

# ANCO FAX News

Association of Northern California Oncologists  
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Vol. 15, No. 13

July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016

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

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- CMS & ASCO testimony on CMS's Part B drug reimbursement experiment
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The *ANCO FAX News* is FAXed to Individual Member practices, and e-mailed to Group, Institutional, and Corporate (contacts) Members. The next regular *ANCO FAX News* will be published on July 29<sup>th</sup>. Send your comments or contributions to ANCO, P.O. Box 151109, San Rafael, CA 94915-1109; Voice: (415) 472-3960; FAX: (415) 472-3961; [execdir@anco-online.org](mailto:execdir@anco-online.org).

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

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

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

## ADVOCACY

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

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

The *United States Food and Drug Administration* (FDA) has finalized the *Individual Patient Expanded Access Application*, a simplified form to make the process easier for physicians to request investigational drugs for their patients—including cancer drugs and treatments under development. ASCO applauds FDA for finalizing the simpler form for expanded access. Visit [www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM432717.pdf](http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM432717.pdf) for more information.

CMS has testified before the *Senate Finance Committee* that the *Administration* would adjust its plan to reduce Medicare payments for many **prescription drugs**—but those assurances did not fully allay deep concerns from the *Senators*. CMS indicated that the *Administration* would probably go ahead with its proposal in some form and pledged that it would try to prevent any harm to patients. At the same hearing, ASCO voiced its strong opposition to CMS's plans. Read ASCO's testimony at [www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/blog-release/documents/June-2016-ASCO-Finance-Part-B-Hearing-Statement.pdf?et\\_cid=38017965&et rid=801330592&linkid=comments](http://www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/blog-release/documents/June-2016-ASCO-Finance-Part-B-Hearing-Statement.pdf?et_cid=38017965&et rid=801330592&linkid=comments). ASCO supports HR5122, legislation that would halt CMS from implementing the CMS Medicare Part B drug reimbursement experiment and helps to keep the pressure on the *Administration* to withdraw or substantially change the experiment, and urges the *House* to pass it in a timely manner. Please ask your *Representative* to co-sponsor HR5122 today by visiting [cqrcengage.com/asco/](http://cqrcengage.com/asco/).

MACRA redefines how Medicare will reimburse oncologists for care they provide starting in January 2019. However, because evaluation begins in less than six months (i.e.,

2017), it is imperative that oncologists understand and prepare for this reimbursement change now. Medicare intends to pay each provider a different fee based on their value and performance. Providers will choose one of two pathways. Providers choosing the *Merit-Based Incentive Payment System* (MIPS) will be paid higher or lower fees for each service provided based on their Composite Performance Score. Providers choosing the *Advanced Alternative Payment Model* (APM) will participate in risk-based programs and receive a 5% bonus. Services provided in 2017 will form the basis for payments in 2019 and the actions you take starting in January 2017 will result in a reduction of up to 4% or increase of up to 22% in your Medicare revenue in 2019. Go to [www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-management-issues/medicare-program/macra](http://www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/practice-management-issues/medicare-program/macra) for more information. ASCO will present a free webinar entitled *Are You Ready for MACRA? How to Prepare* on July 19<sup>th</sup> at 1PM. For more information and to register go to [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/are-you-ready-macra-learn-how-prepare-tuesday-july-19](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/are-you-ready-macra-learn-how-prepare-tuesday-july-19). Download ASCO's step-by-step guide to preparing for MACRA at [www.anco-online.org/ASCOMACRAPrep.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/ASCOMACRAPrep.pdf). Read ASCO's comments on the proposed MACRA regulations at [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/asco-submits-comments-proposed-macra-implementation-rule](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/asco-in-action/asco-submits-comments-proposed-macra-implementation-rule). Listen to ACCC's webinar on MACRA at [attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/viewRecording/2308644939852908546/4288900566134237187/execdir@anco-online.org](http://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/viewRecording/2308644939852908546/4288900566134237187/execdir@anco-online.org). Read ACCC's comments on the proposed MACRA regulations at [www.accc-cancer.org/advocacy/pdf/2016-ACCC-Comment-Letter-to-CMS-on-Proposed-MACRA-Rule.pdf](http://www.accc-cancer.org/advocacy/pdf/2016-ACCC-Comment-Letter-to-CMS-on-Proposed-MACRA-Rule.pdf). Read COA's comments on the proposed MACRA regulations at [www.communityoncology.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/COA\\_CMS\\_MACRA\\_5517PR\\_Comment\\_Letter\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.communityoncology.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/COA_CMS_MACRA_5517PR_Comment_Letter_FINAL.pdf). The *California Medical Association* (CMA) will host a webinar entitled *MACRA: What is CMA Doing to Improve It? What Steps Can You Take to Prepare Now?* on July 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:15PM. The webinar will provide an overview of the new MACRA payment changes, with an emphasis on what CMA is doing to improve MACRA regulations for

