

ASCO[®]

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY
KNOWLEDGE CONQUERS CANCER

Indiana Oncology Society

ASCO State of Union

Robin Zon, MD, FACP, FASCO

ASCO President-Elect

August 11, 2023

Overview

- ASCO Mission, Vision & Core Values
- Advocacy Update
- Care Delivery Update
- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Update
- Global Update
- Dr. Lynn Schuchter's Presidential Theme

MISSION

Conquering cancer through research, education, and promotion of the highest quality, equitable patient care.

VISION

A world where cancer is prevented or cured, and every survivor is healthy.

CORE VALUES

Evidence | Care | Impact

Over 5 years we will advance equity in access to cancer care and research, develop more sustainable work environments and improve the delivery of information that drives better patient outcomes.

5-year goals

ACCESS

Remove barriers and promote access to high quality, equitable care and patient-centered research

PROFESSION

Drive healthy clinical and research work environments that lead to fulfillment for oncology professionals

KNOWLEDGE

Be the trusted source for timely and high-impact evidence and continuous learning

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Global Impact

FLAGSHIP PROGRAMS

Clinical Research

Conquer Cancer Grants

Meetings

Publications

Advocacy

Practice Support

Professional Development

Key Issues in the 118th Congress

- Drug Shortages
- Prior Authorization
- Cancer Research Funding
- Physician Payment Reform
- Pharmacy Benefit Managers
- Copay Accumulators
- Step Therapy



Dr. Brian Persing



Dr. Julie Gralow

Drug Shortages

- Congressional activity
- Regulatory activity
- ASCO clinical guidance
- Coalition engagement
- Media
- Grassroots campaign
- Dedicated page on ASCO.org
www.asco.org/drug-shortages



Prior Authorization

Multi-pronged advocacy approach

- Final rule pending
- Federal legislation to be re-introduced
- State legislation
- ASCO member survey and [position statement](#) in 2022
 - The intent of the survey was to assess the impact of prior authorization on cancer care



Telemedicine: Federal Level

- Congress extended many telehealth flexibilities to the end of 2024. There is strong bipartisan support for telemedicine
- ASCO is working with lawmakers to advance legislation to permanently extend the flexibilities
- 2024 Physician Fee Schedule extends Medicare flexibilities through 2024

Telemedicine: State Level

- Indiana has coverage parity but not reimbursement parity for telemedicine among private payers ([source](#))
- Vast majority of Indiana telemedicine services are only reimbursed if provided via audiovisual ([source](#))
 - List of audio-only services that can be reimbursed ([source](#))
- Medicaid reimburses providers for medically necessary telehealth services without any distance restrictions ([source](#))
- The office of Medicaid may not require a licensed provider that exclusively provides telemedicine to maintain a physical address or site in Indiana to be eligible for enrollment as a Medicaid provider ([2023 HB 1352](#))



Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Appropriations

	FY 2022 – Enacted	FY 2023 – Enacted	FY 2024 – Asks	FY 2024 House	FY 2024 Senate
NIH	\$44.959 billion	\$47.459 billion	\$51 billion	\$44.6 billion (-\$2.8 billion)	\$47.8 billion (+\$943 million)
NCI	\$6.913 billion	\$7.32 billion*	\$9.988 billion	\$7.104 billion (-\$216 million)	\$7.38 billion (+\$60 million)
ARPA-H	\$1 billion	\$1.5 billion	At least \$1.5 billion	\$500 million (-\$1 billion)	\$1.5 billion (level)

**2023 is the last year of funding for the original Cancer Moonshot*

Medicare Physician Payment

2023 Focus

- Long-term reform needed
- Educating lawmakers
- Urging Congress to hold hearings
- Supporting legislation to provide an inflationary update
- APM bonus expires at year end
- 2024 Physician Fee Schedule proposed rule
 - Conversion factor negative 3.36%
 - Hem/Onc: +2%, Rad Onc: -2%

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@ASCO

Instability in #Medicare payment hurts physicians and patients. We joined the provider community in advocating for necessary reform. Learn more: fal.cn/3vqRe. #ASCOAdvocacy

Specialty Impact

- CMS Estimates:
 - Hematology/Oncology: +2%
 - Radiation Oncology: -2%

The actual impact on individual clinicians will vary based on geographic location and the mix of Medicare services billed.

% Change in Total RVUs per practitioner

Specialty	-5% to -2%	-2% to -1%	-1% to 1%	1% to 2%	2% to 5%	5% to 10%
Hem/Onc	1%	4%	39%	18%	32%	7%
RadOnc/RT Centers	67%	30%	3%	0%	0%	0%

Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs)

Advocating at all levels

- Capitol Hill
 - Bipartisan, bicameral attention
 - Multiple bills and hearings
- Regulatory activity
- Investigations
- Legislation across the states
- Alternative Funding Programs
 - Being monitored, please report cases



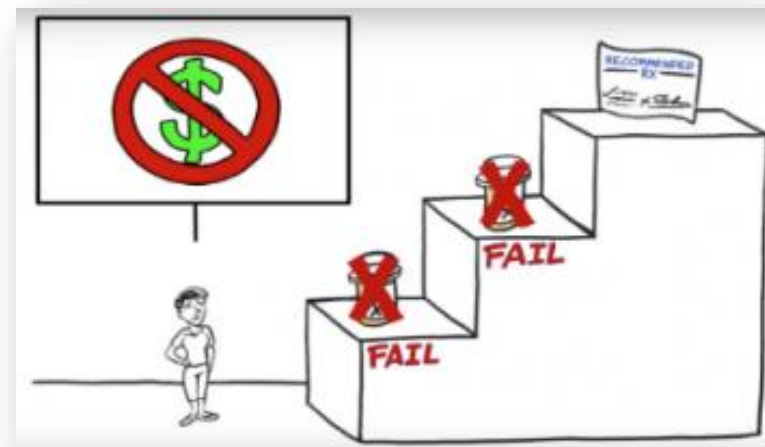
Copay Accumulators

- Supporting federal legislation, the Help Ensure Lower Patient (HELP) Copays Act (H.R. 830/ S. 1375)

