## more online @ www.accc-cancer.org



#### What Cancer Patients Need to Know About Oral Meds

Providers across all care settings—physician practices, hospital-based cancer programs, and freestanding cancer centers—can use this tool to educate patients about how patients and providers can work together to improve care. Dispensing physicians can also use this tool to educate patients about options to fill their prescription(s). accc-cancer.org/chemotherapy.

#### Proposed 2016 OPPS and PFS Rules

LISTEN Nearly 200 ACCC members listened to the July 21 conference call and summary analyses of the proposed 2016 hospital outpatient prospective system (OPPS) and physician fee schedule (PFS) rules. If you missed this important call, listen today at mynetwork.accc-cancer.org.

### ASCO Post Interview with ICLIO Advisory Committee Chair

Lee S. Schwartzberg, MD, FACP, of The West Clinic, talks about the Institute of Clinical Immuno-Oncology (ICLIO), a new initiative of the Association of Community Cancer Centers, which is designed to speed the adoption of immuno-therapeutics in the community setting. video.ascopost.com/conferences/2015-asco-annual-meeting/iclio-adopting-immunotherapy-in-the-community-setting.

#### 2015 Trends in Cancer Programs

TOOL Key findings on the biggest challenges facing today's cancer programs, including reimbursement issues, marketplace competition, patient-centered care, quality improvement initiatives, outreach and screening efforts, and more. The full report is available to members only at mynetwork.accc-cancer.org.

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# fast



IRS reports that about 7.5 million taxpayers paid a tax penalty in 2015 because they didn't have health insurance coverage.

Source. Bloomberg BNA Health Care Daily Report, July 21, 2015.



- 1. It's vulnerable to being gamed
- 2. Oncologists can't control all costs
- 3. Lack of risk adjustment
- 4. No real-time tracking
- 5. Unrealistic expectations
- 6. Little incentive to reduce drug costs
- Cherry picking (selecting less-sick patients to avoid higher costs)
- 8. Stinting (switching patients to less expensive, but inappropriate, treatment regimens or recommending against clinically beneficial services, in order to receive performance-based payments)
- 9. Meaningful Use attestation required
- 10. Oncologists' behavior

Source. Clark C. 10 reasons why CMS's cancer payment model could fail. HealthLeaders Media. http://healthleadersmedia.com/content.cfm?content\_id=313899&page=1&topic=HEP.





## Tips for Your Patients' Caregivers

- **1.** Caregivers must remember to put themselves first.
- **2.** Caregivers need to learn to laugh at the insanity that comes with the job.
- **3.** It's important to have a plan in place before bad things happen.
- 4. Working with an eldercare coach can significantly lower stress and save time and money.
- 5. Caregivers must accept that feeling guilty comes with the job, and not be surprised when it happens or believe their own negative self-talk.

Source. Carol Core. 50 Sanity Saving Tips for Caregivers: You Don't Have to Kill Yourself to Keep Them Alive.

# U.S. drug spending increases most in 13 years, to \$373.9 billion.

Source. Burger D. U.S. drug spending increases most in 13 years, to \$373.9 billion. Bloomberg Business. April 14, 2015. www.bloomberg. in-13-years-to-373-9-billion.

### 1 in 4 Children with Leukemia Not Taking Maintenance Medication?

- About 25% of children in remission from acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL) are
  missing too many doses of an essential maintenance medication that minimizes
  their risk of relapse.
- Maintenance medication adherence was lower in African American and Asian children in remission from ALL than in non-Hispanic white children, with 46% of African Americans and 28% of Asians not taking enough medication to prevent relapse, compared with 14% of non-Hispanic whites.
- Regardless of race, families reported that the most common reason for children not taking their medication was forgetfulness.

Source. Bhatia S, et al. Adherence to oral 6-mercaptopurine in African American and Asian children with acute lymphoblastic leukemia: a Children's Oncology Group study. *Blood*. 2014;124(15): 2345-2353.