physicians. The webinar will also discuss what physicians can do now to be ready for the major changes ahead. Go to [www.cmanet.org/events/detail?event=macra-what-is-cma-doing-to-improve-it-what-to-register](http://www.cmanet.org/events/detail?event=macra-what-is-cma-doing-to-improve-it-what-to-register). **Read Bobbie Buell's analysis of the MACRA proposal** at [www.anco-online.org/BBMacraAnalysis.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/BBMacraAnalysis.pdf).

**MACRA encourages the development of alternatives to the current Medicare fee-for-service payment system as a means to achieve higher quality and more affordable care.** ASCO believes that its *Patient-Centered Oncology Payment* (PCOP) model meets MACRA's definition of an alternative payment model (APM) and will actively advance PCOP as a certified APM. ASCO is offering practices a unique opportunity to test PCOP and will provide tools and assistance in modeling data to help practices be successful. To learn more about PCOP, please go to [www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/policies-positions-guidance/coverage-reimbursement/physician-payment-reform](http://www.asco.org/advocacy-policy/policies-positions-guidance/coverage-reimbursement/physician-payment-reform).

**CMS announced the start of the *Oncology Care Model* (OCM) on June 29<sup>th</sup> along with the long awaited list of practices that will be participating (including several ANCO practices).** The OCM is an alternative payment model that aims to provide higher quality, more highly coordinated oncology care, while lowering overall costs to Medicare. The practices participating in the OCM have committed to providing enhanced services to Medicare beneficiaries, such as care coordination and navigation, and to using national treatment guidelines for care. For more information, please visit [innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/Oncology-Care/](http://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/Oncology-Care/). ACCC and COA have initiated OCM support networks; go to [www.accc-cancer.org/advocacy/OCM-ResourceCenter.asp](http://www.accc-cancer.org/advocacy/OCM-ResourceCenter.asp) or contact [OCMSupport@COAcancer.org](mailto:OCMSupport@COAcancer.org), respectively.

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

**On July 1<sup>st</sup>, a new law (SB137) took effect that requires health plans to ensure that physician directories are accurate and up-to-date.** The new law also requires physicians to do their part in keeping this information up-to-date. Specifically, the law requires providers to notify payors within five business days if they are no longer accepting new patients or, alternatively, if they were previously not accepting new patients and are

now open to new patients. SB137 also requires physicians to respond to plan and insurer notifications regarding the accuracy of their provider directory information, either by confirming the information is correct or by updating demographic information as appropriate. CMA has published a new resource to help physicians comply with the new directory accuracy law entitled *Physician Directories* and it is available online at [www.cmanet.org/cma-on-call](http://www.cmanet.org/cma-on-call) (Document #7163).

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

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

- MLN Connects Provider eNews *Announcements*—CMS to Release a CBR on Physician Assistant Use of Modifier 25 in July; Open Payments Program Posts 2015 Financial Data *Claims, Pricers, and Codes*—2017 ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS Files Available *Events*—SNF Quality Reporting Program Call-July 12; Modifications to HCPCS Code Set *Publications*—Recovering Overpayments from Providers Who Share TINs MLN Matters Article-New; Remittance Advice Resources and FAQs Fact Sheet-Reminder
- SNF Consolidated Billing Enforcement-October 2016 Update CR9688
- Recovering Overpayments from Providers Who Share Tax Identification Numbers SE1612
- Initial Nursing Facility Care, 99306-Service Specific Targeted Review Notification
- Chemotherapy Administration (A52952)-R3
- Screening for Lung Cancer with LDCT-Revised CR9246
- New Waived Tests CR9687

*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](http://www.edissweb.com/cgp/news/index.html).