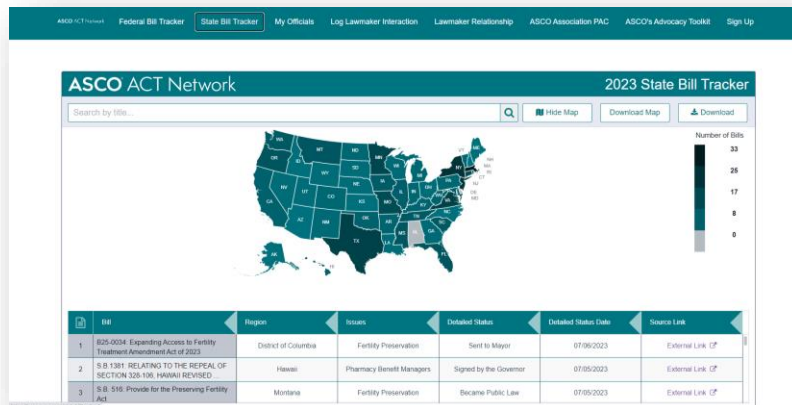


Step Therapy

- Supporting federal legislation, The Safe Step Act (H.R. 2630/S. 652)
- In 2016, Indiana lawmakers enacted legislation that requires state-regulated health plans to make available a procedure for requesting an exception to a step therapy protocol
 - Including time frames for a determination and reasons for granting an exception



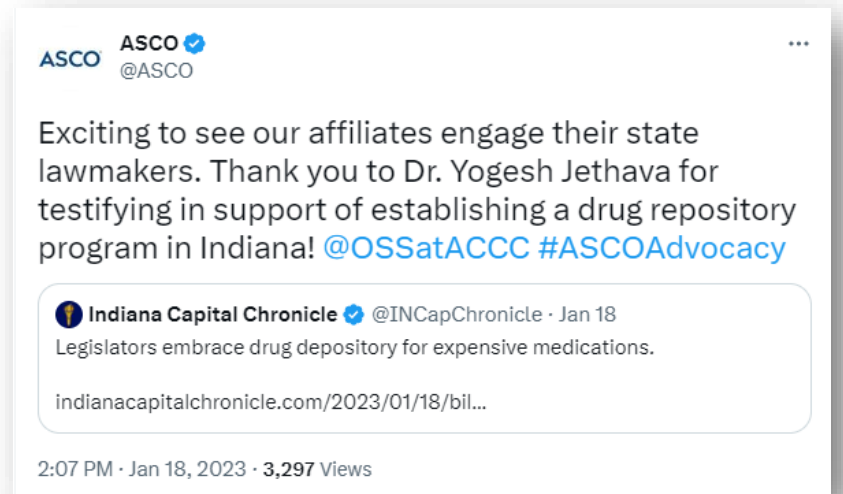
Key State Advocacy Issues in 2023



- Prior Authorization
- Step Therapy
- Pharmacy Benefit Managers
- Copay Accumulators
- Non-Medical Switching
- Drug Repository Programs
- Oral Chemotherapy Parity
- Telemedicine
- Fertility Preservation
- Medicaid Expansion
- Drug Pricing

Indiana State Legislative Updates

- Dr. Jethava testified in January on HB 1017, a bill to establish a prescription drug repository program
- HB 1017 became law in May
- Indiana Oncology Society held its first event with state lawmakers – a dinner in March
- Lawmakers interested in exploring prior authorization legislation



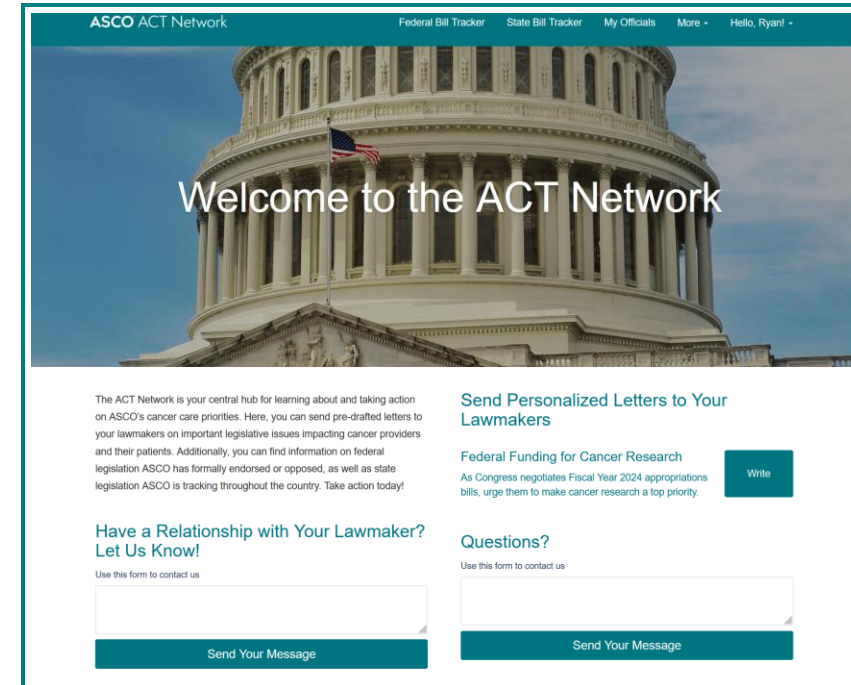
ASCO Advocacy: Get Involved

ASCO[®] ACT Network

- Action alerts with ASCO positions on key bills
- Provides draft messages to personalize & send to your lawmakers
- Visit www.asco.org/ACTNetwork

