

ANCO FAX News

Association of Northern California Oncologists
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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.

In this issue:

- CoC 2016 Standards
- ASCO's *Changes in Medicare 2016*
- ANCO's *SABCS Highlights 2015*
- 16th *Multidisciplinary Management of Cancer*—Register Now, Submit Cases
- ANCO Annual Election Results

The *ANCO FAX News* is FAXed to Individual Member practices, and e-mailed to Group, Institutional, and Corporate (contacts) Members. The next regular *ANCO FAX News* will be published on January 22nd. Send your comments or contributions to ANCO, P.O. Box 151109, San Rafael, CA 94915-1109; Voice: (415) 472-3960; FAX: (415) 472-3961; execdir@anco-online.org.

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

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

The Association of Northern California Oncologists (ANCO) is an association of hematologists/oncologists dedicated to promoting high professional standards of cancer care by providing a forum for the exchange of ideas, data, and knowledge. The material contained in the *ANCO FAX News* is intended as general information for ANCO members. Because diagnostic, treatment, contracting, coding, and billing decisions should be made on a case-by-case basis, any such information contained in the *ANCO FAX News* may not apply in any given situation. Members are encouraged to contact their own consultants or advisors to obtain specific advice on matters relating to contracting, coding, and billing. The information contained in the *ANCO FAX News* should not be used as a substitute for such advice.

ADVOCACY

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

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

The *Commission on Cancer (CoC)* has issued *Cancer Program Standards: Ensuring Patient-Centered Care (2016 Edition)*. The 2016 edition requirements are effective January 1st, 2016 (with the exception of the 2017 phase-in standards) and determine compliance with CoC standards. The CoC's brief summary of the 2016 edition revisions is at www.facs.org/-/media/files/quality%20programs/cancer/coc/brief%20summary%20of%202016%20edition%20revisions.ashx.

The *Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA)* introduced significant changes, on an ambitious timeline, to how Medicare will pay oncologists for the care they provide—and now is the time to understand and prepare for these changes. Besides repealing the *Sustainable Growth Rate* formula for reimbursement related to the Medicare *Physician Fee Schedule*, MACRA's goal is to move Medicare toward a value-based practice environment that ensures high-quality, affordable health care. Learn more about MACRA at www.asco.org/macra and www.hematology.org/Advocacy/Policy-News/2015/4702.aspx. Download ASCO's presentation on MACRA at www.asco.org/sites/www.asco.org/files/macra_december_2015_webinar_slides.pdf.

ASCO will host a webinar entitled *Changes in Medicare 2016* on January 11th at 1PM PT; for more information and to register, go to www.asco.org/practice-research/medicare-program. CMS's CY2016 Medicare *Physician Fee Schedule* is now available online at med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/fees-news/fee-schedules/mpfs. Read the CMS *Fact Sheet* at www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Fact-sheets/2015-Fact-sheets-items/2015-10-30-2.html; read ASCO's

comments at www.asco.org/advocacy/asco-urges-cms-maintain-current-reimbursement-levels-chemotherapy-administration; read ASH's analysis at www.hematology.org/Advocacy/Policy-News/2015/4639.aspx; read Bobbi Buell's summary of the final rule at www.anco-online.org/BB-MedicareFinalRules.pdf; and, read ACCC's *Oncology Coding & Reimbursement Update 2016* at www.accc-cancer.org/oncology_issues/articles/JF16/JF16-Oncology-Coding-Reimbursement-Update.pdf.

ASCO has submitted comments to the *Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)* regarding the proposed rule on the *Management Standards for Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals*. ASCO's comments focus on the need for clear *Federal* regulations governing the disposal of hazardous waste pharmaceuticals and the need to update the *Agency's* list of hazardous drugs as part of a practical approach to hazardous waste disposal that does not unduly burden physician practices. Read more about ASCO's comments at www.asco.org/advocacy/asco-responds-proposed-rule-management-hazardous-waste-pharmaceuticals.

