

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.

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- CMS's 2015 PQRS data submission
- 16th *Multidisciplinary Management of Cancer*—Register Now
- ASCO's PracticeNET webinar

The *ANCO FAX News* is FAXed to Individual Member practices, and e-mailed to Group, Institutional, and Corporate (contacts) Members. The next regular *ANCO FAX News* will be published on February 19th. 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

ASCO has released a new policy statement with recommendations to ensure that clinical pathways in oncology promote—and not hinder—the care of patients with cancer. Published in the *Journal of Oncology Practice*, the statement asserts that the way in which these treatment management tools in cancer care have proliferated raises significant concerns about patient access, care quality, and transparency in pathway development and implementation. Read ASCO's policy statement at jop.ascopubs.org > Featured Content.

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. For an introduction to MACRA, read *MACRA: Transforming Oncology Practice* at www.asco.org/advocacy/asco-action-brief-macra. ASH staff have prepared a document that provides information about the Alternative Payment Model (APM) option included in MACRA at www.hematology.org/Advocacy/Policy-News/2016/4855.aspx. The American Medical Association's (AMA) *Guide to Physician-Focused Alternative Payment Models*

describes seven different APMs under MACRA that can help physicians in every specialty redesign the way they deliver care in order to improve patient care, manage health care spending, and qualify for APM annual bonus payments. Download the *Guide* at download.ama-assn.org/resources/doc/washington/alternative-payment-models-physician-guide.pdf.

ASCO has released a proposal to significantly improve the quality and affordability of care for cancer patients. The ASCO proposal would fundamentally restructure the way oncologists are paid for cancer care by providing sufficient payment to support the full range of services that cancer patients need and removing the barriers created by the current payment system to delivering high-quality, affordable care. ASCO's *Patient-Centered Oncology Payment: Payment Reform to Support Higher Quality, More Affordable Cancer Care* (PCOP) proposal is designed to simultaneously improve services to patients and reduce spending for Medicare and other payers. Review ASCO's proposal at www.asco.org/paymentreform.

USP published proposed language for General Chapter 800, *Hazardous Drugs—Handling in Healthcare Settings* on February 1st with an implementation date of July 1st, 2018. Read more at www.usp.org/frequently-asked-questions/hazardous-drugs-handling-healthcare-settings. Meanwhile, ASCO submitted comments to USP regarding proposed revisions to General Chapter 797, *Pharmaceutical Compounding—Sterile Preparations*, underscoring a shared commitment to ensuring patient safety through the proper and accurate delivery of anticancer medication, but urging USP to adequately account for the day-to-day operations of modern oncology practices by aligning USP documents with the laws and regulations governing the United States Food and Drug Administration. Read ASCO's comments at www.asco.org/sites/www.asco.org/files/asco_usp_797_comment_letter-c.pdf.

CMS has announced it will expand coverage for stem cell transplantation for Medicare patients with myeloma, sickle cell disease, and myelofibrosis. Go to www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/nca-decision-memo.aspx?NCAId=280 for more information.

CMS has announced the 2015 PQRS data submission timeframes:

- EHR Direct or Data Submission Vendor (QRDA I or III) by February 29th
- Qualified Clinical Data Registries (QCDRs; QRDA III) by February 29th
- Group Practice Reporting Option (GPRO) Web Interface by March 11th
- Qualified Registries (Registry XML) by March 31st
- QCDRs (QCDR XML) by March 31st

Because of a delay in the publication of regulations governing the Medicare meaningful use program, CMS is allowing eligible physicians to apply for an exemption under the “extreme and uncontrollable circumstances” category. Physicians are urged to preemptively file for a 2015 hardship exemption to avoid penalties in 2016. The deadline for applying for the exemption is March 15th. Go to www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/paymentadj_hardship.html for more information. Alternatively, visit ASCO’s update at www.asco.org/advocacy/congress-passes-legislation-allowing-cms-expedite-stage-2-meaningful-use-hardship-0.

CMA, MOASC, and State Legislative & Regulatory Issues

The *California Oncology Political Action Committee* (or CalCancerPAC), formed by ANCO and MOASC, supports candidates sensitive to the needs of hematologists/oncologists and people living with cancer in California. ANCO membership dues include a contribution to CalCancerPAC.