Advocacy at Home

- Meet with your lawmakers in the state or district

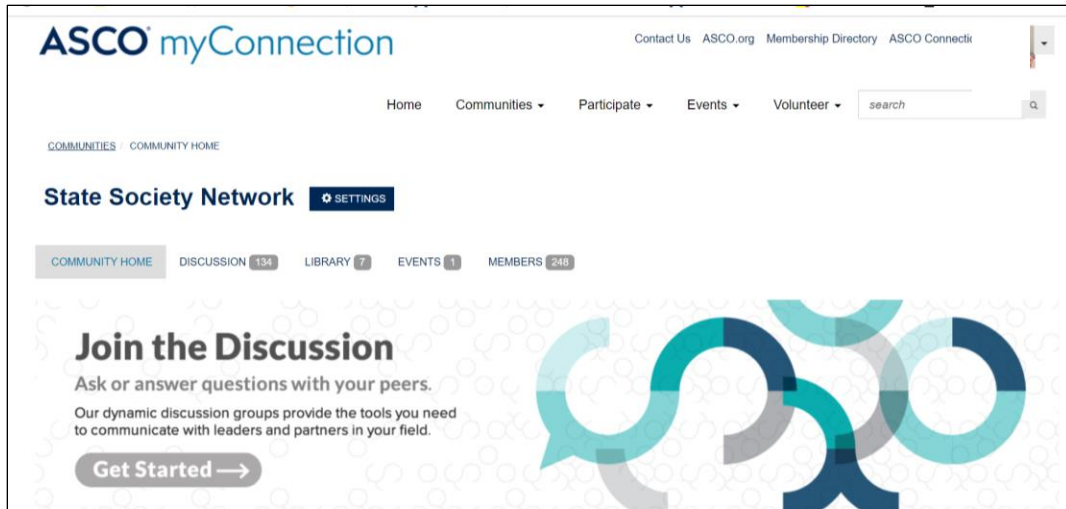


Meeting with Congressional Representative




Dr. Robin Zon with Congressman Rudi Yakym (IN-02)

State Society Network



The State Society Network is an online community designed to ease communications between state society members and encourage engagement with State Affiliate Council leadership.

LATEST DISCUSSIONS

 **Open Comment Period: Systemic Therapy for Melanoma**

BY: RACHEL GEISEL · 7 DAYS AGO

Posted in: [State Society Network](#)

Good Morning, We are interested in hearing from more community oncologists and as members of your state/regional oncology society, we invite you to submit feedback on draft recommendations (form linked ...




RE: Your Feedback is Needed on Physician Well-being


BY: XYLINA GREGG, MD · 14 DAYS AGO

Posted in: [State Society Network](#)

LATEST SHARED FILES


 **Clinical Trials Attestation Form**

BY: MARY KAY MAKAREWICZ 29 DAYS AGO

 **2023 Coding Update Resources**

BY: MATTHEW COWAN 2 MONTHS AGO

2023 Coding Update resource combining CPT, ICD10-CM, and HCPCS updates, in addition to the January 2023 Quarterly HCPCS update.

 **Overview ASCO Advocacy At Home Program**

BY: MATTHEW COWAN 2 MONTHS AGO

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You to the Volunteers Participating in Advocacy at Home

Through the Advocacy at Home Program, volunteers engage in one-on-one meetings with their lawmakers in their home districts to discuss high priority legislation.

Thank you to the ASCO volunteers who held 14 Advocacy at Home meetings in 2022

@John Deeken, MD - Rep. Don Beyer (D-VA-8)
@Marilyn Heine, MD - Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-1)
@Carolyn Hendricks, MD, FASCO - Rep. John Joyce (R-PA-13)
@Jasmine Kamboj, MD - Rep. Thomas Tiffany (R-WI-7)
@Dandy Kimble - Sen. Dan Izbicki (D-WI)

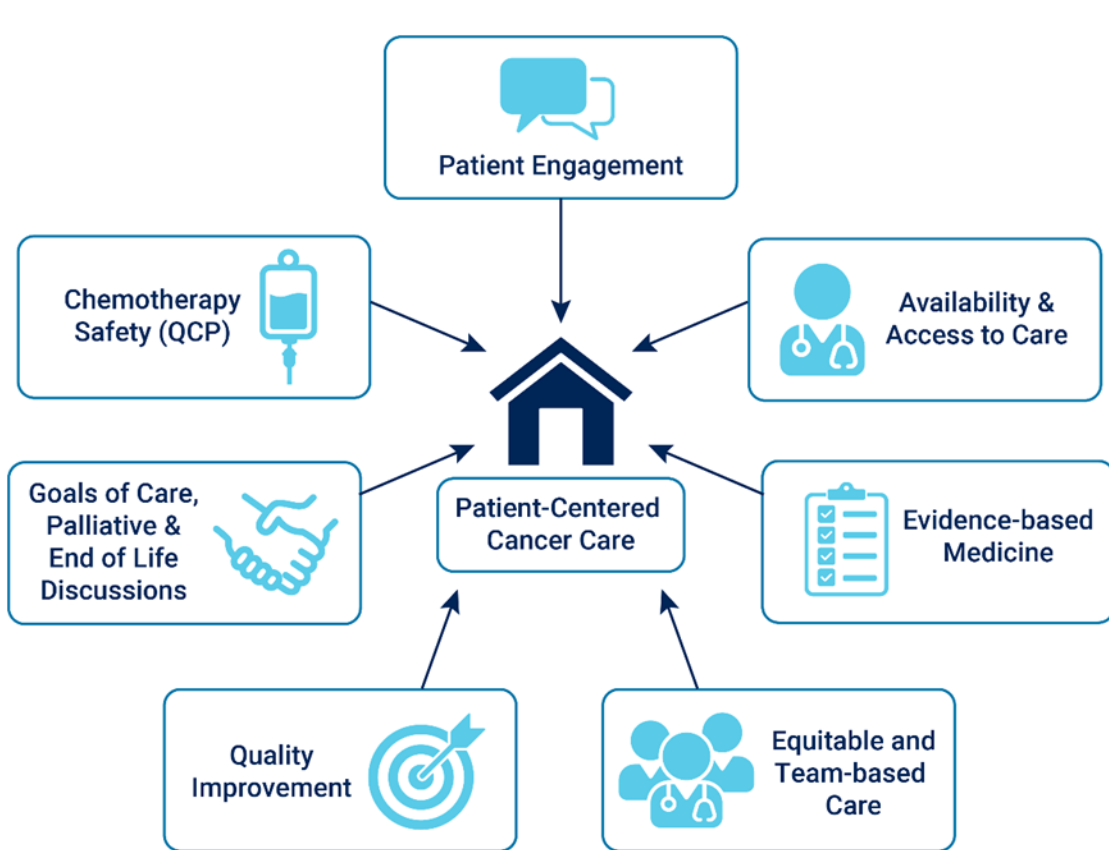
Members of ASCO's State Affiliates can:

