCO members can search information about Institutional Member's clinical trials via www.anco-online.org/trials.html.

Publications, Resources, Services, & Surveys

The *National Cancer Institute* (NCI) announces the availability of *Education in Palliative and End-of-Life Care for Oncology* (EPEC-O), a comprehensive curriculum in palliative and end-of-life care developed specifically for clinicians caring for persons with advanced cancer. The free CD-ROM/DVD set includes a section for self-study as well as materials for trainers. CME credit is available through May 14th, 2012 from

ASCO for physicians who complete some or all of the EPEC-O modules. The *Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association* has extended the availability of contact hours until May 1st, 2011, for nurses who complete some or all of the EPEC-O modules. To learn more about the curriculum and order the free CD-ROM/DVD set, visit www.cancer.gov/aboutnci/epeco?cid=epeco_poet.

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 in May. For more information, visit www.anco-online.org/pxsrvy.html.

ASCO and the *State/Regional Affiliate Program* are excited to introduce *Oncology Practice* at practice.ascoexchange.org, a social networking site where practice administrators can easily connect, collaborate, and exchange information about day-to-day issues facing oncology practice. Enroll in *Oncology Practice* at practice.ascoexchange.org.

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:

- ASCO Issues Opinion Regarding Routine Screening for Chronic Hepatitis B Infection in Patients Receiving Cytotoxic Chemotherapy for Malignant Diseases
- Update on Insurance Coverage of Clinical Trials
- New Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on ICD-10 Implementation

ASCO's *Quality Oncology Practice Initiative* (QOPI) is designed to promote excellence in cancer care by helping oncologists create a

culture of self-examination and improvement. ASCO is now offering the QOPI Certification Program to recognize QOPI participants who achieve rigorous standards for cancer care. The QOPI Certification designation can be used by certified practices to demonstrate an advanced commitment to quality. For more information or to register, go to qopi.asco.org.

The *Community Oncology Alliance's* (COA) *Administrators' Network* (CAN) website is available at communityoncology.info. Bobbi Buell is the CAN Web Mistress. The site includes a variety of presentations, tools, resources, and copies of her newsletter. Registration is required to access this website.

NCCN has updated their *Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology and/or Drugs & Biologics Compendium* for antiemesis, neuroendocrine tumors, and soft tissue sarcoma.

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.