USP has announced its intention to publish proposed language for General Chapter 800, *Hazardous Drugs—Handling in Healthcare Settings*, with an implementation date of July 1st. Read more at www.usp.org/frequently-asked-questions/hazardous-drugs-handling-healthcare-settings.

Congress passed S2425, the *Patient Access and Medicare Protection Act*, that includes a provision granting CMS the authority to expedite applications for exemptions from meaningful use Stage 2 requirements for the CY2015. The legislation also gives CMS the authority to process requests for hardship exemptions through a more streamlined process. Go to www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/PaymentAdj_Hardship.html to learn more about applying for a hardship exemption. Meanwhile, ASCO submitted comments to CMS on EHR *Incentive Program Stage 3* rules; read ASCO's letter at www.asco.org/sites/www.asco.org/files/meaningful_use_3_comments_12152015.pdf.

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.

Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) forms changed on January 1st, with the full implementation of a new law that allows nurse practitioners and physician assistants, under the supervision of a physician and within their scope of practice, to sign POLST forms and make them actionable medical orders. For more information about POLST, see the *California Medical Association's* end-of-life resources page at www.cmanet.org/about/patient-resources/end-of-life-issues/.

The Medical Board of California is asking physicians who need to renew their medical licenses in the next few months to do so early to avoid delays associated with scheduled upgrades to the BreZE online licensing system. Licenses expire on the last day of the licensee's birth month during the second year of a two-year term. Renewal notices are sent out 90 days in advance of the expiration date. Individuals holding professional licenses with January 2016 expiration dates who wish to renew their licenses are strongly encouraged to renew as early as possible.

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 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. Recent updates include:

- MLN Connects Provider eNews *Announcements*—EHR Incentive Programs: 2015 Program Year Attestation Begins January 4; PQRS: Submission Timeframes for 2015 Data; PQRS: Self-Nomination for 2016 Qualified Registries and QCDRs Open through January 31; January Quarterly Provider Update Available
- *Claims, Pricers, and Codes*—Holding of 2016 Date-of-Service Claims for Services Paid Under the 2016 MPFS
- Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents L34167, code J0886 deleted 1/1/2016
- Flow Cytometry LCD-R3
- Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule and Laboratory Services Subject to Reasonable Charge Payment-2016 Annual Update CR9465
- Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) LCD-R3
- Self-Administered Drug Exclusions List-R5
- 2016 CPT/HCPCS LCDs and Articles Revision-Effective January 1, 2016

Noridian/JEMAC's Electronic Data Interchange Support Services (EDISS) invites you to subscribe to its e-mail distribution list to receive current information at www.edissweb.com/cgp/news/index.html.

Forthcoming Noridian/JEMAC workshops include:

- Reopenings (January 20th)
- Ask the Contractor (January 20th)

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

Noridian/JEMAC offers the following self-paced training tutorials online at med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/education/event-materials:

- Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN)
- CMS 1500 Claim Form and Instructions
- ICD-10 Overview

Subscribe today to receive the DHCS/Medi-Cal Subscription Service (MCSS) via e-mail. The MCSS is a free service that can help keep you up-to-date on the latest DHCS/Medi-Cal news. Go to the MCSS Subscriber Form (files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/mcss/mcss.asp), enter an e-mail address and a ZIP code, and customize your subscription by selecting the specific subject areas you are interested in. For more information about MCSS, visit the MCSS Help page at files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/mcss/mcss_help.asp.

A list of DHCS/MediCal webinars is at files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/newsroom/newsroom_23149.asp?utm_source=iContact&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Medi-Cal%20NewsFlash&utm_content=23149.

Anthem (formerly Wellpoint) is offering California oncologists a monetary incentive for each patient who receives treatment as specified by one of the insurer's recommended regimens. Learn more about the *Anthem* program at www.cancercarequalityprogram.com. ANCO members are encouraged to review *Anthem's Cancer Care Quality Program Treatment Pathways* and send their comments to ANCO at execdir@anco-online.org. ANCO's comments on the *Program* and *Anthem's* response are available online at www.anco-online.org/index.html.

