

➤ more online @  
www.accc-cancer.org

**TOOL** | Oral Therapies—A Patient-Centered Approach

ACCC's new tool aims to help providers identify patients needing additional education and support resources before starting oral chemotherapy. Available at [www.accc-oralchemo.org](http://www.accc-oralchemo.org).

**PROFILE** | Put a Spotlight on Your Cancer Program

Each *Oncology Issues* features a two-page article "spotlighting" the services, achievements, and accomplishments of an ACCC member program or practice. These articles offer great exposure for your program, including the opportunity to let your referring providers and patients know about your services and staff. Has your cancer program been profiled? Contact: [jkornak@accc-cancer.org](mailto:jkornak@accc-cancer.org) to schedule an interview today.

**VIDEO** | Financial Advocacy Network

This "one-stop" destination for comprehensive financial advocacy information offers online training materials and videos, practical tools, peer-to-peer networking, and more. Plus, free Financial Advocacy Regional Meetings. Register at: [www.accc-cancer.org/FinancialAdvocacy](http://www.accc-cancer.org/FinancialAdvocacy).

**MEETING** | ACCC's Oncology Reimbursement Meetings

Review the specifics of documentation, coding, and billing for infusion services and radiation oncology. Hear an update on how providers are working with new payment models. Learn important data points for your cancer program's financial health. Register for this free meeting at: [www.accc-cancer.org/ReimbursementMeeting](http://www.accc-cancer.org/ReimbursementMeeting).

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# fast

## OIG Expects to Recover \$4.9 Billion in Improper Payments in FY 2014

Source: OIG. Semi-Annual Report to Congress: April 1-Sept. 30, 2014. <http://oig.hhs.gov/reports-and-publications/archives/semiannual/2014/sar-fall2014.pdf>.



## Collectively, Pioneer ACOs Saved the Medicare Trust Fund about \$41 Million in 2013

Source: BNA Healthcare Daily Report, Oct. 9, 2014.



## 3 Trends to Impact the Healthcare Industry in 2015

- 1. The Next-Generation Sequencer hitting the clinical market.** Sequencing is used to understand cancer generally, but in the future expect it to be part of cancer testing strategies for specific patients.
- 2. Interest in patient monitoring solutions and telemedicine.** Aging Baby Boomers will require solutions outside the hospital, driving hospitals and physicians to treat patients at home.
- 3. Demand for biopharmaceutical production.** The biopharmaceutical production market demonstrated 11% revenue growth and reached \$41 billion in 2014.


Source: [www.marketresearch.com](http://www.marketresearch.com). "Projected 2015 Trends in Healthcare." Read more at: <http://hubs.ly/jy0rslo>.

# facts

## Help Put “Personal” Back into Personalized Cancer Care

Choosing a cancer treatment team is personal. The top three criteria for patients and caregivers when choosing a treatment facility are timely information (91%), a care team willing to answer questions (90%), and involving patients and caregivers fully in treatment decisions (87%).

While men and women face similar cancer journeys, they are driven by different needs. Women are more motivated by the support of family and friends to get well (56% women vs. 46% men), while men are more motivated by their desire to live a healthy life and resume daily activities (43% men vs. 36% women).



Building cultural connections will help improve the cancer patient experience. 79% of African-American patients say they are driven by their faith and spirituality; 84% of Hispanic patients say they are driven by family responsibilities and support; 74% of Caucasian patients say they are driven by their desire to live a healthy life and perform daily activities.

Cancer patients may get lost trying to translate common healthcare terminology. More than 1/3 of cancer patients state they don't understand or have never heard of terms like genomic testing, integrative cancer care, precision cancer care, and survivorship.

Source. The Cancer Experience: A National Study of Patients and Caregivers. [www.cancercenter.com/press-center/press-releases/2013/03/one-in-four-dissatisfied-with-cancer-care/-/media/FA8070C-77DA84401BB9950023D4BDD76.ashx](http://www.cancercenter.com/press-center/press-releases/2013/03/one-in-four-dissatisfied-with-cancer-care/-/media/FA8070C-77DA84401BB9950023D4BDD76.ashx).



## The ABCs of Diffusing Angry Patients

**A**cknowledge the anger

**B**e benevolent

**C**urtail confrontation

**D**on't forget to document

Source. Weber S. Diffusing Angry Patients: It's as Simple as ABCD. [www.physicianspractice.com](http://www.physicianspractice.com).

## Are Elderly Women with Early Stage Breast Cancer Being Over-Treated?

While clinical trial data support omitting radiation treatments in elderly women with early stage breast cancer, nearly 2/3 of these women continue to receive it. A 2004 clinical trial showed that adding radiation therapy to surgery plus tamoxifen does not reduce 5-year recurrence rates or prolong survival in elderly women with early stage tumors, yet many doctors still administer radiation to these patients.

Source. Palta M, et al. The use of adjuvant radiotherapy in elderly patients with early stage breast cancer: changes in practice patterns after publication of Cancer and Leukemia Group B (CALGB) 9343. *Cancer*. 121(2):188.193.

