

IN THE NEWS

ACCC ENDORSES ASCO REIMBURSEMENT POSITION

The ACCC Executive Committee has endorsed two positions adopted by the Executive Committee of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) on reimbursement for cancer care. Those resolutions are:

- 1) Patients with serious and immediately life-threatening diseases should not be denied coverage for the best available therapy because they are on a clinical trial, providing that the trial is approved by the institutional review board (IRB) and the drug(s) used in the trial are either approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for marketing or have received an Investigational New Drug (IND) exemption.
- 2) A drug approved for marketing by the FDA should be reimbursed for a use not included in the labeling if such use is

referenced in the standard medical compendia (*United States Pharmacopeia Drug Information*, the American Medical Association's *Drug Evaluations*, and the *American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information*) or otherwise recognized in the medical literature.

ACCC APPROVES FIRST SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP

Analytical Biosystems Corp., a Rhode Island-based biotechnology firm, has been approved as an ACCC sustaining member. Sustaining members have the same benefits as delegate members, with the exception of voting rights. This special membership category was created to meet the needs of commercial companies, cancer-related organizations, and other entities that do not meet the criteria for delegate membership (a multidisciplinary cancer program, supervision by a multidisciplinary cancer committee or group,

and direct or indirect involvement with care for cancer patients).

For more information on sustaining membership in the ACCC, contact Wanda Neal, ACCC Executive Office, 11600 Nebel St., Suite 201, Rockville, MD 20852. Phone: 301/984-9496. ■

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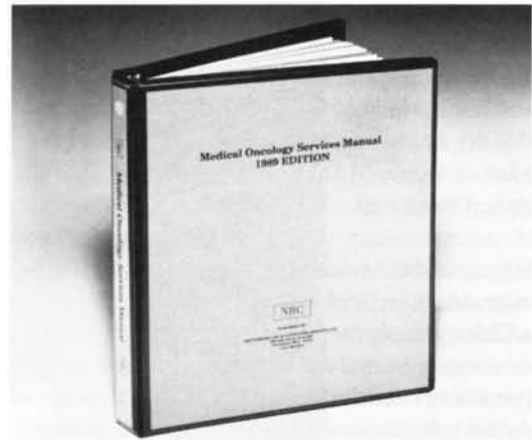
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