UnitedHealthcare's Network Bulletin (January 2016) is now available online at unitedhealthcareonline.com > Quick Links > Network Bulletin and highlights 2016 *UnitedHealthcare Administrative Guide Available—Effective April 1, 2016; Prior Authorization Required for Select Musculoskeletal and Pain Management Procedures—Effective April*

4, 2016; Radiology Program Procedure Code Changes—Effective January 1, 2016; and Medical Policy, Drug Policy, Coverage Determination Guideline and Utilization Review Guideline Updates.

EDUCATION

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

ANCO's Medicare Reimbursement for Oncology 2016 and Beyond

ANCO hosted its annual *Medicare* update program entitled *Medicare Reimbursement for Oncology in 2016 and Beyond* via webcast on January 6th. Roberta Buell, M.B.A., *onPoint Oncology*, provided a comprehensive update of coding, billing, and reimbursement changes for Medicare. Listen to a recording of the webcast at cc.readytalk.com/play?id=dx50jb; download the presentation at www.anco-online.org/BBuell2016.pdf.

ANCO's SABCS Highlights 2014

ANCO's annual *SABCS Highlights* will take place on January 13th. Faculty from *Stanford University* (Carol M. Marquez, M.D.), *UC Davis* (Helen K. Chew, M.D.), and *UC San Francisco* (Michael D. Alvarado, M.D.) will present and review the clinically most relevant results presented at December 2015's *San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium*. Download the meeting announcement/registration form at www.anco-online.org/sabcshl2015.pdf.

ASCO's Cancer Survivorship Symposium

ASCO's *Cancer Survivorship Symposium 2016* takes place at the *San Francisco Marriott Marquis* on January 15-16th. For more information, visit survivorsym.org.

ASCO's Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium

ASCO's *Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium 2016* takes place at the *Moscone West Building* in San Francisco on January 21st-23rd. For more information, visit gicasym.org.

REGISTER NOW AND SUBMIT CASES
16th Multidisciplinary Management of
Cancers: A Case-Based Approach
EARLY BIRD RATES END 1/31/16

The 16th Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-Based Approach returns to the Silverado Resort and Spa in Napa on March 18-20th. The meeting is sponsored by the Stanford University School of Medicine and the Association of Northern California Oncologists and presented in collaboration by the Stanford Cancer Institute, UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center. Download the meeting brochure (that includes housing information), register, and submit cases for possible discussion at med.stanford.edu/cme/courses/2016/multicancer2016.html.

ASCO Annual Meeting

Registration and housing for the 2016 ASCO Annual Meeting, June 3rd-7th, at McCormick Place in Chicago is now open. Reserve your room and register at am.asco.org/.

Additional Education Meetings

Other meetings of possible interest to ANCO member practices are:

January 14th
Update from the 2015 ASH Annual Meeting
 CancerCare
 Connect Education Workshop

January 27th
The Latest Developments Reported at the 38th Annual San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium
 CancerCare
 Connect Education Workshop

January 28th
Living with Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors (GIST)
 CancerCare
 Connect Education Workshop

January 29-30th
2016 Highlights of ASH
 American Society of Hematology
 San Diego
 (www.hematology.org/highlights)

February 1st
Nutrition and Healthy Eating Tips During and

After Cancer Treatments
 CancerCare
 Connect Education Workshop

February 10th
Taking Your Pills on Schedule—Why It Is So Important in Managing Cancer
 CancerCare
 Connect Education Workshop

February 11th
Update on Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL)
 CancerCare
 Connect Education Workshop

February 17th
Update on the Treatment of Bladder Cancer
 CancerCare
 Connect Education Workshop

February 24th
Update on Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumors
 CancerCare
 Connect Education Workshop

February 26th
When the Diagnosis is Cancer of Unknown Primary: Guidelines for Care
 CancerCare
 Connect Education Workshop

March 2nd-4th
Cancerscape: Policy, Value & Quality (ACCC 42nd Annual Meeting)
 Association of Community Cancer Centers
 Washington, D.C.
 (www.accc-cancer.org/meetings/AM2016.asp)

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

**ASSOCIATION & MEMBERSHIP
 NEWS, RESOURCES, & BENEFITS**

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 resources); clinical and professional education meeting announcements and distributed materials; survey reports and publications; clinical trials information; links to affiliated organizations; updated physician, nurse, manager, and patient resources; and, updated Corporate Member drug

reimbursement and patient assistance program information.

