## ACCC PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE .....

## The Year in Review

BY STEVEN L. D'AMATO, BSPharm, BCOP



have truly enjoyed my year as ACCC President and the opportunity to travel to different areas of the country and learn about the issues we all face. ACCC has had an exciting year, with

the launch of a number of vital new programs, meetings, and resources for its membership.

As you know, my President's Theme this year has been the Oncology Medical Home and Integrated Healthcare Delivery. Exploring this theme, ACCC released a white paper on "Five Essential Actions to Achieve a Positive Impact on Patient Care in the Integrated Healthcare Environment." The paper reflected insights gleaned from the ACCC Institute for the Future of Oncology June 2015 forum. ACCC also addressed this theme during panel sessions at the ACCC 2015 National Oncology Conference and the ACCC 2016 Annual Meeting.

Immuno-oncology had a breakout year—not only in terms of new and expanded indications—but also with the launch of the Institute for Clinical Immuno-Oncology (ICLIO), an Institute of ACCC. Over the past months, the ICLIO website (accc-iclio.org) has continued to grow, providing tools, e-courses, and articles geared toward advancing immunotherapy in the community setting and working to ensure coverage and payment. The first Annual ICLIO Conference was held in October 2015, followed by the release of the first ICLIO white paper, Advancing Immuno-Oncology in the Community Setting. For those of you just starting your immuno-oncology journey, look to ICLIO to help you arrive prepared with its robust offerings of e-courses and e-newsletters.

Oncology pharmacy continues to be a focus of ACCC, including four regional Oncology Pharmacy Education Network (OPEN) meetings in 2015. Essential new resources for the oncology pharmacy were developed in recent months, including an online patient education tool, "What Cancer Patients Need to Know About Oral Medications," a white paper titled, Dispensing Pharmacy: A Value Proposition for Oncology

Practices, and a well-attended member conference call on the 340B Drug Pricing Program.

Patient-centered care, a key tenet of healthcare reform, continues to be another area of focus for ACCC. This fall ACCC released white papers on Psychosocial Distress Screening: Lessons Learned from Three ACCC Member Programs and The Transplant Treatment Path: Optimizing Patient-Centered Care for ASCT in Multiple Myeloma Patients. Continuing to address issues related to the financial burden of cancer on patients, ACCC held five regional Financial Advocate Network (FAN) meetings. Members also benefited from two new tools: the metrics published in the FAN Benchmark Survey highlights infographic and the FAN patient assistance app (accc-FAN-app.org).

Molecular testing is an area of growing interest for diagnosis and treatment. ACCC provided real-world process improvement insights for its membership through a series of learning labs that informed a white paper, Ongoing Advances & Improvements in Molecular Testing, and three peer-to-peer learning webinars.

Reimbursement issues—always on everyone's radar screen—were front and center at six regional Oncology Reimbursement Meetings and during ACCC membersonly conference calls on the proposed and final 2016 HOPPS and MPFS rules. Reimbursement is also an integral feature of one of the most popular ACCC tools, the 2016 Patient Assistance and Reimbursement Guide.

And ACCC honored six member programs with 2015 Innovator Awards—recognizing creative initiatives as varied as a family program for parents with cancer and their children to the use of location technology to improve the patient experience.

I encourage all of you to stay involved and volunteer for positions within the organization that help with programming, membership, education, and advocacy. And I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the staff at ACCC who have made my presidency a joy. They—like you—are family. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your 2015-2016 president. 🔼

## **Coming in Your 2016 ONCOLOGY ISSUES**

- The Oncology Research Information Exchange Network (ORIEN)
- Care Connect: Improving Care Coordination Between Oncology & Primary Care
- The Oncology Nursing Fellowship Program
- Training Community Nurses & Administrators to Implement Cancer Clinical Trials
- Health Info on the Go: Community Outreach at the Farmer's Market
- The Evolution of Clinical Pathways and Their Role to **Identify Quality and Cost Effective Care**
- Community Health Needs Assessments: How Your Cancer Program Can Prepare
- Forming Partnerships to Bring Clinical Trials to the Community
- **Engaging Patients & Assisting** PCPs in Lung Cancer Screening
- Bridging the Gap: A Family Program for Parents with Cancer & Their Children
- Improving Efficiency, Safety, and the Patient Experience with Location Technology

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