

action

ACCC Welcomes Its Newest Members

AdventHealth Waterman

Tavares, Fla.
Delegate Rep: Leslie Maxwell
Website: adventhealth.com/hospital/adventhealth-waterman

System Membership

Hawaii Pacific Health System

Honolulu, Hawaii
Delegate Rep: Elizabeth Wright, DNP, RN, OCN
Website: hawaiiipacifichealth.org/cancer-centers

System Membership

Quality Cancer Care Alliance (QCCA)

Tacoma, Wash.
Delegate Rep: Kate Dobson, MA
Website: qccalliance.com

Rockledge Regional Medical Center

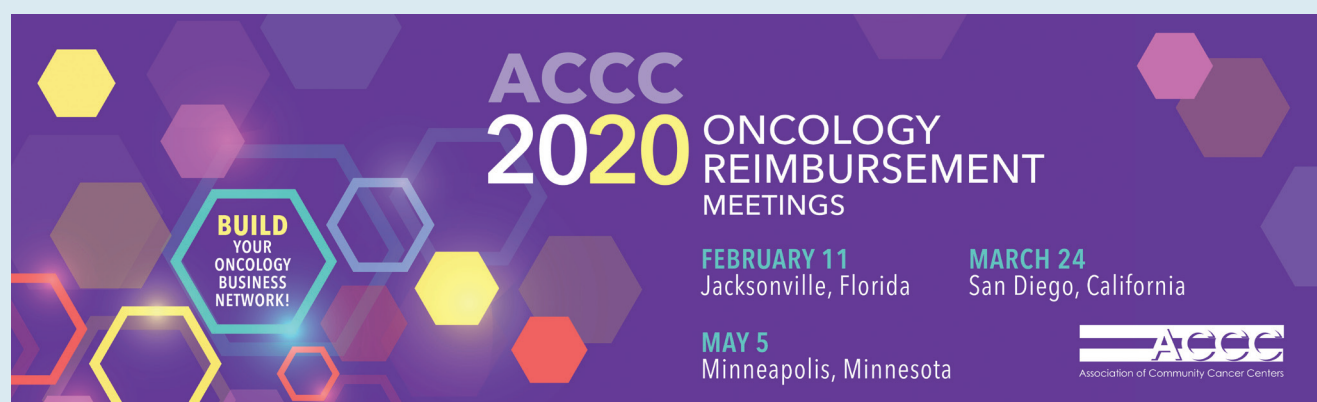
Porterville, Calif.
Delegate Rep: Crystal Davis
Website: sierra-view.com

University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center

Rockledge, Fla.
Delegate Rep: Susan A. Ohlin, AS/BS
Website: rockledge-regional.org

University of Rochester Medical Center

Wilmot Cancer Institute
Rochester, N.Y.
Delegate Rep: Supriya Mohile, MD, MS
Website: urmc.rochester.edu/cancer-institute.aspx



The banner features a purple background with a pattern of colorful hexagons. On the left, a central hexagon contains the text "BUILD YOUR ONCOLOGY BUSINESS NETWORK!". To the right, the text "ACCC 2020 ONCOLOGY REIMBURSEMENT MEETINGS" is displayed in large, bold letters. Below this, the dates and locations for the meetings are listed: "FEBRUARY 11 Jacksonville, Florida", "MARCH 24 San Diego, California", and "MAY 5 Minneapolis, Minnesota". The ACCC logo, consisting of three horizontal lines above the text "ACCC Association of Community Cancer Centers", is positioned in the bottom right corner.

Hold the Dates! 2020 ACCC Oncology Reimbursement Meetings

The tools you need to strengthen your program's operations, accelerate your knowledge in oncology business, and take on a rapidly changing healthcare landscape. At these one-day meetings:

- Review the latest trends in oncology coding and billing based on the 2020 Medicare HOPPS and MPFS Final Rules
- Assess financial strategies to track and improve the financial health of your cancer program or practice
- Gain insight on upcoming coding and reimbursement challenges related to financial counseling, compliance, and authorizations in medical and radiation oncology
- Identify opportunities to improve the financial navigation services at your practice or program.

Best of all, these essential meetings are FREE to ACCC and Oncology State Society members. Non-members are invited to attend at the low registration rate of \$155. Register today at acc-cancer.org/ORM.

ACCC Immuno-Oncology Institute: The Next Decade



Sigrun Hallmeyer

With 2020, we enter a new decade. In oncology, we are also approaching the ten-year anniversary of the practice-changing FDA approval of the first immune checkpoint inhibitor. Since then, the pace of approvals and indications for this new class of drugs has never slowed.

After chairing the ACCC Immuno-Oncology (IO) Institute Executive Committee for the past five years, Lee Schwartzberg, MD, FACP, executive director, The West Cancer Center, is passing the ACCC IO Institute leadership baton to Sigrun Hallmeyer, MD, director, Cancer Institute, and medical director, Cancer Survivorship Program, Advocate Lutheran General Hospital.