Annual Election Results

The ANCO membership elected the following members to the *Board of Directors* (location, for terms ending in 2018, inclusive):

Dimitrios Colevas, M.D.
(Stanford, 2018)
David Gandara, M.D.
(Sacramento, 2018)
Raymond Liu, M.D.
(San Francisco, 2018)
Daniel Mirda, M.D.
(Napa, 2018)

Drs. Ekstrand (San Mateo, 2017), Ganjoo (Stanford, 2016), Kunz (Stanford, 2017), Melnyk (Antioch, 2016), Neal (Stanford, 2017), Pan (Santa Clara, 2017), Robles (Pleasant Hill, 2016), and Wang (San Francisco, 2016), continue on the *Board*.

Board of Directors

The ANCO *Board of Directors* meets by teleconference and occasionally in person to discuss issues affecting the *Association*, clinical and professional education, and ways to better serve the membership. *Board* teleconferences/meetings are open to individual physician members. The next regularly scheduled ANCO *Board of Directors* teleconference is scheduled for January 13th. Please call José Luis González, ANCO *Executive Director*, at (415) 472-3960 if you wish to participate in a future teleconference/meeting.

Individual Member News

A current *Directory of Members* is available online at www.anco-online.org/pubs.html as a .pdf document. We urge all ANCO members to download their own edition of *The ANCO Directory of Members*. Please verify your *Directory* entry and contact the ANCO office at execdir@anco-online.org with any corrections, additions, and/or deletions.

Group Member News

ANCO initiated a **Group Membership** in 2008 based on a mutual set of perceived values and benefits and a mutual set of interests. The ANCO *Board* believes that the *Association* and *The*

Permanente Medical Group (TPMG) will each receive value from Group Membership.

ANCO initiated a **Multi Site Group Membership** in 2010 to encourage all physicians (medical and radiation oncologists) from multi-site and multidisciplinary practices to join. ANCO thanks *Annadel Medical Group/St Joseph's Heritage Healthcare, California Cancer Associates for Research and Excellence, Diablo Valley Oncology & Hematology Medical Group, EPIC Care, Pacific Cancer Care, Palo Alto Medical Foundation, and Valley Medical Oncology Consultants* for their multi site group memberships.

Institutional Member News

ANCO initiated an **Institutional Membership** in 2002. *Department(s) of Hematology and/or Oncology* of accredited, degree granting teaching universities or research institutions are eligible for institutional membership. ANCO thanks the following Institutional Members for their support:

- *Stanford Cancer Center*
- *University of California, Davis, Cancer Center*
- *University of California, San Francisco*

The *Stanford Hematology Review of the 57th Annual ASH Meeting* takes place on January 30th at *The Ritz-Carlton* in Half Moon Bay. Go to cme.stanford.edu/hematology for more information and to register.

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:

*Alexion Pharmaceuticals • AMGEN
Astellas Oncology • AstraZeneca
Bayer Healthcare/Onyx Pharmaceuticals
Biodesix • Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals
Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology
Cardinal Health Specialty Solutions
Celgene • Clovis Oncology • Daiichi Sankyo
Dendreon • Eisai • Foundation Medicine
Genoptix Medical Laboratory
Genentech BioOncology • Genomic Health
Gilead Sciences • Helsinn Oncology
Incyte • Ipsen Biopharmaceuticals*

Janssen Biotech • Jazz Pharmaceuticals
 Lilly Oncology • Merrimack Pharmaceuticals
 Medivation • Merck
 nanoString • Novartis Oncology
 Oncology Supply/ION • Onyx Pharmaceuticals
 Pfizer Oncology • Pharmacyclics
 Prometheus Therapeutics & Diagnostics
 Sandoz Biopharmaceuticals • Sanofi Oncology
 Sargass Pharmaceutical Adherence
 & Compliance (SPAC) International
 Seattle Genetics • Taiho Oncology
 Takeda Oncology • TEVA Oncology