- Network with peers across the U.S.
- Post questions and/or concerns
- Connect with State Affiliate Council leadership
- Share documents
- View upcoming events

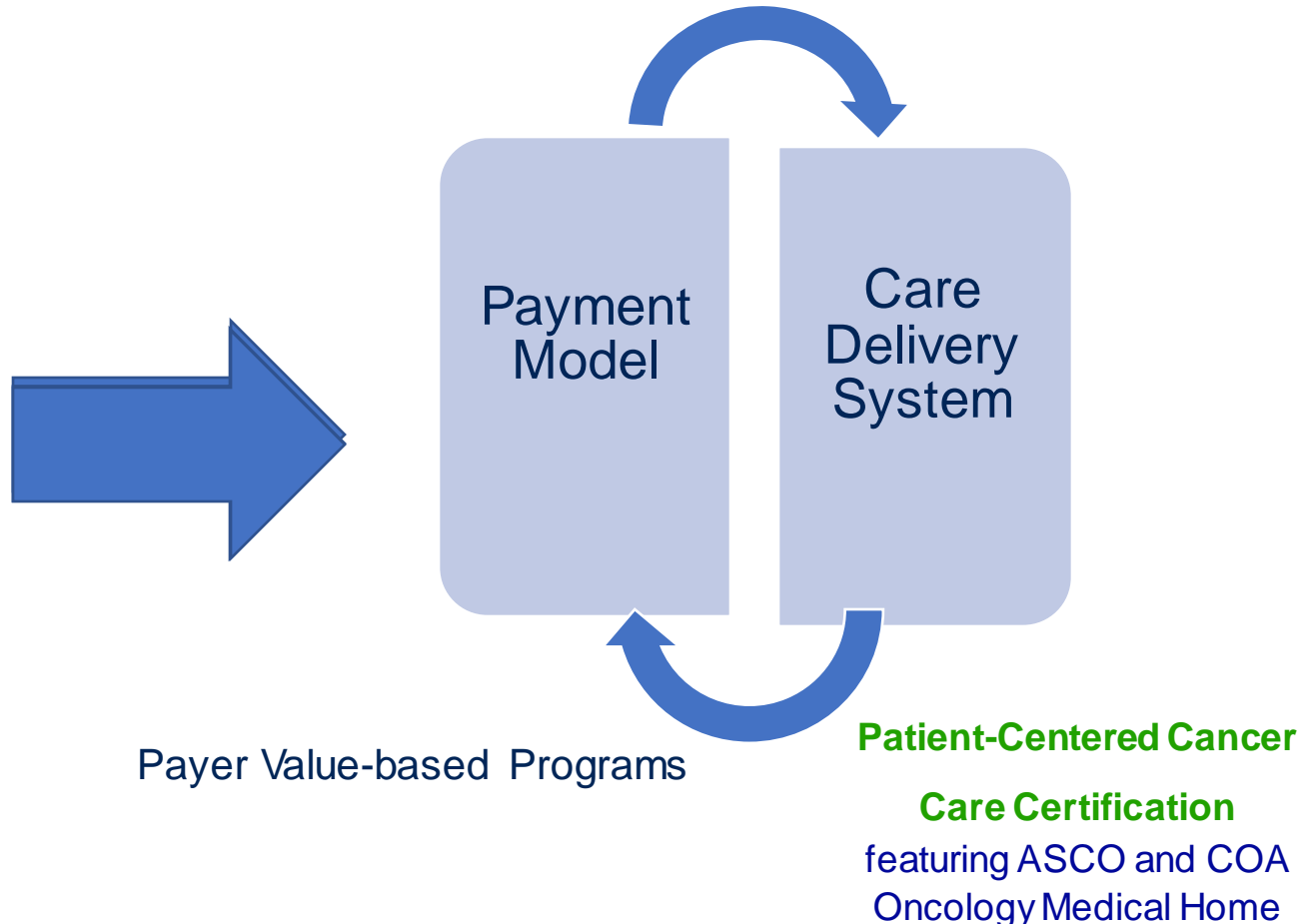
<https://myConnection.asco.org/SSN>

ASCO Patient-Centered Cancer Care Certification

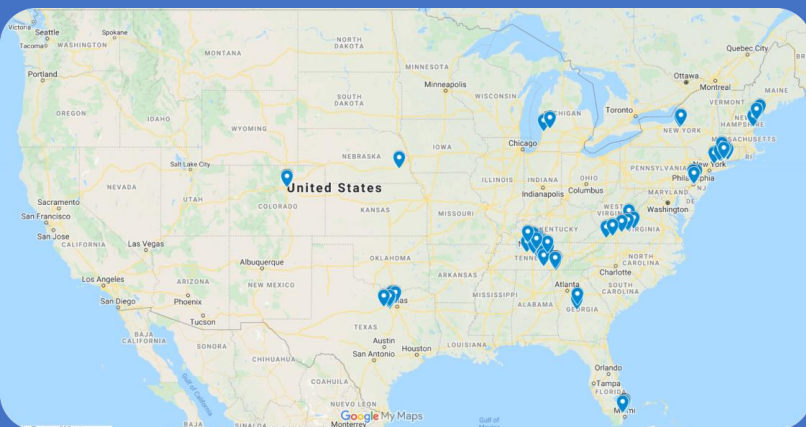
Evolution of ASCO Quality



- ❖ **17 medical home standards**
- ❖ **22 chemotherapy safety standards**



ASCO Patient-Centered Cancer Care Certification Pilot (APC4)



- **Certification Standards** adopted from Oncology Medical Home Standards and certification manual created
- **Certification Pilot** July 2021 to June 2023
 - 12 practices (95 sites, 492 oncologists)
 - 2 commercial payers engaged (Elevance, Cigna)
 - Policy review, **on-site survey**, and compliance documentation
 - EHR- and claims-based measures during and after certification process, clinical pathway utilization and reporting, patient experience
- **Pilot Certifications awarded**
 - All 12 Practices certified with evidence of practice transformation
 - Positive patient experience and value to practices