The *California Medical Association* (CMA) has released guidance for prescribing lethal doses of medication under California’s new physician assisted death law (ABX2-15). CMA’s *The California End of Life Option Act* is available at www.cmanet.org/resource-library/detail/?item=the-california-end-of-life-option-act. The CMA guidance details the legal and medical steps physicians must take before prescribing life-ending medication and physicians’ legal rights to participate or opt out based on their moral or religious beliefs. The guidelines are written in a Q&A format and provide detailed information about the new law. However, they do not currently recommend what type of drug physicians should use to facilitate aid-in-dying and they

state that physicians can choose not to assist patients to end their own lives. ABX2-15 will *not* become law until 90 days after the adjournment of the legislature’s current special session on healthcare financing.

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.

Forthcoming CMA webinars include:

- HIPAA Compliance: Key Risks All Physicians Should Know (February 24)
- Closing a Medical Practice (March 9)

Contact CMA’s member help center at (800) 786-4262 or memberservice@cmanet.org for more information. Register online at www.cmanet.org/events.

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. The February 2016 edition includes:

- CMA seeking physician feedback on proposed health insurance mergers—take the CMA survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/CMAMergerSurvey

- Technical assistance available for CURES 2.0 users
- Reminder: Exchange patients, eligibility, and the 90-day grace period
- Blue Shield revises Provider Data Confirmation form
- The Coding Corner: How to code the Medicare advance care planning benefit

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*—PQRS Submission Time Frames for 2015 Data; Changes to the Medicare EHR Incentive Program Hardship Exemption Process; Applying for an EHR Hardship Exception: FAQs *Publications & Videos*—Medicare Advance Beneficiary Notices Booklet-Revised; Skilled Nursing Facility Billing Reference Fact Sheet-Revised; Remittance Advice Information: An Overview Fact Sheet-Revised; Medicare Advance Beneficiary Notices Booklet-Revised
- Revised 2016 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Now Available
- Documentation Requirements for HH PPS Face-to-Face Encounter-Rescinded SE1405
- New Look and Website Address for Noridian Homepage
- Medicare Participating Physician Directory Information
- Medicare Part B News JE January 2016 Bulletin-Now Available
- New Waived Tests
- HCPCS Codes Subject to and Excluded from CLIA Edits

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.

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/MediCal 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 (February 2016) is now available online at unitedhealthcareonline.com > Quick Links > Network Bulletin and highlights changes in advance notification and prior authorization requirements.

EDUCATION

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

REGISTER NOW

16th Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers: A Case-Based Approach

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) and register 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:

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)

March 9th
Progress in the Treatment of Oral and Head and Neck Cancer
CancerCare
Connect Education Workshop

March 10th
Treatment Update on Mantle Cell Lymphoma
CancerCare
Connect Education Workshop

March 11th
New Perspectives in the Treatment of Advanced Skin Cancer: Basal Cell and Squamous Cell Cancers (Part I of Living with Advanced Skin Cancer)
CancerCare
Connect Education Workshop

March 17th
Managing the Cost of Care When You Have Lymphoma
CancerCare
Connect Education Workshop

March 18th
Emerging Treatments for Metastatic Melanoma (Part II of Living with Advanced Skin Cancer)
CancerCare
Connect Education Workshop

March 19th
A Look at Where We are Now—Moving Forward: 15th Annual Allison Taylor Holbrooks Barbara Jo Johnson Breast Cancer Conference
Cancer Prevention Institute of California
San Francisco
(www.cpic.org)

March 22nd
Treatment Update on Colorectal Cancer
CancerCare
Connect Education Workshop

March 24th
Update on Glioblastoma
CancerCare
Connect Education Workshop

March 28th

Update on Polycythemia Vera (Part I of Living with Polycythemia Vera)

CancerCare

Connect Education Workshop

March 30th

Managing Aches and Pains, and Treatment Side Effects from Myeloproliferative Neoplasms (MPN)

CancerCare

Connect Education Workshop

April 1st

The Role of Immuno-Oncology in the Treatment of Melanoma (Part III of Living with Advanced Skin Cancer)

CancerCare

Connect Education Workshop

April 4th

Managing Eye and Vision Changes Related to Cancer Treatments

CancerCare

Connect Education Workshop

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 February 11th**. 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*

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
Bioscience • 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 Oncology • 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 Genzyme
 Sargass Pharmaceutical Adherence
 & Compliance (SPAC) International
 Seattle Genetics • Taiho Oncology
 Takeda Oncology • Tesaro • TEVA Oncology

We especially wish to thank and welcome Biodesix, Clovis Oncology, Ipsen Pharmaceuticals, Jazz Pharmaceuticals, Merrimack Pharmaceuticals, Prometheus Therapeutics & Diagnostics, Sandoz Biopharmaceuticals, Taiho Oncology, and Tesaro 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 the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Opdivo in combination with Yervoy for the treatment of patients with BRAF V600 wild-type and BRAF V600 mutation-positive unresectable or metastatic melanoma.

