

VIDEO | **ACCC Addresses Potential Impact of MedPAC Part B Proposals**

In an interview with the *American Journal of Managed Care*, Leah Ralph, ACCC Director of Health Policy, discusses the impact of some of MedPAC's recent proposals on cancer patients' access to treatment, particularly those living in smaller rural communities. ajmc.com/conferences/coa-2017/leah-ralph-accc-concerned-about-potential-impact-of-medpac-proposals.

DESPERATELY SEEKING ONCOLOGY NURSES?

BLOGS | Read how 2017 ACCC Innovator Award winner Loma Linda University Cancer Center thought outside of the box to address a staffing shortage of chemotherapy skilled and oncology experienced nurses. accc-cancer.org/ACCCbuzz/desperately-seeking-oncology-nurses.

WEBINAR | **Real-World Considerations When Implementing a Genomic Tumor Board Program**

It requires a coordinated effort across clinical and administrative teams to successfully implement a genomic tumor board program. Gain strategies to engage clinicians, maximize meaningful participation, and lead to improved patient care. accc-cancer.org/webinars.

VIDEO | **Wheels Up—Bringing Lung Cancer Education & Screening to Rural Patients**

Learn how 2017 ACCC Innovator Award winner Levine Cancer Institute's mobile lung CT unit integrates technology, nurse navigation, and brick-and-mortar medical facilities and staff to serve patients in the rural Carolinas. youtube.com/watch?v=8MidCki2cHs. Attend the 2017 ACCC National Oncology Conference, Oct. 18-20, Nashville, Tenn., to tour this one-of-a-kind mobile unit.

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5 Key Findings from Report on the Costs of Cancer

1. Access to quality health insurance is essential to making cancer care affordable for patients and survivors.
2. A lower-premium insurance plan may not actually save cancer patients money; these plans often have high-cost sharing and cancer patients are high utilizers of care.
3. Even with insurance, cancer patients often face unpredictable or unmanageable costs including high co-insurance, high deductibles, having to seek out-of-network care, and needing a treatment that is not covered by their plan.
4. Newly-diagnosed cancer patients often experience their highest out-of-pocket costs in the first one to two months following a positive screening or diagnosis until they meet their applicable deductible and out-of-pocket maximums.
5. The need to pass policies that prevent cancer and its costs to patients and society by reducing tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke, promoting healthy eating and active living, and protecting Americans from increased skin cancer risk.

Source: ACS Cancer Action Network. The Costs of Cancer Addressing Patient Costs. acscan.org/sites/default/files/Costs%20of%20Cancer%20-%20Final%20Web.pdf.



More than 1/4 of Medicare beneficiaries—15 million people—spend at least 20% of their income on premiums and out-of-pocket expenses.

Source: The Commonwealth Fund. Medicare Beneficiaries' High Out-of-Pocket Costs: Cost Burdens by Income and Health Status. commonwealthfund.org/Publications/Issue-Briefs/2017/May/Medicare-Out-of-Pocket-Cost-Burdens.

facts

Addressing Healthcare Disparities in Sexual & Gender Minority Populations



ASCO calls for a coordinated effort to address health disparities among SGM populations, including:

- Increased patient access to culturally competent support services.
- Expanded cancer prevention education for SGM individuals.
- Robust policies prohibiting discrimination.
- Adequate insurance coverage to meet the needs of SGM individuals affected by cancer.
- Inclusion of SGM status as a required data element in cancer registries and clinical trials.
- Increased focus on SGM populations in cancer research.

Source: Griggs J, et al. ASCO position statement: strategies for reducing cancer health disparities among sexual and gender minority populations. *J Clin Oncol*. 2017 Apr 3. doi: 10.1200/JCO.2016.72.0441 [Epub ahead of print].

Protect the Skin You're In!

- **80%** of lifetime UV exposure occurs before a child turns **18**.
- **1 in 5** Americans will develop skin cancer in the course of a lifetime.
- Just **5** severe sunburns double your chances of developing skin cancer.
- Over the past **3** decades, more people have had skin cancer than all other cancers combined.
- More people develop skin cancer because of **tanning** than develop lung cancer because of **smoking**.
- About **90%** of non-melanoma skin cancers are associated with exposure to UV radiation from the sun.
- One person dies of melanoma every **54** minutes.

Source: prnewswire.com/news-releases/more-people-develop-skin-cancer-from-tanning-than-develop-lung-cancer-from-smoking-300461218.html.

MGMA Survey Finds Docs Less Optimistic about the Financial Prospects of Their Practices Under Trump Administration

- In January 2017, **45%** of doctors were optimistic about the business prospects of their practices; by the end of March, that number had dropped to **31%**.
- There was also a significant shift in uncertainty, which rose from **34%** of respondents in January to **44%** in March.
- The shift was smaller among doctors who said they were pessimistic about the outlook of their practices—**22%** had a negative outlook in January, which increased to **25%** in March.

Source: Wilkerson J. Doctors' optimism turns to uncertainty following Trump's inauguration. *Inside Health Policy*; April 5, 2017.