 - Payer and Employer interest and recognition for value-based care
- **Program launched nationally July 2023**
 - **Now taking applications**

Certification Questions? Contact Us

ASCO Certification Program
standards and operations:
patientcenteredcare@asco.org

ASCO Practice Central:
practice.asco.org



Volunteer Opportunity: ASCO's AMA Alternate RUC Advisor

RVS Update Committee

- Develops recommendations regarding the value of physician work and practice expense for submission to CMS.
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) considers the RUC's recommendations in developing Relative Value Units (RVUs).

RUC Advisor

- Represents ASCO when presenting recommendations to the RUC for services they or their specialty provides.

Required

- ASCO member
- AMA member
- Licensed in the US as a physician
- Involved indirect patient care

Preferred

- Prior experience in ASCO volunteer groups
- Basic understanding or/and experience with CPT coding

Selection, Training, and Term Timeline

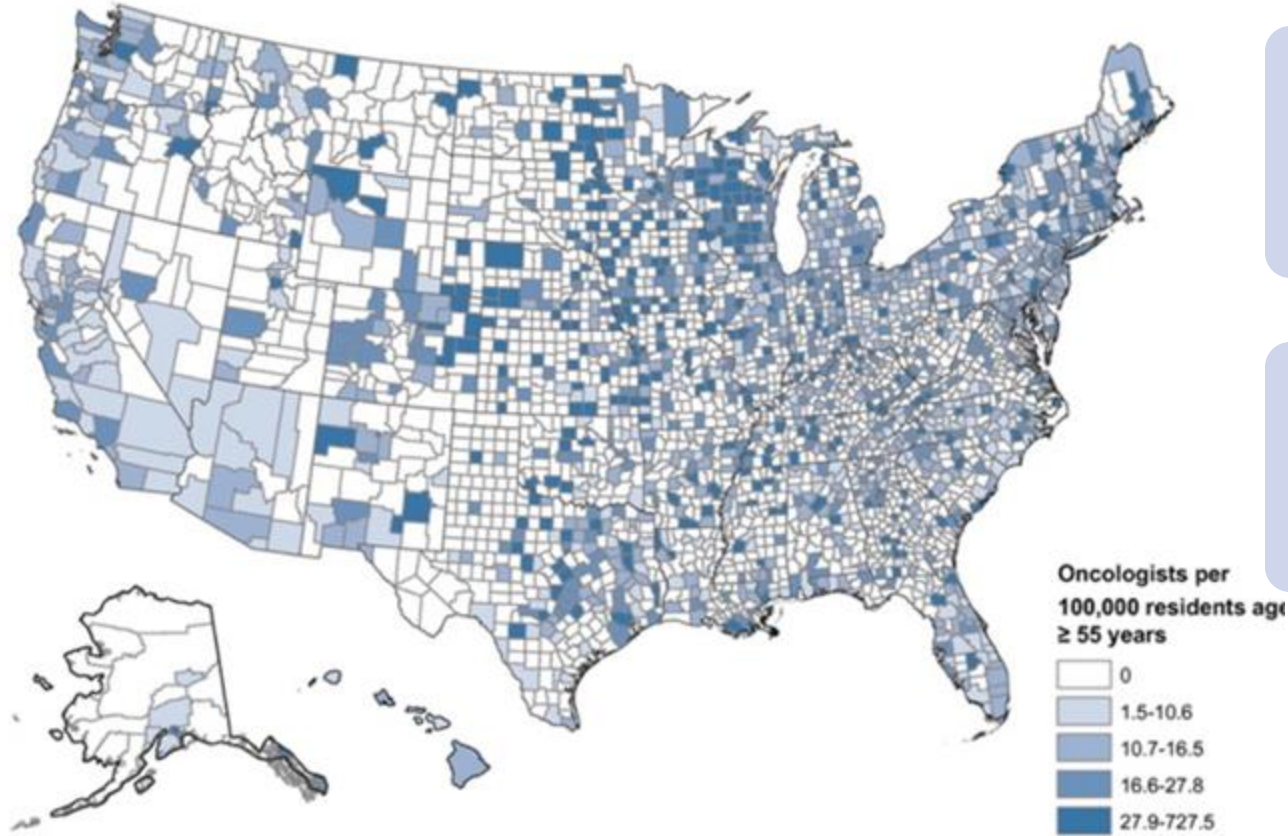


To apply or for more information contact Allison Hirschorn:
Allison.Hirschorn@asco.org

