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PUBLICATION

Trending Now in Cancer Care

Read results from the ninth annual ACCC survey, conducted in partnership with the Oncology Roundtable. Top threats to future cancer program growth: reimbursement requirements from payers, cost of drugs and/or new treatment modalities, and uncertainties in drug pricing reform policies. Top opportunities for ROI include care coordination, the addition of sub-specialists, symptom management, and screening services. Learn more at acc-cancer.org/trends. Survey highlights are open access; full survey results are restricted to ACCC members.



WEBINAR

Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia Updates from ASH

Watch experts discuss data and key takeaways from seven clinically significant acute lymphocytic leukemia abstracts presented at the American Society of Hematology 2018 meeting, and then catch additional programs in this series on demand at acc-cancer.org/ALL-care. These webinars, an environmental scan publication, and resources are part of ACCC's Multidisciplinary Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia Care education project.



PUBLICATION

Multidisciplinary Hepatocellular Cancer Care

Nationally, death rates from liver cancer have increased by nearly three percent each year since 2000. A new publication from the ACCC Multidisciplinary Hepatocellular Cancer Care education project explores the current landscape of hepatocellular cancer diagnosis and treatment and opportunities to improve care delivery for this vulnerable patient population. Learn more at acc-cancer.org/hcc.



BLOG

The Art of Managing Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia

"Beyond integrating the science, managing the nuanced journey for patients with acute lymphocytic leukemia exemplifies the art of medicine," writes Sandra Kurtin, PhD, ANP-C, AOCN, assistant professor of Clinical Medicine, adjunct clinical assistant professor of Nursing, The University of Arizona. In this ACCCBuzz blog post, she shares insights gleaned from 30 years of caring for patients with acute lymphocytic leukemia. Read more at acc-cancer.org/acccbuzz.



PUBLICATION

New Name; Same Mission

In 2018 the ACCC Immuno-Oncology Institute received a new name and a new web presence. Learn about the genesis of the Institute's Working Groups, takeaways from the Institute Working Group summit held in September, and next steps in "Immuno-Oncology: Connecting Science, Policy, and Real-World Care Delivery" available at acc-cancer.org/immunotherapy.

Safety First

Nearly **9** out of **10** respondents to a national survey of physicians, nurses, and healthcare executives say their organizations are successfully improving the safety of patients. But real problems remain, including:

- "Ineffective information technology" (data quality, patient matching, reporting) and the related "lack of real-time warnings for possible harm events," which requires technology—**30%**
- "Lack of resources," including staffing and budget—**27%**
- "Organization structure, culture, or priorities"—**19%**
- "Lack of reimbursement for safety initiatives"—**10%**
- "Changes in patient population and practice setting"—**9%**



Source: Health Catalyst. healthcatalyst.com.

Medicare Patients Concerned about Coverage & Costs

More than one-third (**37%**) of surveyed Medicare beneficiaries say they have skipped or delayed medical care to save money; half (**51%**) worry about their ability to afford their deductibles and copayments. Biggest worries:

- The cost of deductibles and copayments—**51%**
- The cost of dental and vision coverage—**44%**
- The cost of Medicare insurance premiums—**42%**
- The cost of prescription drugs—**42%**
- Access to preferred doctors and hospitals—**40%** and **34%**
- Paying for long-term care—**34%**

Source: eHealth, Inc. news.ehealthinsurance.com/_ir/68/20188/Concerns%20About%20Costs%20and%20Coverage%20in%20Medicare%20-%20eHealth%20Survey.pdf.



facts



Is Your Disaster Plan Up to the Task?

- Slightly **more than half** of surveyed healthcare providers believe their organization's disaster plan is comprehensive enough to cover a variety of scenarios both inside the organization and across the community.
- Less than **1/3 (29%)** of surveyed specialty care providers who provide critical treatment to individuals with chronic diseases report that they have a comprehensive disaster plan in place.
- More than **1/3** of clinicians surveyed said that calling by phone is their top method for communicating with pharmacies, EMS units, patients and families, local authorities, and community health providers in times of disaster.
- Organizations preparing for an impending disaster still rely heavily on paper, with **most** advising patients to keep copies of their medical records.
- Just **40%** of respondents believe their EHR has sufficient information available to take care of all patients during a disaster.
- **45%** of respondents view telehealth as an effective option to provide care to patients across the community during or immediately after disasters or emergencies. However, **more than half** expressed concerns that connectivity and other technical issues could impact the reliability of telehealth.
- Only **27%** believe their organization has deployed adequate telehealth capabilities.

Source: A survey by DrFirst.com. To receive survey results, email to research@drfirst.com.



New study suggests chemotherapy may lead to early menopause in women with lung cancer, concluding that women with lung cancer who desire future fertility should be educated about risks and options before starting treatment.

Source: Cathcart-Rake EJ, et al. Amenorrhea after lung cancer treatment. *Menopause*. 27 August 2018. doi:10.1097/GME.0000000000001199.

How Much Do Men Really Know About Testicular Cancer?

- Nearly **half** of **1,000** men, ages 18 to 45, surveyed do not perform self-exams.
- **63%** of men surveyed were not aware that testicular cancer is the most common form of cancer in men ages 15 to 44.
- Nearly **30%** reported never being informed that self-exams were necessary and important.
- **34%** reported never giving themselves a self-exam for testicular cancer because they wouldn't know how to perform one.
- Nearly **2/3** would check themselves regularly if the importance of self-exams had been made clear to them.

Source: The Center for Advocacy for Cancer of the Testes International (CACTI). cacti.org/our-research/testicular-cancer-survey.

