



FLORIDA SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY FAX BLAST – January 24, 2007

FLASCO 2007 ANNUAL MEETING AND SPRING SESSION:

The 2007 FLASCO Annual Meeting and Spring Session will be held on March 2-3, 2007, at the Tampa Airport Marriott Hotel. A meeting announcement and registration form has been mailed to all members. **In the event you do not receive your materials, please contact the FLASCO Executive Director.** This is an outstanding meeting – Dr. Joe Bailes from ASCO will provide a Legislative Update and ASCO President, Gabriel Hortobagyi will speak at the Saturday session. **PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND THIS MEETING AND MEET AND HEAR THE ASCO PRESIDENT!**

FLASCO CLINICAL TRIALS UPDATE: Randal Henderson, MD, Chairman

The Florida Cancer Trials Network Advisory Board is pleased to announce that **Sara Loudon, MHA, MPH** has accepted the position of **Executive Director of the Florida Cancer Trials Network.** Ms. Loudon is an experienced Network Director and we are privileged to have her work with us.

Last week the Florida Cancer Trials Advisory Board **credentialed 12 Medical Oncology practices, representing 55 Medical Oncologists,** to participate in the Florida Cancer Trials Network. If you are involved in Clinical Trials and need a credentialing application, please contact Dorothy Green.

Dr. Rogerio Lilenbaum has been appointed chairman of a Clinical Trials Selection subcommittee and will soon pursue selection of the first trial to place on the network. Other members who have volunteered to serve on this subcommittee include Drs. Medhi Moezi, Julio Hajdenberg, and Caio Roche-Lima.

CLINICAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE: Gerald Robbins, MD

QUESTION FROM FLASCO MEMBER:

In our office we have identified that there are new codes for monitoring anticoagulation with Coumadin (PT/INR). Apparently there is a code for the first 90 days and another code for subsequent 90 days. This is very complicated in that patients cannot be admitted during that 90 day period. Also it is my understanding that Medicare does not pay for these codes.

Also we do not know what the RVRVS equivalent is. We are not to bill 99211 anymore.

ANSWER TO QUESTION FROM ASH:

ASH has learned the following concerning the FLASCO question:

Code 99363 is a new 2007 code for coagulation management for the first 90 days. It is assigned 2.10 RVUs in the facility (hospital) setting and 3.01 in the office setting. For each additional 90 days of coagulation management, the physician can bill Code 99364. For the hospital setting, 0.82 RVUs are assigned and for the office setting 1.05 RVUs are assigned.

Medicare has decided not to pay for these codes as CMS considers these services to be "Bundled" into the E/M services provided. Presumably, physicians can bill for these activities as they always have based on the carrier policy; e.g., using 99211 if that is what the carrier has permitted.

It is up to private payers as to how or if they will reimburse for the new coagulation management codes. Physicians presumably might want to "test the waters" by billing the new codes and seeing how the private payer reacts. Alternatively, it is recommended members inquire of their private payers as to what policy they will follow.

USP DI UPDATES:

January 2007 Revised Monographs

Note: Bracked [] information refers to uses that are not included in U.S. product labeling:

Irinotecan (Camptosar) –

[Carcinoma, lung, non-small cell treatment]

[Extensive-stage small-cell lung cancer, first-line treatment, in combination with cisplatin]

[Ovarian cancer, platinum-refractory or platinum-resistant]

Mercaptopurine (Purinethol)– (6-MP)

[Leukemia, chronic myelocytic (treatment)]

[Lymphomas, non-Hodgkins' (treatment)]

[Bowel disease, inflammatory (treatment)]

Topotecan (Hycamtin)

[Carcinoma, lung, non-small cell (NSCLC) (treatment)]

[Myelodysplastic syndrome (treatment)]

[Chronic myelomonocytic leukemia (CMML) (treatment)]

2007 CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP/SPONSORSHIP: (January 1 – December 31, 2007)

FLASCO Members extend a big thanks to the following companies who are 2007 Corporate Members/Sponsors:

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Talceris Biotherapeutics

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EVENTS:

March 2-3, 2007 – FLASCO Spring & Annual Meeting – Tampa Airport Marriott Hotel

March 16-18, 2007 – Fourth Annual Winter Lung Cancer Conference – The Eden Roc Renaissance Resort & Spa, Miami Beach, FL

November 9-10, 2007 – FLASCO Fall Meeting – Rosen Shingle Creek – Orlando

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