Eisai informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Halaven for the treatment of liposarcoma that cannot be removed by surgery (unresectable) or is advanced (metastatic) in patients who have received prior chemotherapy that contained an anthracycline.

Lilly Oncology's PACE (Patient Access to CancerCare Excellence; pacenetworkusa.com) is a global initiative that exists to encourage public policies and health care decisions that speed the development of new medicines, promote rapid learning from patient experiences, and assure that cancer treatment and care responds to the needs and qualities of individual patients.

Merck informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Emend (single-dose), in combination with other antiemetic agents, for the prevention of delayed nausea and vomiting in adults receiving moderately emetogenic chemotherapy (MEC).

Novartis Oncology informs ANCO that the *United States Food and Drug Administration* has approved Arzerra for extended treatment of patients who are in complete or partial response after at least two lines of therapy for recurrent or progressive chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL).

Teva Oncology's INTEvaGENCE offers an online expert forum where seasoned presenters bring you information, tools, instruction, and expert perspectives. Topics include oncology nurse navigation, continuous improvement of quality, and patient satisfaction. Go to intevagence.com/Brochure/ONC-40643_InTevaGence_Flashcard_v5.pdf for more information.

Clinical Trial News

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

- A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Phase 3 Trial of Doxorubicin plus Olaratumab versus Doxorubicin plus Placebo in Patients with Advanced or Metastatic Soft Tissue Sarcoma [METS0004; med.stanford.edu/cancer/trials/results.html?ctid=NCT02451943]. Principal Investigator: Kristin Ganjoo, MD; Contact: Maria Ahern, (650) 725-6413, mahern@stanford.edu
- 68Ga-RM2 PET/MRI in the Evaluation of Patients with Biochemical Recurrence of Prostate Cancer and Non-Contributory CT Scans [PROS0074; med.stanford.edu/cancer/trials/results.html?ctid=NCT02624518]. Principal Investigator: Andrei Iagaru, MD; Contact: Pamela Gallant, (650) 725-6409, pamela6@stanford.edu
- A Randomized Controlled Phase 3 Study of Oral Pacritinib versus Best Available Therapy in Patients with Thrombocytopenia and Primary Myelofibrosis, Post-Polycythemia Vera Myelofibrosis, or Post-Essential Thrombocytopenia Myelofibrosis [HEMMPD0024; med.stanford.edu/cancer/trials/results.html?ctid=NCT02055781]. Principal Investigator: Jason Gotlib, MD; Contact: Isabel Reyes, (650) 725-4047, ilreyes@stanford.edu
- Phase I, Open-label Study Evaluating the Safety and Pharmacokinetics of Escalating Doses of Panitumumab-IRDye800 as an Optical Imaging Agent to Detect Head and Neck Cancer During Surgical Procedures [ENT0050; med.stanford.edu/cancer/trials/results.html?ctid=NCT02415881]. Principal Investigator: Eben Rosenthal, MD; Contact: Alifia Hasan, (650) 721-4088, alifia@stanford.edu
- Phase I, Open-label Study Evaluating the Safety and Pharmacokinetics of Escalating Doses of Cetuximab-IRDye800 as an Optical Imaging Agent to Detect Cancer During Surgical

Procedures [ENT0049; med.stanford.edu/cancer/trials/results.html?ctid=NCT01987375]. Principal Investigator: Eben Rosenthal, MD; Contact: Alifia Hasan, (650) 721-4088, alifia@stanford.edu

- A Phase 2 Study of TH-4000 in Patients with Recurrent or Metastatic Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck or Skin [ENT0046; med.stanford.edu/cancer/trials/results.html?ctid=NCT02449681]. Principal Investigator: A. Dimitrios Colevas, MD; Contact: Mary May, (650) 721-4079, mmay2@stanford.edu