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

- NCCI and MUEs (July 12<sup>th</sup>)
- Telehealth Services (July 14<sup>th</sup>)
- Ask the Contractor Teleconference (July 20<sup>th</sup>)

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

**Noridian/JEMAC's MAC Satisfaction Indicator Survey is now available online for providers to complete.** This survey should only take about 10 minutes of your time and helps *Noridian/JEMAC* understand how to better service you. Complete the *Survey* at [med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/article-detail/-/view/10525/evaluate-our-services-in-10-minutes](http://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/article-detail/-/view/10525/evaluate-our-services-in-10-minutes).

**Noridian/JEMAC has resumed its regular revalidation cycle** and encourages all providers to learn about their revalidation requirements at [med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/enrollment/revalidation](http://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/enrollment/revalidation).

**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/MediCal news. Go to the MCSS Subscriber Form ([files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/mcss/mcss.asp](http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/mcss/mcss.asp)) to subscribe.

**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](http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/newsroom/newsroom_23149.asp?utm_source=iContact&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Medi-Cal%20NewsFlash&utm_content=23149).

**DHCS/MediCal is following Medicare's lead by allowing providers to bill for advanced care planning discussions with beneficiaries.** DHCS/MediCal will accept CPT codes 99497 and 99498. These are time-based codes—99497 is for the first 30 minutes to be reimbursed at \$69.59 by DHCS/MediCal; 99498 is for each additional 30 minutes to be reimbursed at \$62.64 by DHCS/MediCal.

**UnitedHealthcare's Network Bulletin** (July 2016) is now available online at [unitedhealthcareonline.com](http://unitedhealthcareonline.com) > Tools & Resources > News & Network Bulletin and features articles entitled Communication Effectiveness Survey; Reminder: Please Complete CMS-required

Model of Care Training; Clinical Data Submission Protocol Update—Effective Date for California Care Providers is September 2, 2016; Changes in Advance Notification and Prior Authorization Requirements; Important Change to Our Network of DME Providers; and, Changes in Advance Notification and Prior Authorization Requirements Update—G0154 National Deleted Code.

## **EDUCATION**

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

### **ANCO's 2016**

#### **Professional Education Meeting**

ANCO will host its 2016 professional education meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup> at *The Claremont Resort*. An announcement with the agenda and faculty was distributed in early June. The agenda includes *MACRA—What It Is and How Oncology Practices Can Prepare; Managing Oncology within Medicare; California's End of Life Option Act; and, An ANCO Practice Atlas—Who We Are, What We Are Doing in Our Practices, and How This Compares to Other Oncology Practices*. The faculty will be Sybil Green, JD, RPh, *Director, Coverage and Reimbursement, ASCO*; Arthur Lurvey, MD, FACP, FACE, *Medicare Contractor Medical Director, Noridian/JEMAC*; Shirley Otis-Green, MSW, ACSW, LCSW, OSW-C, *Clinical Director of Consulting Services, Coalition for Compassionate Care of California*; and, Elaine L. Towle, CMPE, *Director, Analysis and Consulting Services, Clinical Affairs Department, ASCO*. Download the meeting announcement and registration form at [www.anco-online.org/ProfEduc2016.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/ProfEduc2016.pdf).

### **ASCO's Best of ASCO**

ASCO's *Best of ASCO* takes place in San Diego on August 12-13<sup>th</sup>. Visit [boa.asco.org](http://boa.asco.org) for more information and to register.

### **ANCO's ASCO Highlights 2016**

ANCO's *ASCO Highlights 2016* will take place on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at *The Claremont Resort* in Oakland. Faculty from *Stanford University*, the *University of California, Davis*, and the *University of California, San Francisco* will summarize the research and treatment advances reported at



ASCO's *Annual Meeting*. A meeting announcement and registration form was distributed in late June. Download the meeting announcement and registration form at [www.anco-online.org/ASCOHL2016.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/ASCOHL2016.pdf).