Rural Cancer Care Access Demo Project: Problem Statement

- Rural small community hospitals **lack the capability to deliver on-site cancer care services**, resulting in patients needing to travel lengthy distances to receive therapies.
- Travel distance has been associated with **worse outcomes** in patients with cancer:
 - later stage at time of diagnosis
 - less timely receipt of chemotherapy
 - delaying or declining treatment.
- **Challenges:**
 - lack of infrastructure
 - shortage or absence of specialty physicians and oncology-trained support personnel (i.e., nurses, advanced practice providers, and pharmacists) to deliver infusion services
 - uneven access/use of telemedicine services
 - quality care delivery
 - Facility financial constraints
- Rural patients with cancer incur a **greater financial burden** due to costs associated with travel and lodging.

Improving Access to Rural Cancer Care



Approximately 60 million people (about 19.3% of the US population) reside in rural areas



ASCO's 2018 analysis of the workforce found that only 7% of oncologists billed from rural locations

Expanding Access to Cancer Care in Rural Settings: An ASCO Pilot Solution

Establish Hub-and-Spoke Model of Care Delivery

Leverage existing relationship between two sites

Build up infusion suite infrastructure at spoke site

Recruit and train APPs

Quality Assessment & Improvement

Utilize ASCO's quality standards, guidelines, and educational resources

Expert Advisory Group to help with SOPs and quality improvement

Collaboration & Partnership

Enhancing local services through collaborations with community-based organizations

Strengthen referral loop with local primary care providers



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Our North Star

“We have an opportunity to capitalize on the momentum of the moment and hold ourselves accountable, taking purposeful steps to create a world where every patient, every day, everywhere, has access to the highest quality cancer care. I firmly believe success is within our reach.”

- Lori J. Pierce, MD, FASTRO, FASCO,
2020-2021 ASCO President



Health Equity: Role of Professional Societies

Lead, Drive and Change the profession's perspective on what equitable delivery of high-quality care includes:
Develop Improvements and Work to Understand, Address and Eliminate Inequities



Health Equity 2023 Initiatives

Research

ASCO-ACCC Collaboration

Enhance existing resources & drive adoption

Patient Partners Advisory Group manuscript submission

Assess the feasibility for collection of patient screening and enrollment data, by race/ethnicity at trial sites

TAPUR

Evaluation of ASCO's work prioritizing recruitment of underrepresented populations in the study.

Education

Professional Development

Oncology Summer Internship

Medical Student Rotation

Annual Meeting Research Award

Diversity Mentoring Program

Strategic Partnerships

HBCUS

Professional Associations, including AMA, ABIM, NMA

Quality

Action and Awareness Campaign

- Diverse Patient Needs Forum
- Social Influencers' Initiative
- Reassess ASCO member POV on EDI