We especially wish to thank and welcome Biodesix, Clovis Oncology, Ipsen Pharmaceuticals, Jazz Pharmaceuticals, Merrimack Pharmaceuticals, Prometheus Therapeutics & Diagnostics, Sandoz Biopharmaceuticals, and Taiho Oncology as new Corporate Members for 2016. Please visit www.anco-online.org/assistance.html for **Corporate Member drug reimbursement and patient assistance program information**. ANCO encourages all member practices to use this resource and enroll all patients at the start of treatment in all available and appropriate patient assistance programs.

Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology informs ANCO that Opdivo has been assigned J-code J9299 (1mg).

Merck informs ANCO that Keytruda has been assigned J-code J9271 (1mg). In addition, the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved an expanded indication for Keytruda to include the first-line treatment of patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma.

Teva Oncology informs ANCO that Granix has been assigned J-code J1447 (1mcg).

Clinical Trial News

There is a new area on ASCO Connection that provides an online discussion forum, tools and resources for physician investigators and research staff to share issues and ideas about conducting and managing research in the community setting. Visit ASCO's *Community Research Forum* (CRF) at connection.asco.org/groups/community-research-forum?et_cid=37141215&et_rid=1004920403&linkid=CRF to join this *Forum*.

The *Journal of Clinical Oncology* (JCO) has published two articles highlighting the effectiveness of the *Preparatory Education About Clinical Trials* or PRE-ACT, a Web-based educational tool for clinical trials that is available

on **cancer.net**. Read more about these articles at www.asco.org/advocacy/two-recent-articles-jco-highlight-cancernet's-clinical-trial-educational-tool.

The Winter 2016 edition (as well as past editions) of *Stanford's Clinical Research Newsletter* is now available at cancer.stanford.edu/trials/mdcommunity_newsletter/. This edition focuses on the lymphoma, hematology, blood and marrow transplantation, and adolescent and young adult cancer programs, and on developmental therapeutics.

Stanford Cancer Center brings the following oncology clinical trials (not previously listed or changed) to the attention of the ANCO membership:

- A Phase II/III Trial of Neoadjuvant FOLFOX with Selective Use of Combined Modality Chemoradiation versus Preoperative Combined Modality Chemoradiation for Locally Advanced Rectal Cancer Patients Undergoing Low Anterior Resection with Total Mesorectal Excision [ECOG N1048; NCT01515787]. Principal Investigator: George Fisher, MD, PhD; Contact: Martina Steffen, (650) 721-4077, steffenm@stanford.edu
- Prospective Randomized Phase II Trial of Pazopanib Versus Placebo in Patients with Progressive Carcinoid Tumors [A021202]. Principal Investigator: Pamela Kunz, MD; Contact: Martina Steffen, (650) 721-4077, steffenm@stanford.edu
- A Phase 1b Study of the Safety and Pharmacology of MPDL3280A Administered with Cobimetinib in Patients with Locally Advanced or Metastatic Solid Tumors [NCT01988896]. Principal Investigator: Heather Wakelee, MD; Contact: Lisa Zhou, (650) 736-4112; yaya@stanford.edu
- A Phase II Study of Pembrolizumab as Monotherapy in Subjects with Previously Treated Locally Advanced Unresectable or Metastatic (Stage IV) Mismatched Repair Deficient or Microsatellite Instability-High Colorectal Carcinoma [NCT02460198]. Principal Investigator: George Fisher, MD, PhD; Contact: Donna Williams, (650) 498-6608; donnacw@stanford.edu
- A Phase 3 Study of Pembrolizumab (MK-3475) vs. Chemotherapy in Microsatellite Instability High (MSI-H) or Mismatch Repair Deficient (dMMR) Stage IV Colorectal Carcinoma [Keynote-177; NCT02563002]. Principal Investigator: George Fisher, MD, PhD; Contact: Donna Williams, (650) 498-6608; donnacw@stanford.edu
- A Phase II Study of Epcadostat (INCB024360) with Pembrolizumab (MK-3475) in Metastatic or Unresectable Gastroesophageal Junction and Gastric Adenocarcinoma Requiring Paired Biopsies. Principal Investigator: Pamela Kunz,

