



Association of Community Cancer Centers

ONCOLOGY ISSUES

The Journal of the
Association of Community Cancer Centers

Editor-In-Chief

Christian G. Downs, JD, MHA

Managing Editor

Monique J. Marino

Associate Editors

Jillian Kornak

Amanda Patton

Manager of Publication Sales and Corporate Relations

Malvin Milburn

Art Director/Designer

Studio A

EDITORIAL BOARD

Chair, Susan van der Sommen, MHA, CMPE, FACHE

Al B. Benson III, MD, FACP

Linda Corrigan, MHE, RHIT, CTR

Amanda Henson, MSHA, MBA, FACHE

Morton S. Kahlenberg, MD, FACS

Nicholas J. Petrelli, MD

Cary A. Present, MD, FACP

Michael J. Reff, RPh, MBA

Chad Schaeffer, FACHE

Bryan Schmalhofer, MBA, RT(R)(T)

Matt Sherer, MBA, MHA

Judy R. Stone, CMPE

EXPERT ADVISORY PANEL

Teri U. Guidi, MBA

Kelley D. Simpson

Matthew R. Sturm, MBA

ACCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

Jennie R. Crews, MD, MMM, FACP

President-Elect

Mark S. Soberman, MD, MBA, FACS

Secretary

Ali McBride, PharmD, MS, BCPS, BCOP

Treasurer

Thomas A. Gallo, MS

Immediate Past President

Steven L. D'Amato, BSPharm

Board of Trustees

Olalekan Ajayi, PharmD

Nicole Bradshaw, MS, MBA

Catherine Brady-Copertino, BSN, MS, OCN

Neal Christiansen, MD

Colleen Gill, MS, RD, CSO

Krista Nelson, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C

Randall A. Oyer, MD

David R. Penberthy, MD, MBA

Gail Probst, MS, RN, AOCN, NE-BC

Cecilia Zapata, MS, MHA

Oncology Issues serves the multidisciplinary specialty of oncology care and cancer program management.

Archived editions of *Oncology Issues* are available to members at: mynetwork.accc-cancer.org.

FROM THE EDITOR

Think Globally, Act Locally

BY CHRISTIAN DOWNS, JD, MHA



was a grassroots rallying cry for the environmental movement. But take a moment and apply the phrase to your cancer program operations.

“Think Globally.” What universal challenges do all cancer patients and providers face? What services should be provided to all patients—regardless of their ability to pay? How will these services be reimbursed?

“Act Locally.” What is my cancer program doing that sets it apart from its competitors? Are there unique needs specific to my patients and my providers? Has my institution made a commitment to meeting those needs?

This edition of *Oncology Issues* offers some great examples of programs and providers that “Think Globally, Act Locally.”

In our cover article, Mark Wagner, who completed his PGY2 oncology pharmacy practice residency at St. Luke’s Mountain States Tumor Institute (MSTI), shares his experience as part of a multidisciplinary team that piloted a service delivery model to implement pharmacogenetic testing. To succeed, the team had to come together to “Act Locally” on data collection, physician acceptance to ordering tests, insurance coverage, test turn-around times, and test results. This article challenges us to “Think Globally” about how to integrate this testing to advance delivery of precision medicine.

In their feature article, Paul Baron and Josh Mondschein “Think Globally” about the experience of women with breast cancer and how combining breast cancer surgery with plastic and reconstructive surgery can improve the patient experience. The article also describes how they “Act Locally” bringing oncoplastic surgery to the women in their community.

“T

hink Globally, Act Locally” is a great bumper sticker more likely found on the back of a Prius than a cancer clinic courtesy shuttle. Its origins, in the 1970s,

Even big global thinkers like Duke Cancer Institute demonstrate the value and importance of acting locally. In her article, Nadine Barrett and colleagues detail Duke’s initiative to address local health disparities by leveraging community health assessments. The authors encourage other programs to “Act Locally” to reduce disparities by sharing tips for meeting organizational expectations, engaging in community outreach and screening activities, and increasing participation in clinical research.

In “Training Community Nurses & Administrators to Implement Cancer Clinical Trials,” nurse researchers from the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, City of Hope, and the Mount Sinai Hospital came together to “Think Globally” and develop a two-day curriculum to meet that goal. Courses began in 2013 and continued through the Spring of 2016. Attendees left prepared to “Act Locally” and put what they learned to work; each participant identified a list of three goals to be implemented when returning to their care setting.

Next, in one of the best examples of “Think Globally, Act Locally,” Cary Present shares his annual wrap-up of ASCO 2016, identifying overarching themes—including genomics, immunotherapy, precision medicine, new payment methodologies, cost of care, and practice management issues—and giving context to research findings to help community physicians “Act Locally” to implement these new treatments and technologies.

Lastly, don’t forget, one of the most important actions you can take is to attend the ACCC National Oncology Conference, Oct. 19-21, St. Louis. Come together to “Think Globally” about cancer care; network and learn from your peers; and then return home to “Act Locally” by putting the strategies you learned to work at your cancer program!