

ACCC's Prostate Cancer "Best Practices" Project

Mary Lou Bowers, MBA, of the Pritchard Group, provided an overview and update on ACCC's Prostate Cancer "Best Practices" Project, in a session at ACCC's 26th National Oncology Economics Conference in September.

ACCC launched the two-phase project in late 2008. Phase 2, which involves training for five pilot sites, was initiated in late March 2009. Through an application process, five ACCC-member programs were selected as pilot sites:

- Florida Hospital Cancer Institute, Orlando, Fla.
- Good Samaritan Hospital, San Jose, Calif.
- OncoLogics, Inc., Lafayette, La.
- Saint Joseph's Hospital, Atlanta, Ga.
- Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, Tallahassee, Fla.

Phase 2 will help these pilot sites:

- 1) identify the need for prostate-specific care in their communities;
- 2) open lines of communication among providers;
- 3) develop a collaborative team approach to care; and
- 4) provide guidance in planning and implementing a comprehensive prostate cancer program.

Ms. Bowers reported that all five pilot sites have now received onsite education about the process and structures that the "model" community-based prostate-specific cancer programs, identified in Phase 1, used to initiate and grow their programs. The next stage is "working on the issues confronting the pilot sites," Bowers said. Challenges facing the pilot sites include a lack of funding for a prostate-specific program; concern about how to afford a navigator position; and how to account for surgical revenue (which is often segregated into one department budget, while radiation

is part of the cancer center's budget). Bowers noted that a significant hurdle for some of the pilot sites is direct competition from urologists who are starting their own centers.

The Prostate Cancer "Best Practices" Project is made possible through an educational grant from sanofi-aventis US.

Two New Companies Join as ACCC TAC Members

Genomic Health, Inc., and Prometheus Laboratories, Inc., have joined ACCC's Technical Advisory Council. ACCC's Technical Advisory Council is designed to provide healthcare service, equipment, and technology companies with access to up-to-the-minute news and insight into cancer care issues not available through any other professional association.


Genomic Health, Inc., is committed to improving the quality of cancer treatment decisions through the

Save the Dates

ACCC's 5th Annual Hospital Summit
Friday, December 11, 2009
Tysons Corner Marriott
Vienna, VA 22182
703.734.3200

ACCC's 36th Annual National Meeting
March 17-20, 2010
Baltimore Marriott Waterfront
Baltimore, Maryland
410.385.3000

research, development, and commercialization of genomic-based clinical laboratory services.

Prometheus Laboratories, Inc., primarily focuses on the treatment, diagnosis, and detection of gastrointestinal, autoimmune and inflammatory diseases and disorders. Its strategy includes the marketing and delivery of pharmaceutical products complemented by its proprietary and patented high-value diagnostic testing services. 

Community Perspective on Management Strategies for GU, GI, and Lung Cancers

The Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC) and Medscape Oncology have launched another new online educational initiative that offers a community-provider perspective about emerging data and treatment strategies presented at scientific meetings, such as those of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). Three new CME/CE programs focus attention on new data that will affect management strategies of patients with genitourinary, gastrointestinal, and lung cancers:

- ASCO 2009: Expert and Community Perspectives on Genitourinary Cancers.

- ASCO 2009: Expert and Community Perspectives on Lung Cancer.
- ASCO 2009: Expert and Community Perspectives on Gastrointestinal Cancers.

While much of the data coming out of large national meetings is important and relevant to cancer patients and providers, sometimes it is not clear how this information translates into practice in the community setting. With this in mind, ACCC and Medscape have teamed up to provide community-based oncologists, nurses, pharmacists, and others with perspectives from their colleagues in the field.

Go to ACCC's website, www.accc-cancer.org, for more information. 