MD; Contact: Ben Priestley, (650) 723-2990; ben.priestley@stanford.edu

- A Phase 1b/2 Study of MEDI4736 in Combination with Tremelimumab, MEDI4736 Monotherapy, and Tremelimumab Monotherapy in Subjects with Metastatic or Recurrent Gastric or Gastroesophageal Junction Adenocarcinoma [NCT02340975]. Principal Investigator: George Fisher, MD, PhD; Contact: Melissa Worman, (650) 725-0379; mlworman@stanford.edu

- Randomized Phase II Study of Cisplatin and Etoposide versus Temozolomide and Capecitabine in Patients with Advanced G3 Non-Small Cell Gastroenteropancreatic Neuroendocrine Carcinomas [EA2142; NCT02595424]. Principal Investigator: Pamela Kunz, MD; Contact: Marina Steffen, (650) 721-4077; steffenm@stanford.edu

- Phase I, Multicenter, Cohort Dose Escalation Trial to Determine the Safety, Tolerance, and Maximum Tolerated Dose of DCR-MYC, a Lipid Nanoparticle (LNP)-Formulated Small Inhibitory RNA (siRNA) Oligonucleotide Targeting MYC in Patients with Refractory Locally Advanced or Metastatic Solid Tumor Malignancies, Multiple Myeloma, or Lymphoma [NCT02110563]. Principal Investigator: Pamela Kunz, MD; Contact: Ben Priestley, (650) 723-2990; ben.priestley@stanford.edu

- A Phase 1b/2 Open-Label, Multicenter Study of MEDI4736 Evaluated as a Single Agent or in Different Combinations in Patients with Metastatic Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma [EVEREST; NCT02583477]. Principal Investigator: George Fisher, MD, PhD; Contact: Melissa Worman, (650) 725-0379; mlworman@stanford.edu

- A 2 Open-Label, Multicenter Study of MEDI4736 Evaluated as a Single Agent or in Combination with Tremelimumab in Patients with Metastatic Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma [ALPS; NCT02558894]. Principal Investigator: George Fisher, MD, PhD; Contact: Melissa Worman, (650) 725-0379; mlworman@stanford.edu

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

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

- A Phase 1a/b Dose Escalation Study of the Safety Pharmacokinetics, and Pharmacodynamics of OMP-131R10 in Advanced Solid Tumors and in Combination with FOLFIRI for Patients with Previously Treated Metastatic Colorectal Cancer (CC#159510). Contact: Armand Harb, (415) 353-7381, armand.harb@ucsf.edu.

- An Open-Label, Parallel-Group, Multicenter, Phase I Study to Investigate the Pharmacokinetics of NKTR-102 for Injection (Etrinetecan Pegol) in Patients with Advanced or Metastatic Solid Tumors and Mild or Moderate Haptic Impairment (CC#13955). Contact: Jeremy

Burbanks-Ivey, (415) 514-6248, jeremy.burbanks-ivey@ucsf.edu.

- A Multicenter Study of the Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase (BTK) Inhibitor, Ibrutinib, in Combination with MEDI4736, in Subjects with Relapsed or Refractory Solid Tumors (CC#15955). Contact: Jeremy Burbanks-Ivey, (415) 514-6248, jeremy.burbanks-ivey@ucsf.edu.

- Phase I Open Label, Multi-center Study to Assess the Safety, Tolerability and Pharmacokinetics of Orally Administered CUDC-907, an HDAC and PI3K Inhibitor, in Subjects with Advanced/Relapsed Solid Tumors (CC#149515). Contact: Jeremy Burbanks-Ivey, (415) 514-6248, jeremy.burbanks-ivey@ucsf.edu.