“I am so honored to have served as the chair of the IO Institute for the past five years, and I am certain the institute will



Lee Schwartzberg

achieve great success with the appointment of my friend and colleague Sigrun Hallmeyer as the new chair,” said Dr. Schwartzberg.

Dr. Hallmeyer, a long-time ACCC IO Institute Executive Committee member, has extensive experience with immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy and participated in early IO clinical trials. “I have witnessed the transformation of cancer care as we moved from cytotoxic chemotherapy to an era of immunotherapy, recognizing the great promise of utilizing the patient’s own immune system in providing truly life-changing care. Being part of the ACCC IO Institute has provided me with many vital resources to be successful in this new environment, and I am thrilled and deeply honored to step up into this leadership role. I thank Dr. Schwartzberg for his many years of dedicated service and exemplary leadership.”

ACCC launched the Institute for Clinical Immuno-Oncology (ICLIO) in 2015 to support the multidisciplinary cancer care team with practical peer-driven resources, insights from leading experts in the use of these new therapies, solutions to access and reimbursement barriers, and curated updates on advances in the field. The ICLIO website housed a rich resource hub of online courses, webinars, articles, profiles, newsletters, and more. On-site training brought the ICLIO visiting experts, a multidisciplinary faculty experienced in treating patients with these new therapies, to cancer programs around the country for bidirectional learning.

As experience with this new class of drugs deepened and expanded, ACCC rebranded ICLIO to the ACCC Immuno-Oncology Institute and once again engaged thought leaders through participation in IO working groups to guide the development of information and education to proactively address emerging needs.

During 2019 the ACCC IO Institute took on some of the most pressing challenges in delivery of immune checkpoint inhibitor therapies for cancer.

- **Managing immune-related adverse events (irAEs).** The ACCC IO Institute:
 - Created an online directory of irAE workup guidelines, organized by irAE symptomology, to aid the multidisciplinary cancer care team in better understanding irAE identification and treatment approaches.
 - Expanded our previous work on immune-related toxicity teams with case studies featuring three ACCC member programs that have leveraged technology to expand or standardize this approach to interdisciplinary care coordination.
- **Thinking outside the clinic walls.** Guided by our IO working groups:
 - We investigated the role of telemedicine in IO by speaking with ACCC members about their use of telemedicine, conducting site visits to observe these innovations firsthand, and convening stakeholders for a roundtable discussion to envision how to advance the use of telemedicine in IO.
 - We shared collective knowledge through episodes on ACCC’s new podcast, CANCER BUZZ. This series of conversations focused on clinicians outside of the field of oncology who may also care for IO patients and the importance of care coordination and communication.
- **Focusing on the patient and building on previous learning:**
 - In 2019, we followed up on results from survivorship surveys administered by ACCC and the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship in 2018, by speaking with ACCC member programs about their use of survivorship care plans for patients treated with immunotherapy. Findings from these interviews informed the development of a guide on how to produce survivorship plans that support patients, facilitate coordination with providers outside of the cancer care team, educate caregivers about irAEs, and ease the transition into survivorship care.
 - We hosted a webinar series exploring the value of patient-reported outcomes in everyday IO practice and clinical trials.
- **Partnering on policy:**
 - In 2019 the ACCC IO Institute joined with the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer for a policy summit convening IO Institute working group members and other stakeholders for a day-long discussion of ongoing and emerging policy concerns related to access, delivery, and reimbursement for immunotherapies.

“For 2020, we are looking to build on the foundations established in 2019,” said Dr. Hallmeyer. “We will continue to focus on management of irAEs and survivorship care for patients treated with immunotherapy. At the same time, we will be looking to the future with initiatives related to big data and quality improvement. We will continue to refine and advance our reputation of being the ‘HOW TO’ resource for clinicians practicing in the ever-expanding field of IO.”

Visit acc-cancer.org/immunotherapy often for updates.

Highlights of the ACCC 36th National Oncology Conference



More than 650 cancer care professionals and thought leaders came together Oct. 30–Nov. 1 in Orlando, Fla., to share insights, experience, and strategies for elevating the delivery of exceptional patient care and empowering the professional well-being of the entire care team.



In our healthcare environment where burnout and staffing shortages are national concerns, increasing attention is being given to the workplace culture. In a rousing opening presentation on Oct. 31, featured speaker Joe Mull, MEd, CSP, deconstructed team drama—the debilitating *sturm und drang*—that disrupts the workplace, sinks morale, and drains productivity. Quelling team drama is well worth the effort, Mull emphasized. Creating a work environment where behaviors that fuel drama happen less often can yield a happier staff, greater patient satisfaction, and improved outcomes.