### **Additional Education Meetings**

Other meetings of possible interest to ANCO member practices are:

July 20<sup>th</sup>

*Triple Negative Breast Cancer and African American Women*  
CancerCare  
Connect Education Workshop

August 4-6<sup>th</sup>

*17<sup>th</sup> Annual International Lung Cancer Congress*  
Physicians' Education Resource  
Huntington Beach  
([www.gotoper.com/conferences/ilc/meetings/17th-International-Lung-Cancer-Congress](http://www.gotoper.com/conferences/ilc/meetings/17th-International-Lung-Cancer-Congress))

September 10<sup>th</sup>

*1<sup>st</sup> Annual Symposium on Integrating Immune Therapy & Targeted Therapy into Standards of Care for Solid & Hematologic Malignancies*  
Biomedical Learning Institute  
San Francisco  
([www.bmli.com/live/immune/registration.php?x=628c](http://www.bmli.com/live/immune/registration.php?x=628c))

September 16-17<sup>th</sup>

*2016 ASH Meeting on Hematologic Malignancies*  
American Society of Hematology  
Chicago  
([www.hematology.org/Malignancies/](http://www.hematology.org/Malignancies/))

September 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>

*ASCO Advocacy Summit 2016—Lead, Engage, Influence*  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
Washington, D.C.  
([www.asco.org/advocacy/2016-advocacy-summit-capitol-hill](http://www.asco.org/advocacy/2016-advocacy-summit-capitol-hill))

September 30<sup>th</sup>

*ICLIO National Conference: Immuno-Oncology—There's More to Discover*  
ACCC's Institute for Clinical Immuno-Oncology  
Philadelphia  
([acc-iclio.org/events/iclio-2nd-national-conference/](http://acc-iclio.org/events/iclio-2nd-national-conference/))

October 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>

*ACCC 33<sup>rd</sup> National Oncology Conference: The How-To Conference for the Cancer Care Team*  
Association of Community Cancer Centers

St. Louis

([www.accc-cancer.org/meetings/NOC2016.asp](http://www.accc-cancer.org/meetings/NOC2016.asp))

October 30<sup>th</sup>-November 2<sup>nd</sup>

*2016 Annual Conference*  
Medical Group Management Association  
San Francisco  
([www.mgma.com/annual-conference/why-attend](http://www.mgma.com/annual-conference/why-attend))

December 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

*58<sup>th</sup> ASH Annual Meeting & Exposition*  
American Society of Hematology  
San Diego  
([www.hematology.org/Annual-Meeting/](http://www.hematology.org/Annual-Meeting/))

February 9-12<sup>th</sup>

*Practical Recommendations in Immuno & Molecular Oncology (PRIMO)*  
Maui, Hawaii  
([www.primomeeting.org](http://www.primomeeting.org))

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

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

### **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 August 18<sup>th</sup>**. Please call José Luis González, ANCO *Executive Director*, at (415) 472-3960 if you wish to participate in a future teleconference/meeting.

### **Individual Member News**

**Applications for ASCO's Leadership Development Program are now open and must be received by September 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Participants in this year-long *Leadership Program* will gain extensive exposure to the roles and mission of ASCO, its Leadership, and the *Society's* powerful place in developing the future of cancer care, providing both an orientation to ASCO as well as leadership training skills to newer members of the *Society*. Applicants must have completed their final subspecialty training between 2007 and 2012. To

learn more about the *Program*, please visit [www.asco.org/leadership](http://www.asco.org/leadership).

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

### Group Member News

ANCO initiated a **Group Membership** in 2008 based on a mutual set of perceived values and benefits and a mutual set of interests. The ANCO *Board* believes that the *Association* and *The Permanente Medical Group* (TPMG) will each receive value from Group Membership.

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*

### Corporate Member News

ANCO thanks the following **Corporate Members** for their generous support that enables ANCO to provide services to the hematology/oncology community in northern California, and to provide its members and their patients with substantial benefits in the areas of advocacy, education, and information dissemination:

*AbbVie • Alexion Pharmaceuticals • AMGEN  
 ARIAD Pharmaceuticals • Astellas Oncology  
 AstraZeneca • Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals  
 Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals  
 Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology  
 Cardinal Health Specialty Solutions  
 Celgene • Clovis Oncology • Daiichi Sankyo  
 Dendreon • Eisai • Foundation Medicine  
 Genoptix Medical Laboratory  
 GenPath Oncology • Genentech BioOncology  
 Genomic Health • Gilead Sciences  
 Guardant Health • Helsinn Oncology  
 Heron Therapeutics • Incyte  
 Infinity Pharmaceuticals  
 Ipsen Biopharmaceuticals  
 Janssen Oncology • Jazz Pharmaceuticals  
 Lilly Oncology • Merrimack Pharmaceuticals  
 Medivation • Merck  
 nanoString • Novartis Oncology  
 Oncology Supply/ION • Pfizer Oncology  
 Pharmacyclics • Prometheus Laboratories, Inc.  
 Sandoz Biopharmaceuticals • Sanofi Genzyme  
 Seattle Genetics • Taiho Oncology  
 Takeda Oncology • Tesaro • TEVA Oncology*