- Phase I Study to Evaluate the Safety of Neratinib in Combination with Paclitaxel, Trastuzumab and Pertuzumab in Women and Men with Advanced or Metastatic HER2+ Solid Tumors (CC#149517). Contact: Wesley Goodman-Levy, (415) 514-6363, wesley.goodman-levy@ucsf.edu.

- A Phase 1 Open-Label First-in-Human Dose-Escalating Safety and Tolerability Study Evaluating Subcutaneous Administration of Andes-1537 for Injection in Patients with Advanced Unresectable Solid Tumors That Are Refractory to Standard Therapy or For Which No Standard Therapy is Available (CC#159512). Contact: Kathleen (Kate) Comerford, (415) 514-6674, kathleen.@ucsf.edu.

- A Phase II Clinical Trial of Pembrolizumab (MK-3475) in Subjects with Select Biomarker Positive Advanced Solid Tumors (KEYNOTE-158). Contact: Ilaria Mastroserio, (415) 514-6254, ilaria.mastroserio@ucsf.edu.

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

Publications, Resources, Services, & Surveys

ANCO's 2015 *Annual Report* is now available online at www.anco-online.org/AR2015.pdf and was mailed to all ANCO physician members the first week in December. Also, review the highlights of ASCO's 2015 advocacy achievements at www.asco.org/advocacy/banner-year-moving-asco-policy-and-practice-agenda-forward.

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 if you are not receiving the *Weekly* via e-mail or FAX.

ASCO's CancerLinQ is a cutting-edge health IT

platform that securely connects and powerfully analyzes real-world cancer care data from many data sources. Guided by ASCO's expertise and mission to support all cancer physicians—in every community and every setting—and powered by the SAP HANA platform, CancerLinQ equips oncologists with a vast network of information to improve the quality of patient care and maximize outcomes. CancerLinQ will improve the care for all cancer patients and provide valuable tools to enhance practice efficiencies. We hope you can join this effort to empower oncologists everywhere to deliver high-quality care to their patients. When your practice joins CancerLinQ, designated users will have access to view, query, and visualize:

- Data for individual patients they are treating
- Data specific to their practice
- Aggregated de-identified data on all patients from all CancerLinQ practices

Between now and June 1st, if your practice signs a participation agreement, you will receive the following additional benefits:

- Waived connection fee (a \$50,000 minimum value)
- Waived user fees for 5 years
- Opportunity for national recognition alongside your professional society (ASCO)
- Open line of communication to help develop the next wave of CancerLinQ functionality

Watch a CancerLinQ presentation at www.asco.org/advocacy/watch-cancerlinq-llc-ceo-kevin-fitzpatrick's-presentation-during-sap's-big-data-webinar. For more information and to set up an informational meeting, please contact Duane Heitkemper at (571) 344-9499 or duane.heitkemper@cancerlinq.com or Jeff Szykowny at (571) 242-9499 or jeff.szykowny@cancerlinq.org.

ASCO's Practical Tips for the Oncology Practice (6th Edition) is a comprehensive business and management resource for oncology practices. Recognizing the increasing burdens that oncology practices face in today's healthcare delivery system, ASCO is releasing this guide with new information on Medicare reimbursement, ICD coding, and safe drug handling guidelines and requirements. The 6th edition is only available to download as an eBook giving practices enhanced

search functions to easily find and access key information. Order the latest edition at store2.asco.org.

ASCO has launched PracticeNET, a collaborative network in which practices will share and receive insights to enhance their business operations and quality of care. PracticeNET is the first initiative of ASCO's *Clinical Affairs Department*. This new initiative uses existing data from your practice management system to offer customizable reports that measure practice-wide and individual performance against a national database of other PracticeNET participants. Go to www.asco.org/PracticeNET for more information.

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

The November 2015 issue of ASCO's Journal of Oncology Practice (JOP) is available online and features articles entitled *Lessons From Early Implementation of a Patient-Centered Care Model in Oncology*; and, *Community Oncology Medical Homes: Physician-Driven Change to Improve Patient Care and Reduce Costs*. Visit jop.ascopubs.org for more information.