On Oct. 31, seven cancer programs were presented with 2019 ACCC Innovator Awards for their pioneering and replicable initiatives advancing the delivery of high-quality cancer care. Pictured above, representatives from these programs presented on their innovations throughout the day. Sessions included a pilot telemedicine supportive group psychotherapy program for young adults; development and implementation of a radiation oncology app; and multidisciplinary case planning in the virtual space.



2019 ACCC Clinical Research Award Winner, Ethan Basch, MD, MSc, spoke about his extensive experience developing and implementing patient-reported outcome tools. He shared with meeting attendees, “Without such information, we cannot adequately understand people’s experiences during

treatment or make informed treatment decisions. It is my hope that bringing the patient voice into clinical research and care delivery processes will lead to safer drug development, improved quality of care, enhanced patient-clinician communication, and better patient experiences with disease and treatment.”

Highlights of the ACCC 36th National Oncology Conference



On Nov. 1, featured speaker, author, and journalist Mary Elizabeth Williams held the packed room rapt with the story of her experiences of going through treatment as a mother with young children and one of the first patients recruited for an immuno-oncology combination drug therapy clinical trial. Williams stressed that the foundation of good patient care is good communication, “making sure patients and providers are on the same page. Telling the same stories, because stories are how we make decisions. Communication is about empathy and being clear. It’s not optional.”



The 2019 ACCC Annual Achievement Award was presented posthumously to Arti Hurria, MD, FASCO, former George Tsai Family Chair in Geriatric Oncology, director of the Center for Cancer and Aging at City of Hope, and nationally regarded expert and advocate for elderly patients with cancer. Accepting on her behalf (pictured) is William Dale, MD, PhD, the Arthur M. Coppola Family Chair in Supportive Care Medicine and clinical professor and chair of City of Hope’s Department of Supportive Care Medicine. In addition to being a long-standing friend and colleague, Dr. Dale was the co-principal investigator with Dr. Hurria on a five-year, \$2 million grant from the National Institute of Aging.



(Left) ACCC President Ali McBride, PharmD, MS, BCOP, and (Right) ACCC Executive Director Christian Downs, JD, MHA, present the 2019 ACCC David King Community Clinical Service Award to (Center) Paul D. Hansen, MD, FACS, a liver and pancreas, hernia, and general surgeon at Providence St. Joseph Health, Portland, Ore. “I spent 10 years in surgical training, developing the technical skills I would use for a career in minimally invasive and liver and pancreas surgery. My real education, however, came over the last 15 years of my practice where I have learned to apply these skills individually to patients.” Dr. Hansen told attendees. “Each patient presents a unique set of challenges, both medical and social. Meeting my patients and taking the time to understand them and their desires and expectations ultimately helps assure that they get the best outcome possible.”

Highlights of the ACCC 36th National Oncology Conference



Featured speaker, author, and cancer survivor Laura Holmes Haddad asked meeting attendees to consider how family obligations and responsibilities combine with clinical and other practical considerations when patients must make decisions about treatment options. When asked about actions that cancer programs can take now to better support patients between the ages of 20 and 65, Holmes-Haddad offered these practical suggestions: provide emotional support and therapy; consider the needs of children when making treatment recommendations; refer to additional social services such as childcare, cleaning, and financial assistance resources if needed; suggest support groups for parents; discuss fertility preservation and planning; and provide tips for returning to the work and other employment-related issues.



In a session titled “Why Your C-Suite Should Care—and Fund—Supportive Care Services” (left to right), Reyna Colombo, PT, MA, Beaumont Health System, Beaumont Cancer Institute; Kelay Trentham, MS, RDN, CSO, MultiCare Health System, MultiCare Regional Cancer Center; Kerri Michalik, MHA, BSN, Cancer Institute, Geisinger Medical Center; Jeffrey Kendall, PsyD, University of Minnesota Medical Center; and Stephanie Cohen, MS, LCGC, St. Vincent Hospitals & Health Care Center, St. Vincent Cancer Center, conducted a mock planning meeting where each specialty championed adding staff and/or services as part of a cancer program expansion.



On Friday, Oct. 1, ACCC recognized six of its 30-Year Cancer Program Members attending the conference. Pictured left to right: ACCC President Ali McBride, PharmD, MS, BCOP; Amber Campbell, MBA, Sutter Health Memorial Medical Center; Shauna Connell, Cancer Care at Mosaic Life Care; Kristy Williams, RHIT, CTR, and Ann Kujawa, MSN, RN, OCN, ProMedica Cancer Institute; Debra Wilson, MSN, RN, OCN, Roper Hospital, Roper St. Francis Cancer Care; John Pisacreta, Beaumont Health System, Beaumont Cancer Institute. (Not pictured: Kanwar Singh, MBA, MSHA, Saint Agnes Medical Center.)