Cancer Care Access in Rural Montana

- Program Implementation at Hub/Spoke Sites

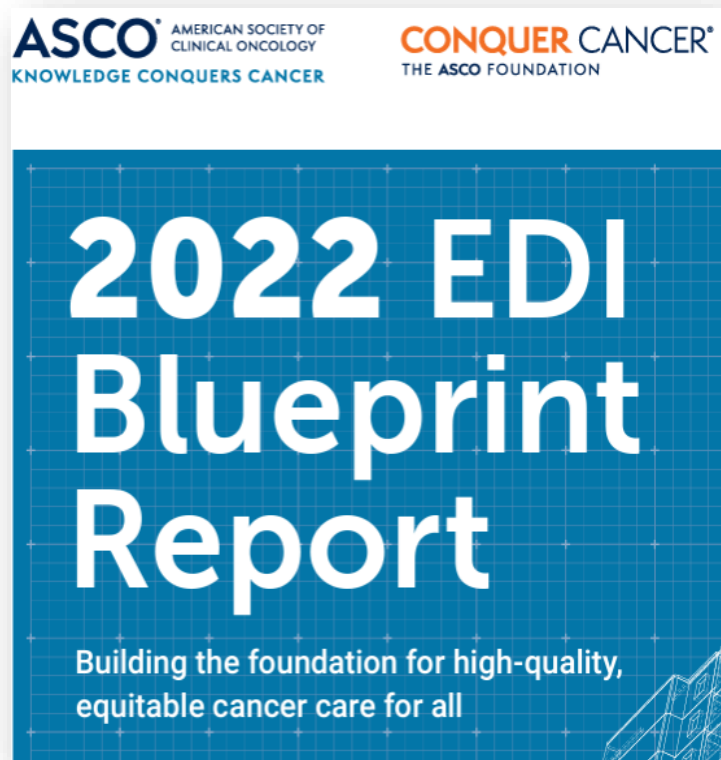
QOPI and LMIC Initiatives

- Expansion to more countries

ASCO EDI Scorecard

- Develop and pilot with ASCO APC4 Practices

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Report

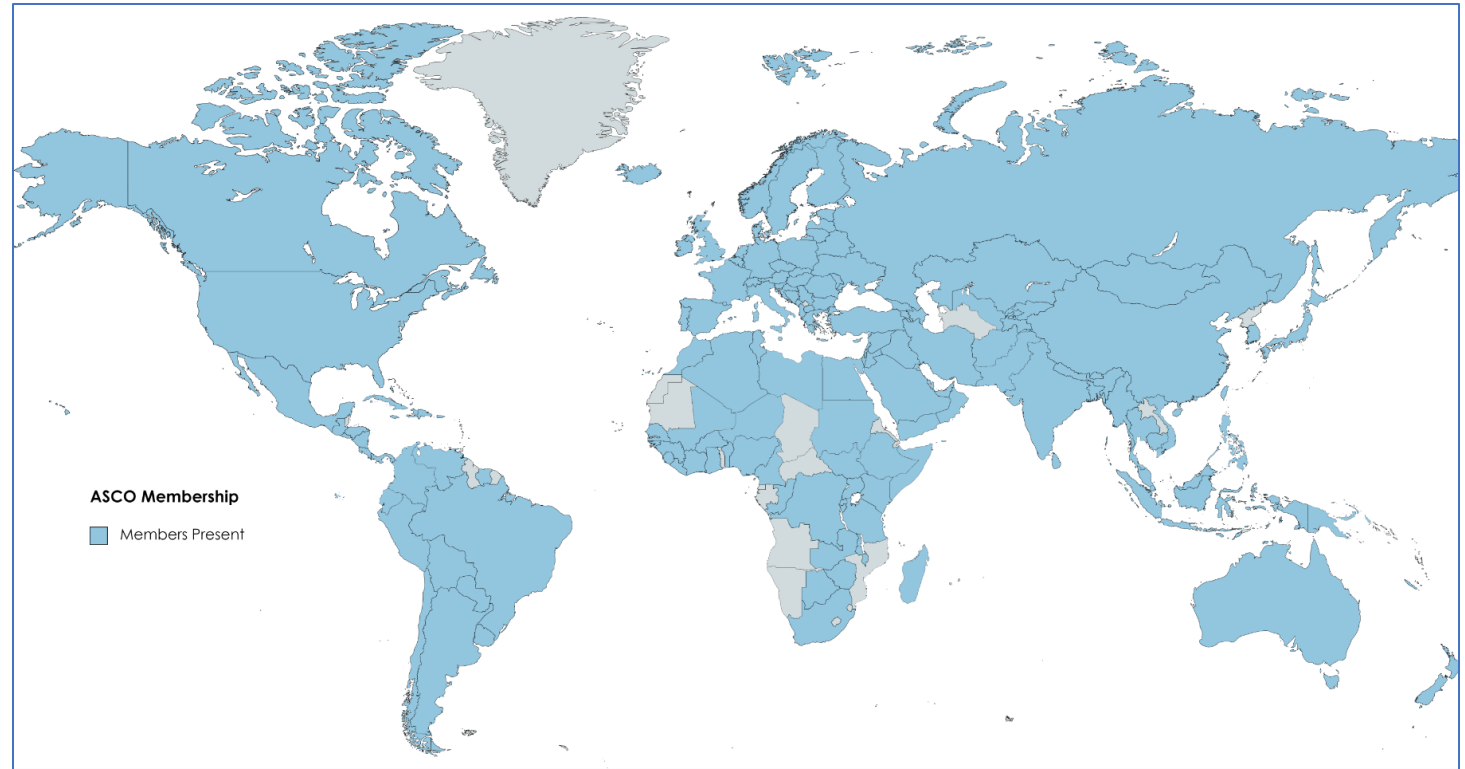


- First publicly shared report on ASCO's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion portfolio
- Spotlights 8 health equity programs
- Assesses ASCO progress through 2022 and path forward

