



New Patient Guidelines Initiative Announced

To cite this article: (1994) New Patient Guidelines Initiative Announced, *Oncology Issues*, 9:6, 32-32, DOI: [10.1080/10463356.1994.11904508](https://doi.org/10.1080/10463356.1994.11904508)

To link to this article: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10463356.1994.11904508>



Published online: 18 Oct 2017.



Submit your article to this journal [↗](#)



Article views: 2



View related articles [↗](#)

New Patient Guidelines Initiative Announced

AN AMBITIOUS PLAN

ACCC President Carl G. Kardinal, M.D., outlined Association plans for the joint development of guidelines for standard patient care. The announcement was made at ACCC's 11th National Oncology Economics Conference, held in Newport Beach, Calif., on September 28-October 1, 1994.

"By the term standard, we mean the mainstream of cancer patients whose outcomes are assured by use of accepted and widely used therapeutic measures. The guidelines that we will develop represent the state of the art for 85 percent of cancer patients treated in community and university hospitals throughout the nation."

ACCC's intention is that the guidelines be descriptive of the primary approaches to manage patients and serve as mechanisms that can be used in several different ways. First, managed care providers and other insurers can use the guidelines as a representation of current standard care. Physicians and hospitals will use the guidelines as a means of costing standard cancer care. Hospitals, alliances, and physician groups will use the guidelines as a starting point for critical path development. Finally, guidelines will be a way for physician extenders, physician assistants, and oncology nurse practitioners to evaluate care.

In addition to a multidisciplinary group from the Association leadership, the following organizations have already agreed to provide liaison representatives to the Steering Committee, which will direct the guidelines effort:

- the Oncology Nursing Society
- the American Society of Clinical Oncology
- the Association of Oncology Social Workers
- The National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship.

Other invited organizations include the American Society of Hematology, the American College

of Surgeons, the American Cancer Society, and the American College of Radiology.

"It is anticipated that more than 40 state medical oncology societies will join in the guideline development process," said ACCC Executive Director Lee E. Mortenson, D.P.A. "In addition, ACCC has asked several state medical oncology societies to solicit the involvement of a number of insurers from their local areas to review the guidelines."

Mortenson announced that the Association will undertake a three-step process to inform the membership, the public, and other members of the health care enterprise of appropriate standard therapies for oncology patients. First, the guidelines initiative will use existing public and proprietary databases to identify the standard approaches to prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment, side effect management, rehabilitation, and terminal care. These patterns will be published for major disease sites. Next, the best

options for care and follow-up will be identified. Finally, the guidelines for care will specify the current information for major treatment approaches that optimize outcomes and include cost-effective pathways for inpatient and outpatient management.

The development process will be detailed in future *Oncology Issues*.

ACCC STANDARDS INCLUDED IN ACOS APPROVAL'S MANUAL

The American College of Surgeons' (ACoS) upcoming *Cancer Program Manual*, which includes ACoS approvals' guidelines, will include material from ACCC's *Standards for Cancer Programs*. The ACoS Commission on Cancer has scheduled release of the guidelines sometime in 1995.

Copies of ACCC's *Standards for Cancer Programs* are still available. Send your request to: ACCC Standards, Association of Community Cancer Centers, 11600 Nebel St., Suite 201, Rockville, MD 20852.



ACCC President Carl G. Kardinal, M.D., (right) stands with Drs. James F. Holland (left) and Jimmie C. Holland, who were honored with ACCC's Clinical Research Award for their distinguished contributions. (See story on page 22.)