



FLORIDA SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY FAX BLAST – June 21, 2007

CLINICAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE: Thomas Gaddis, MD, Chm.

This week the committee held a telephone conference call with representatives from our Platinum Members/Sponsors. Next Tuesday a call is scheduled with our Gold Members/Sponsors.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Gerardo Colon-Otero, MD

CME March 2007 Meeting:

If you attended our March 2007 meeting and requested CME credit please go to the following ASCO website and you can print out a copy of your Certificate: cme.asco.org

FLASCO will be providing Regional Conferences in July - see dates below under Events – Flyers for the conferences have been e-mailed and mailed to all FLASCO members. Please plan to attend one in your community. In addition, it is strongly recommended that you send appropriate staff from your practice to the conference. The Breakfast Conferences will commence at 7:30 am and will conclude by 9:00 a.m.

Title: Preparing for New Quality of Care Initiatives: Pay for Performance

- Identify reasons why pay for performance (P4P) is growing in popularity
- Understand key terms and drivers related to quality of care initiatives
- Recognize public and private payer trends
- Identify how providers can get involved with P4P
- Discuss how P4P could influence how providers deliver care
- Review Physician Quality Reporting Initiatives (PQRI) and the implementation of this program

These programs will be presented by Dale Meyer, Reimbursement Specialist, with the Lash Group. A national speaker on reimbursement education, Ms. Meyer uses her expertise from her previous varied health care roles and has over 26 years of healthcare experience. These breakfast programs are sponsored by **Astra Zeneca Oncology and the AstraZeneca Cancer Support Network**. RSVP to: AZLogistics@lashgroup.com

USP DI UPDATES: --

Corrected from the June 14 fax blast - Revised Monographs for Epoetin – June 2007 –

[Anemia associated with frequent blood donation (prophylaxis)] {32} {40}— Epoetin is indicated to prevent anemia in patients who donate blood and to increase the capacity for donation (for future autologous transfusion) prior to elective surgery. The medication has been found to be effective in females, patients with low packed-cell volumes due to anemia or small body size, and patients requiring donation of 4 units or more of blood {33}.

[Anemia associated with the management of hepatitis C (treatment)]1— Epoetin is indicated for the treatment of anemia in patients with hepatitis C virus infection who are being treated with the combination of ribavirin and interferon alfa or ribavirin and peginterferon alfa. {52} {53} {54} {55} {56} {57} {58} {59} {60} {61}

[Anemia, in critically ill patients (treatment)]1—Epoetin is indicated for the treatment of anemia in critically ill patients in hospital intensive care units. Epoetin therapy has been shown to increase hematocrit values and hemoglobin concentrations and to reduce the need for red blood cell transfusions in this patient population. {62} {63} {64} {65} {66} {67} {68}

FDA:

Bristol Myers Squibb recently received FDA approval for a new 200 mg Single-Dose Vial size of ERBITUX NDC# 66733-958-23. It is now available for shipment from wholesalers."

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES: Lowell Hart, MD., Chairman

Legislative Visit:

Dr. Gerald Robbins, FLASCO Vice President, took the initiative and invited Congressman Gus Bilirakis to visit his oncology practice. This was a very successful meeting and Dr. Robbins was able to discuss and show the Congressman first hand the issues facing oncology practices. **Thanks Dr. Robbins!**

It is strongly recommended that your practice take a similar initiative and invite your local Congressman to visit your practice.

FAPA:

The PA Dispensing Bill (HB 1007) and the Paramedic Bill (SB 1700) were signed on June 18, by Governor Charlie Crist. Effective July 1st, PAs will now be permitted by state law to dispense medications for a fee (if their supervising physician dispenses) and they will be able to challenge the Paramedic Exam in order to work in certain air and vehicle emergency settings (if they already have their EMT certification).

CMS:

Medicare Part B Drugs Average Sales Price Files -- July 2007

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has made available the Medicare Part B Drug and Biological Average Sales Price (ASP) Payment Amounts for July 1, 2007 to September 30, 2007 on the CMS website at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/McrPartBDrugAvgSalesPrice/01a_2007aspfiles.asp - TopOfPagehttp://www.cms.hhs.gov/McrPartBDrugAvgSalesPrice/01a_2007aspfiles.asp . The files are located in the "Downloads" section of this web page.

2007 Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) Tool Kit is Now Available

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has developed a Tool Kit for the 2007 Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) that will assist eligible professionals with successful reporting. This Tool Kit consists of some existing educational resources plus new measure-specific worksheets designed to walk the user step-by-step through reporting for each measure.

The Tool Kit is now a featured section on the CMS PQRI web page. To access the Tool Kit, visit, <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI>, and scroll down to the PQRI Tool Kit tab. The page serves as a "Read This First" Guide to the resources that are available to download. The Tool Kit will be expanded as new educational resources become available.

The Tool Kit consists of the following:

1. 2007 PQRI Physician Quality Measures
2. 2007 Coding for Quality Handbook
3. 2007 Code Master
4. *MLN Matters* Article 5640 - Coding & Reporting Principles
5. Data Collection Worksheets

Special Medicare Provider Enrollment - Open Door Forum Friday, June 29 2007

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM, Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) (Conference Call Only)

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will hold a Special Open Door Forum (ODF) to discuss useful tips that providers and suppliers can use to facilitate enrollment into the Medicare program.

A Medicare enrollment application (CMS-855) is required to be completed by all health care providers/suppliers who wish to enroll in the Medicare program. CMS is responsible for ensuring that all enrolled. During this discussion, CMS will provide: (1) an overview of the 2006 Medicare enrollment applications, and (2) useful tips on how providers can facilitate enrollment into the Medicare program. Afterwards, there will be an open discussion for staff to listen to comments regarding the Medicare enrollment process.

Open Door Forum Participation Instructions:

To participate in this special forum, please register on our website at http://registration.intercall.com/menu.php?short_name=cms2

Upon registering, you will receive further participation information and registration confirmation. The deadline for registration is 2:00 PM EDT, June 27, 2007. Note: Capacity is limited so register early. Registering via the web will ensure CMS can accommodate as many participants as possible.

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

FLASCO Members extends a big thanks to all of our 2007 Corporate Members/Sponsors

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Oncology Pharmaceutical Services

EVENTS:

July 23 – Regional Conference – Tampa Airport Marriott Hotel – 7:30 – 9:30 am

July 24 – Regional Conference – Orlando Marriott Downtown - 7:30 – 9:30 am

July 25 – Regional Conference – Jacksonville Marriott– 7:30 am – 9:30 am

July 26 – Regional Conference – Marriott Harbour Beach, Ft. Lauderdale – 7:30 am – 9:30 am

July 27 – Regional Conference – Marriott Airport Miami – 7:30 am – 9:30 am

July 31 – August 4, 2007 – Mayo Clinic's 17th Annual Hematology/Oncology Reviews – The Ritz Carlton, Amelia Island – visit: www.mayo.edu/cme for additional information and registration

Sept. 13-16, 2007 – Joint Cancer Conference – The Breakers, Palm Beach

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

March 7-8, 2008 – FLASCO Spring Meeting – Tampa Airport Marriott Hotel

November 7-8, 2008 – FLASCO Fall Meeting – Location TBD

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