

Other ACCC Issues and Projects

JUNE FEATURES REGIONAL ONCOLOGY REIMBURSEMENT SYMPOSIA

The Virginia Association of Hematologists/Oncologists and ACCC cohosted "Defending Quality Oncology," a reimbursement symposium that drew nearly 80 attendees to Reston, Va., on June 6. Oncologists, oncology nurses, cancer program administrators, and physician office managers were among those who participated.

Attendees at the Virginia meeting received an update on state news from society president, Ricky Newton, C.P.A., and they were advised of major changes in Medicare policies. Medicare Medical Director P. Michael Riisager, M.D., F.R.C.S., talked about "open CACS," informal Carrier Advisory Committees that are held two to three weeks before each formal CAC. "Anybody may write the carrier to request time to speak," he said. In addition, a Physicians Regulatory Issues Team (PRIT) has been established as an open forum in which providers can raise any concerns they may have about "the regulatory overload they endure."

Over the past 10 years, ACCC has hosted more than 100 Regional Oncology Symposia in conjunction with state medical oncology societies. These meetings have now become a tradition and are highly sought by state medical oncology societies, which use them as a core for annual society meeting activities. At each ACCC Regional Oncology Symposium, a number of sessions are held in an intense half-day format designed for medical and radiation oncologists, hospital cancer program administrators, practice managers, and oncology nurses. In June symposia were also held in Rhode Island and Florida. ☐

CALL FOR CRITICAL PATHWAYS

ACCC is looking for critical pathways related to 1) integrating nutrition into your cancer program and 2) radiopharmaceutical use and the nuclear medicine team. Does your community oncology program or hospital have critical pathways, instruction sheets, or guidelines related to any aspect of nutrition and the oncology team or diagnostic/therapeutic uses of radiopharmaceuticals, nuclear medicine, radiation safety, and patient safety? If so, please send a copy to ACCC, Attn: Marion Dinitz, 11600 Nebel Street, Suite 201, Rockville MD 20852 (phone: 301-984-9496, ext. 206; fax: 301-770-1949).

CALL FOR AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

Any delegate representative who would like to suggest a Bylaws change must inform the ACCC Executive Office of that intent no later than Nov. 16, 2001, for consideration by the House of Delegates in March 2002. According to the ACCC Bylaws, adopted in March 1984 by the House of Delegates, "Bylaws may be amended by the vote or written assent of two-thirds of the delegate representatives voting. Written notice of proposed Bylaws amendments must be sent to voting members at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which they are to be acted on."

All suggested amendments should be sent to: ACCC, Attn: Donna Henry Wright, 11600 Nebel Street, Suite 201, Rockville, MD 20852 (phone: 301-984-9496, ext. 218; fax: 301-770-1949).

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The ACCC Nominating Committee is soliciting nominations for the following 2002-2003 Board positions:

- President-Elect
- Secretary
- Five Board of Trustees

The term of President-Elect is one year. The Secretary and Trustee positions are two-year terms. Although nominees are not required to be the voting representative, they must represent an ACCC Active member institution or chapter.

Letters of nomination should be sent to the ACCC Executive Office, citing the nominee's name and his/her respective membership affiliation (institution/chapter), along with a copy of his/her curriculum vitae. Nominations must be received no later than Nov. 30, 2001.

For more information about the nomination process, contact Donna Henry Wright at the ACCC Executive Office (as noted above).

CLINICAL RESEARCH AWARD

The Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC) is soliciting nominations for its annual Clinical Research Award. This award will be presented to one or more individuals whose research has significantly and positively impacted the oncology patient, family, and/or community. A special luncheon is held at ACCC's fall national meeting to honor the award recipient(s), who will receive a cash award and a plaque commemorating the event. Last year's winner was Saul E. Rivkin, M.D.

To submit a nomination, please send a letter (minimum two paragraphs; maximum two pages), with your name and telephone number, stating why you believe the individual is qualified to receive this award. Please submit nominations no later than Nov. 30, 2001, to Donna Henry Wright at the ACCC Executive Office (as noted above). ☐