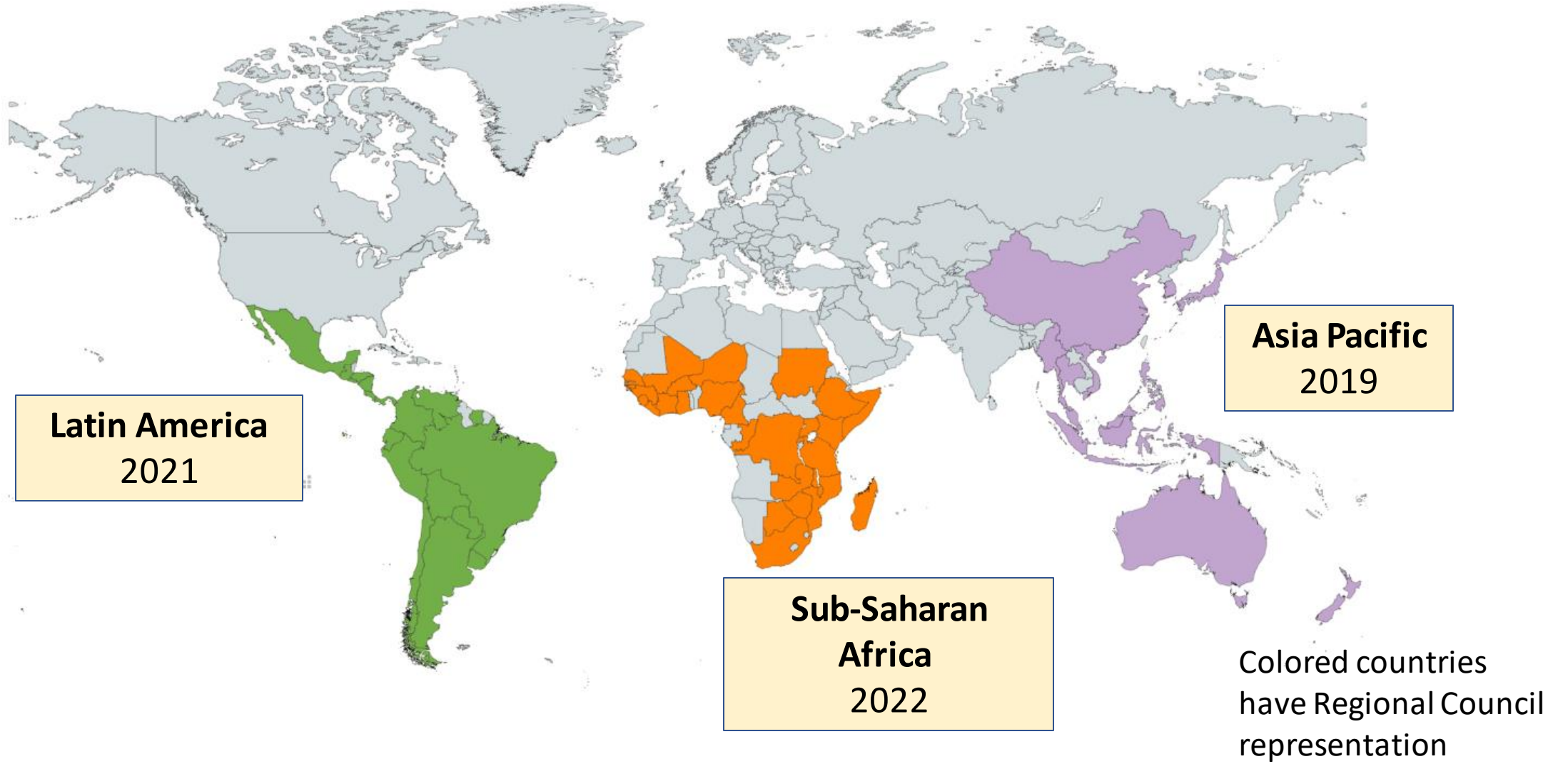
asco.org/equity

ASCO's Global Membership

- ASCO has more than 45,000 members in over 150 countries
 - One third of ASCO members practice outside of the United States
 - Most, though not all, countries have at least one ASCO member



ASCO Regional Councils



ASCO Collaborations Have Breadth and Depth

The World

Global collaborations with major international cancer organizations



Countries and Regions

MOUs with major oncology societies around the world



Cities

Collaborations to improve access to care at major cities in LMICs

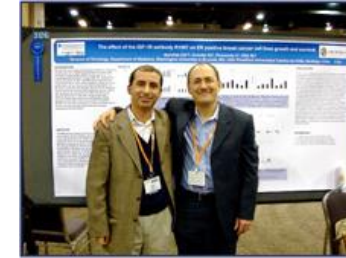
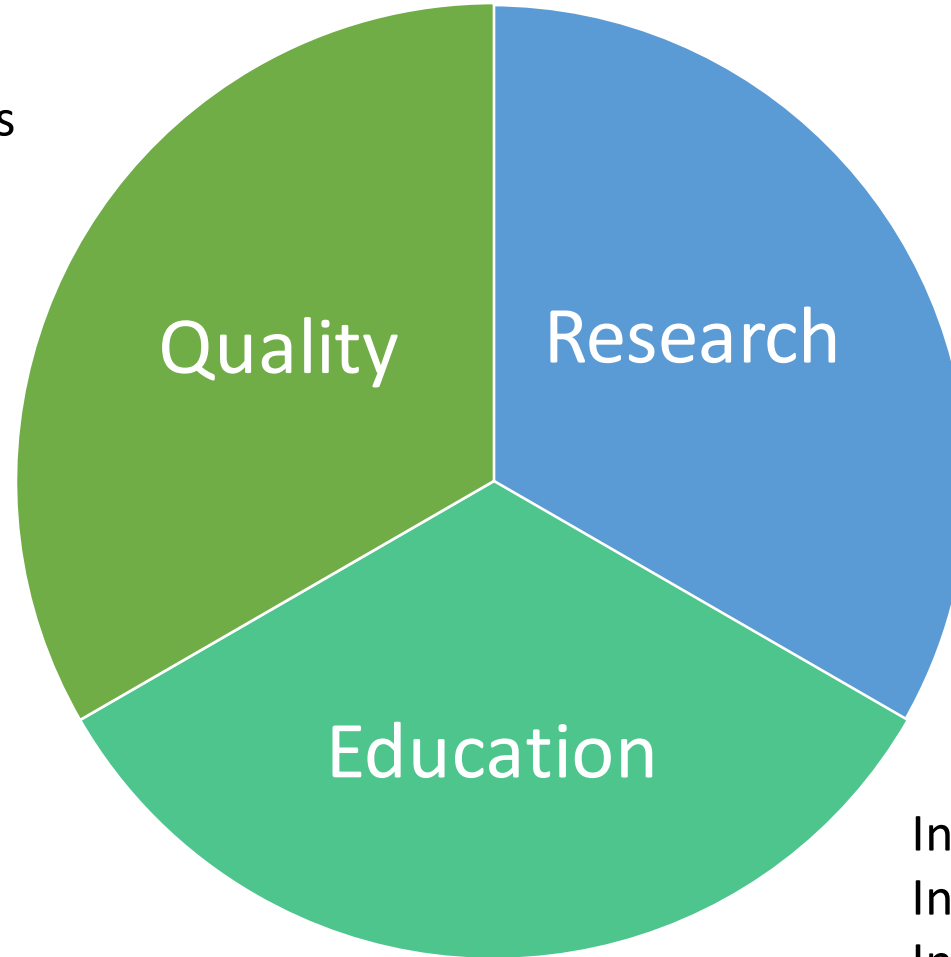


Hospitals

ASCO International Cancer Corps program improving access to care at hospitals in LMICs



Resource-stratified Guidelines
Quality Improvement (QOPI)
International Cancer Corps



International Grants and Awards
JCO Global Oncology



International Courses
International Symposia
International Mentorship & Leadership

Lynn Schuchter, MD, FASCO

ASCO President (2023-2024)



2023-2024 Presidential Theme

The Art and Science of Cancer Care:

From Comfort to Cure



Discussion