We especially wish to thank and welcome *AbbVie, ARIAD Pharmaceuticals, Clovis Oncology, GenPath Oncology, Guardant Health, Heron Therapeutics, Infinity Pharmaceuticals, Ipsen Pharmaceuticals, Jazz Pharmaceuticals, Merrimack Pharmaceuticals, Prometheus Laboratories, Inc., Sandoz Biopharmaceuticals, Taiho Oncology, and Tesaro* as new Corporate Members for 2016. *Biodesix, Onyx Pharmaceuticals, and Sargass Pharmaceutical Adherence & Compliance (SPAC) International* did not renew their memberships for 2016. Please visit [www.anco-online.org/assistance.html](http://www.anco-online.org/assistance.html) for **Corporate Member drug reimbursement and patient assistance program information**. ANCO encourages all member practices to use this resource and enroll all patients at the start of treatment in all available and appropriate patient assistance programs.

### Clinical Trial News

ASCO's **Research Community Forum** (formerly the **Community Research Forum**) is expanding to have a greater impact on research sites from all types of research settings. The *Forum* is inviting researchers and staff from all types of sites to participate in this unique venue with the aim to advance cancer research and support research program management. The *Forum's* annual meeting takes place at ASCO on September 25-26<sup>th</sup>. Please visit [www.asco.org/research-community-forum](http://www.asco.org/research-community-forum) to learn more.

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

- A Phase 1, Open-Label Dose Escalation First-in-Human Study to Evaluate the Tolerability, Safety, Maximum Dose, and Pharmacokinetics of AM0010 in Patients with Advanced Solid Tumors (CC#15957). Contact: Jim Leng, (415) 443-1588; jim.leng@ucsf.edu
- A Phase I Study of Ipilimumab and Nivolumab in Advanced HIV Associated Solid Tumors with an Expansion Cohort in HIV Associated Solid Tumors (AMC095). Contact: Paul Couey, (415) 476-4082 x146; paul.couey@ucsf.edu
- A Phase 1b, Open-Label Study of Alpelisib (BYL719) in Combination with Cisplatin in Patients with HIV+ Solid Tumor Malignancies (CC#159516). Contact: Armand Harb, (415) 353-7381; armand.harb@ucsf.edu
- A Randomized, Multicenter, Double Blind, Phase III Study of Adjuvant Nivolumab or Placebo in Subjects with Resected Esophageal, or Gastroesophageal Junction Cancer (CC#16459). Contact: Claire Greene, (415) 514-6258; claire.greene@ucsf.edu
- A Multicenter Phase I Ascending Dose Study of DCC-2701 to Assess Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics in Patients with Advanced Solid Tumors (CC#169512). Contact: Ilaria Mastroserio, (415) 514-6245; ilaria.mastroserio@ucsf.edu

Further information is available at [cancer.ucsf.edu/clinical-trials](http://cancer.ucsf.edu/clinical-trials).

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

ANCO and MOASC have partnered with SullivanLuallin *Group* to offer your practice the opportunity to participate in an Oncology-based *Patient Satisfaction Survey*. The Survey is designed to assess your organization's performance in key areas associated with the ACO and PQRS CAPHS Surveys. SullivanLuallin *Group's eSurv: Online Patient Satisfaction Survey* platform allows you to efficiently and cost-effectively capture how your patients feel about your systems, services, and performance. Download more information and an enrollment form at [www.anco-online.org/PtSurvey2016.pdf](http://www.anco-online.org/PtSurvey2016.pdf).

ANCO and MOASC are jointly conducting a 2016 staff salary survey. The survey was e-mail/FAXed to all members in mid-May and is available online at [www.anco-online.org/salsrvy.html](http://www.anco-online.org/salsrvy.html). A \$50 Visa gift card for respondents is included in this year's survey. Return your completed survey no later than September 30<sup>th</sup>; results will be analyzed and reported in 4Q2016.

ASCO's CancerLinQ has launched a new website with expanded information and features for users to meet the needs of patients, practices, donors, researchers, and the larger oncology community. Visit [www.CancerLinQ.org](http://www.CancerLinQ.org) to learn more.

