

ACCC's Successful Spring Symposia

This spring ACCC presented four symposia (three live and one Webinar) designed for both hospital cancer programs and physician practices. These free, interactive Regional Oncology Economics and Management Symposia provided attendees with the latest regulatory and legislative updates relating to cancer care delivery; a forum for billing and coding questions; and information on improving practice efficiencies in a time of declining reimbursement. The program included separate breakout sessions for hospital programs and practices.

These popular, well-attended sessions were held in Michigan, North Dakota/Minnesota, and Colorado. Providing a look at the latest changes under the MMA, as well as information on the quality care movement, presenters responded to participant questions on the 2006 CMS Oncology



Far left, Ralph Levitt, MD, president of the Dakotas Oncology Society, addressed attendees at ACCC's Regional Symposia in Moorhead, Minn.



At left, Phyllis Klein addressed attendees at the Regional Symposia on reimbursement issues.

Demonstration, reimbursement and coding issues, and more. The symposia provided attendees with take-home strategies to help best prepare for the future so that they can continue to deliver quality cancer care. Overall, attendees gave the program very high marks, citing "knowledgeable" speakers and "nice range of topics." For those living outside these areas,

ACCC hosted a special Oncology Economics and Management Webinar on June 21, 2006.

Over the past 14 years, ACCC has hosted more than 150 regional oncology symposia in conjunction with state medical oncology societies. Visit ACCC's website, www.accc-cancer.org for information about ACCC's Fall Regional Symposia. ☎

Check Out ACCC's Pre-conference Sessions in St. Louis

Two special pre-conference sessions being offered on Wednesday, September 13, 2006, from 8 am to 5 pm, in advance of ACCC's 23rd National Oncology Economics Conference in St. Louis, Mo., *Cancer Centers 101: A Program for New Cancer Program/Practice Administrators* and the *Oncology Pharmacy Education Network Session*, are must-attend educational programs. You may register for either one of these pre-conference sessions without registering for ACCC's full 23rd National Oncology Economics Conference, but we encourage you to attend the entire four days.

Whether you are a new administrator at a cancer program or in

an oncology practice, the *Cancer Centers 101 pre-conference session*, will help you get up to speed on:

- Programmatic and operational differences between hospital and freestanding centers
- The revenue cycle from patient registration to collections
- Reimbursement—what works and what doesn't
- Monitoring staff performance
- Strategic planning and market assessment
- Marketing strategies
- Clinical trials and other patient services.

The pre-conference session, *Oncology Pharmacy Education Network: Preparing for Today's Challenges*, is designed for hospital- and practice-based pharmacists, as well as financial officers, who work at programs

that provide cancer-related care. This highly acclaimed educational program will cover a wide range of topics:

- A legislative and policy update, including ASP, the competitive acquisition program, Part D drugs, and more
- A clinical update on cancer drugs in the pipeline
- The pharmacy's role in revenue and balance sheets
- Communicating with finance officers and administrators—getting your message across
- Tips for optimizing new therapies.

Pre-conference session registration includes a luncheon held jointly for both sessions. Visit ACCC's website at www.accc-cancer.org for more information. ☎