

➤ more online @
www.accc-cancer.org



Immuno-Oncology Survey

This new area of cancer research and treatment looks to harness the body's own immune system to fight cancer. Let us know what you want to learn about immuno-oncology and how ACCC can assist your program with implementation of immuno-oncology by taking our short survey: www.survey.monkey.com/s/ICLIO_ACCC.



ACCC's 2015 Capitol Hill Day

Speak up for access to quality care during visits with your Congressional representatives on Monday, March 16, 2015, and discover how much stronger the cancer care community is when we come together to advocate for our common goals. Register and learn more at: www.accc-cancer.org/CANCERSCAPE.



Final 2015 OPPS and PFS Rules

Did you miss ACCC's call on the 2015 final rules? Log onto mynetwork@accc-cancer.org and go to the Members Resource Library to hear everything you missed.



Immunotherapy Education Series

ACCC seeks host centers for 60-minute, live teleconferences and webcasts on "Principles and Application in Immunotherapy of Cancer." Learn the core principles of immunotherapy and review issues related to the clinical application of these therapies in specific tumor types—melanoma or lung cancer. Interested in this opportunity? Email resources@accc-cancer.org and include "PAIC" in the subject line, along with the name and contact information for your cancer program.

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"Doc Fix" Medicare Legislation Could Cost \$144 Billion Over 10 Years



Source: CBO. Medicare's Payments to Physicians: the Budgetary Effects of Alternative Policies. www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/cbofiles/attachments/49770-SSR-Menu.pdf.

Want to Avoid a RAC Audit? Try These Tips

1. Avoid copy-and-paste documentation—While it is acceptable to use templates, your documentation must be patient-specific.
2. Benchmark your E&M coding against your peers—AAPC offers national E&M coding averages by specialty: www.aapcps.com/resources/em_utilization.aspx.
3. Focus on medical decision making—Do not use a higher-level code when the complexity is not there, regardless of your documentation.
4. Four eyes are better than two—Have a certified professional coder review several chart notes for every provider, every year, for appropriate coding and documentation.
5. Document medical necessity—When ordering a test or procedure, make sure you document why it is needed.

Source: Roberts LW. Six Ways to Avoid a RAC Audit. Physicians Practice. www.physicianspractice.com.



facts

What's Behind the Rapid Growth in the 340B Program?

A whitepaper identifies four historical drivers of substantial growth in the 340B Program that will continue to underpin future expansion during the next five years:

- 1. Increase** in 340B enrolled disproportionate share hospitals (DSH). Newly-enrolled DSH hospitals account for about half of total 340B drug spending in 2013. DSH hospitals purchase the vast majority—more than **80%**—of 340B drugs.
- 2. Acquisition** of satellite clinics by DSH hospitals. Between 2009 and 2012 these hospitals have acquired at least 140 community oncology practices; an almost 120 percent increase in 340B oncology drug utilization followed these acquisitions.
- 3. Contract** pharmacy arrangement expansion. Almost two-thirds of all 340B DSH hospitals have at least **5** contract pharmacies; many have more than **50**.
- 4. Impact** of the Affordable Care Act. The ACA established new eligibility categories in the 340B Program for pediatric hospitals, critical access hospitals, sole community hospitals, rural referral centers, and freestanding cancer centers. To date, more than **1,100** of these entities have enrolled in the 340B program.

Source. Vandervelde A. *Growth of the 340B Program: Past Trends, Future Projects*. www.thinkbrg.com/media/publication/524_Vandervelde_340B_GrowthDrivers_WhitePaper_20141202_FINAL.pdf.



Uninsured Americans Decline by 10.6 Million

The number of uninsured non-elderly adults fell an estimated **10.6** million between Sept. 2013-Sept. 2014 as the un-insured rate fell from **17.7%** to **12.4%**.

Most of the gain in coverage was among low- and middle-income adults specifically targeted by the ACA.

Source. Long SK, et al. Taking stock: health insurance coverage under the ACA as of September 2014. *Health Reform Monitoring Service*. <http://hrms.urban.org/briefs/Health-Insurance-Coverage-under-the-ACA-as-of-September-2014.html>.



Biosimilar Drugs Could Create \$44 Billion in Savings in 10 Years

Source. The RAND Corporation. "The Cost Savings Potential of Biosimilar Drugs in the U.S." www.rand.org/pubs/perspectives/PE127.html.