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/asco-in-action/asco's-clinical-affairs-department-opens-new-survey-practice-operations](http://www.asco.org/asco-in-action/asco's-clinical-affairs-department-opens-new-survey-practice-operations).

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

ASCO invites interested stakeholders to submit comments on its draft *Integration of Palliative Care into Standard Oncology Care Guideline Update*. This open comment process provides greater transparency in the guideline development process and the opportunity for key stakeholders to provide feedback before the guideline's finalization and publication. Go to [www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/quality-guidelines/guidelines-tools-resources/open-comment-guidelines](http://www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/quality-guidelines/guidelines-tools-resources/open-comment-guidelines) to submit your comments today.

ASCO has issued new clinical practice guidelines for invasive cervical cancer and these guidelines are the first to be "resource-stratified" meaning that they provide specific recommendations based on the availability of health care in different regions. Learn more at [www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/quality-guidelines/guidelines/gynecologic-cancer/#11801](http://www.asco.org/practice-guidelines/quality-guidelines/guidelines/gynecologic-cancer/#11801).

The College of American Pathologists (CAP), the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC), and the Association for Molecular



**Pathology (AMP)** have announced an open comment period for the revised evidence-based ***Molecular Guideline for Selection of Lung Cancer Patients for EGFR and ALK Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors***. Learn more at [amp.org/committees/clinical\\_practice/AMPclinicalpracticeguidelines/LBGOCp.cfm](http://amp.org/committees/clinical_practice/AMPclinicalpracticeguidelines/LBGOCp.cfm). The guideline is designed to provide state-of-the-art molecular testing of lung cancer recommendations. The comment period ends August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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 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 and are eligible to receive a discount of up to 10% on medical malpractice rates from *The Doctors Company*, the nation's largest physician-owned medical malpractice insurer. Go to [www.institutequality.org/qopi-qcp](http://www.institutequality.org/qopi-qcp) for more information.

ASH has launched a new website focusing on hematology ***Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies (REMS)***, safety programs to manage the serious risks that can arise from certain drugs and biologicals and established by the ***United States Food and Drug Administration*** to ensure that the benefits of the drug outweigh the risks. The new ASH website tracks hematologic therapies that require REMS and provide links to programs and additional information. To learn more, please visit [www.hematology.org/Clinicians/Drugs/5113.aspx](http://www.hematology.org/Clinicians/Drugs/5113.aspx).

The Sixth Edition of the ***ASH Self-Assessment Program (ASH-SAP)*** contains 23 pertinent peer-reviewed chapters, covering the full spectrum of adult and pediatric hematology. Order your copy or learn more at [www.hematology.org/BuyASHSAP6](http://www.hematology.org/BuyASHSAP6).

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

ACCC's enhanced set of ***Financial Advocacy Network*** resources are at [www.accc-cancer.org/resources/FinancialAdvocacy-Overview.asp](http://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 2016 ***Patient Assistance and Reimbursement Guide*** is an essential tool for cancer program staff to use in helping patients with issues related to the cost of treatment and in meeting reimbursement challenges. The ***Guide*** features a list of pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical patient assistance programs (PAPs), including directions on how to apply and links to enrollment forms. New for 2016 are tips for optimizing co-pay assistance programs and new financial advocate skills for the the new healthcare environment. Visit [www.accc-cancer.org/publications/pdf/Patient-Assistance-Guide-2016.pdf](http://www.accc-cancer.org/publications/pdf/Patient-Assistance-Guide-2016.pdf) to access this resource. In addition, ACCC has developed a tool for accessing patient assistance and reimbursement programs for use on a desktop, table, or mobile device. The ***Financial Advocacy Network (FAN)*** app is available at [accc-fan-app.org](http://accc-fan-app.org). **ASH also has a webpage (at [www.hematology.org/Clinicians/Drugs/Programs/](http://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](http://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](http://www.assistpoint.com) to learn more.

NCCN has updated their ***Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology and/or Drugs & Biologics Compendium*** for acute myeloid leukemia (V2.2016), bladder cancer (V2.2016), colorectal cancer screening (V1.2016), hepatobiliary cancers (V2.2016), ovarian cancer (V1.2016), penile cancer (V2.2016), and thymomas and thymic carcinomas (V2.2016).