- A Randomized Phase III Trial of Adjuvant Therapy Comparing Doxorubicin Plus Cyclophosphamide Followed by Weekly Paclitaxel with or without Carboplatin for Node-Positive or High-Risk Node-Negative Triple-Negative Invasive Breast Cancer [NRGBR003; med.stanford.edu/cancer/trials/results.html?ctid=NCT02488967]. Principal Investigator: Irene Wapnir, MD; Contact: Amy Isaacson, (650) 723-0501, amyi@stanford.edu

- A Phase II Randomized Trial Comparing the Efficacy of Heat Shock Protein-Peptide Complex-96 (HSPPC-96; NSC#725085, Alliance IND #15380) Vaccine Given with Bevacizumab versus Bevacizumab Alone in the Treatment of Surgically Resectable Recurrent Glioblastoma Multiforme (GBM) [NRGA071101; med.stanford.edu/cancer/trials/results.html?ctid=NCT01814813]. Principal Investigator: Scott Soltys, MD; Contact: Polly Young, (650) 497-7499, polly14@stanford.edu

- A Phase III, Open-Label, Multicenter, Randomized Study of Atezolizumab (AntiPD-L1 Antibody) versus Observation as Adjuvant Therapy in Patients with PD-L1 Selected, High Risk Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer After Cystectomy [BLDR0017; med.stanford.edu/cancer/trials/results.html?ctid=NCT02450331]. Principal Investigator: Sandy Srinivas, MD; Contact: Denise Haas, (650) 736-1252, dhaas@stanford.edu

- Prospective Randomized Phase II Trial of Pazopanib versus Placebo in Patients with Progressive Carcinoid Tumors [A021202; clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01841736]. Principal Investigator: Pamela Kunz, MD; Contact: Martina Steffen, (650) 721-4077, steffenm@stanford.edu

- A Phase I/II Study of Indoximod in Combination with Gemcitabine and Nab-Paclitaxel in Patients with Metastatic Adenocarcinoma of the Pancreas [NLG-2104; NCT02077881]. Principal Investigator: Sigurdur Haraldsdottir, MD; Contact: Melissa Worman, (650) 725-0379, mlworman@stanford.edu

Publications, Resources, Services, & Surveys

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. *Vice President* Joe Biden recently discussed ASCO's CancerLinQ as one of the major undertakings designed to advance the pace of progress in the fight against cancer at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. 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 additional information, please see the FAQs at www.asco.org/sites/www.asco.org/files/cancerlinq_frequently_asked_questions.pdf and the Practice Kit at www.asco.org/sites/www.asco.org/files/clq_practice_kit.pdf. 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 *Clinical Affairs Department* has released a

new annual survey, the 2016 *Survey of Oncology Practice Operations* (SOPO), which seeks feedback on practice management. The business and operations data reported in this survey, open now through February 17th, will be used to prepare benchmarks and standards in practice management, and all participants will receive a copy of the survey report. Take the survey at www.asco.org/advocacy/asco's-clinical-affairs-department-opens-new-survey-practice-operations.

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 will host a webinar on February 17th at 1PM PST for interested practices to learn more about PracticeNET.** Register for the webinar at www.asco.org/advocacy/attend-february-17-webinar-practicenet-asco's-business-learning-collaborative.

The January 2016 issue of ASCO's *Journal of Oncology Practice* (JOP) is available online and features articles entitled *The ASCO Oncology Composite Provider Utilization File: New Data, New Insights; Improving Price Transparency in Cancer Care; Social Media Use Among Physicians and Trainees: Results of a National Medical Oncology Physician Survey; ReCAP: ASCO Core Curriculum for Cancer Survivorship Education; Implementing and Improving Automated Electronic Tumor Molecular Profiling*. Visit jop.ascopubs.org for more information.

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. 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.

The January/February issue of ACCC's *Oncology Issues* includes articles entitled *Talk to Me—Improve Patient Engagement, Improve Your Cancer Program; What Does a Patient Navigator Do?; Patient Navigation Metrics; Unlock the Potential of the Cancer Registrar*. Visit www.accc-cancer.org/oncology_issues to read this issue.

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 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 new healthcare environment. Visit 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. 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.

NCCN has updated their *Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology* and/or *Drugs & Biologics Compendium* for multiple myeloma (v3.2016).

Individual Membership Dues for 2016

Second notices of membership renewal for 2016 were mailed to all members in early February. 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!