The public comment period is now open for the 2015 ASCO/Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) Chemotherapy Administration Safety Standards Revision—an ongoing collaborative project that uses a rigorous, consensus-based process to develop standards for the safe administration of chemotherapy. Read about and comment on the draft standards by January 13th at www.asco.org/advocacy/2015-ascoons-chemotherapy-safety-standards-open-public-comment-until-jan-13.

ASCO, in partnership with the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) and the College of American Pathologists (CAP), has announced the start of a public open comment period for a new clinical practice guideline being developed for patients with gastroesophageal cancer entitled *HER2 Testing in Gastroesophageal Adenocarcinoma*

Guideline. Read about and comment on the guideline at www.asco.org/advocacy/comment-period-gastroesophageal-cancer-clinical-practice-guideline-open-until-jan-11.

ASCO members are invited to serve in the Society's Practice Guidelines Implementation Network (PGIN), a network of oncology professionals who raise awareness of ASCO's evidence-based recommendations on cancer care. Participation in PGIN provides an opportunity for members to positively impact the way that clinical oncology is delivered now and in the future. Learn more and register for PGIN at www.asco.org/institute-quality/implementation-strategy.

CMS has approved ASCO's Quality Oncology Practice Initiative (QOPI) as a qualified clinical data registry (QCDR), a pathway for oncologists to meet the agency's current quality reporting requirements. Oncology practices registered with QOPI will have the opportunity to fulfill CMS's PQRS or QCDR reporting requirements through QOPI. QOPI participants have until February 1st to meet CMS PQRS requirements. Go to www.asco.org/advocacy/cms-approval-new-platform-making-qopi-participation-easier for more information. QOPI is designed to promote excellence in cancer care by helping oncologists create a culture of self-examination and improvement. ASCO offers 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.

ACCC's online Oncology Drug Database provides quick access to information on oncology drug coding, billing, and reimbursement at www.accc-cancer.org/drugdatabase/.

ACCC's enhanced set of Financial Advocacy Network resources are at www.accc-cancer.org/resources/FinancialAdvocacy-Overview.asp. This "one-stop" destination for comprehensive financial advocacy information includes online training materials, practical financial advocacy tools, peer-to-peer networking, and more.

ACCC's 2015 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 2015 *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/PatientAssistanceGuide.asp to access this resource. In addition, ACCC has developed a tool for accessing patient assistance and reimbursement programs for use on a desktop, table, or mobile device. The *Financial Advocacy Network* (FAN) app is available at accc-fan-app.org. **ASH also has a webpage (at www.hematology.org/Clinicians/Drugs/Programs/) that provides a consolidated list of resources for hematologists and patients trying to access high cost hematologic drugs.** And, at NCCN's Reimbursement Resource Room (www.nccn.org/reimbursement_resource_room/default.asp) you can select a cancer diagnosis or supportive care indication and learn about reimbursement help and services available to you. Finally, *assistPoint* is your website for complimentary one-stop cancer Patient Assistance. You can search by generic, brand name, manufacturer, or diagnosis for the enrollment forms you need; get enrollment form PDFs for 113 cancer drugs; get NDC numbers for all of those drugs; find the HCPCS J-code for each drug; get coding and billing guidelines for many drugs; and, learn more about the drugs you give. Go to www.assistpoint.com to learn more.

Individual Membership Dues for 2016

Membership renewal notices for 2016 were mailed to all members in early December. If you have not yet done so, then please return your 2016 membership dues to ANCO now to ensure your inclusion in *The ANCO Directory of Members*. Be sure to provide ANCO with your e-mail address and the name(s) and e-mail address(es) of office and/or nurse manager contact(s). Those not renewing their membership by June 30th will be deleted from the *Directory of Members*, and will no longer be eligible for any ANCO benefits. Contact the ANCO office if you do not receive or misplaced your membership dues renewal notice.

ANCO seeks new members. **All members of a practice should join ANCO.** And, ANCO seeks to enroll radiation oncologists as members, so please send us contact information for the radiation oncologists within your practice and/or to whom you refer patients.

Remember, a larger ANCO is a stronger ANCO!