



FLORIDA SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY FAX BLAST – June 28, 2007

CLINICAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE: Thomas Gaddis, MD, Chm.

Members of the CPC held a telephone conference call this week with the Gold FLASCO Members/Sponsors.

FIRST COAST SERVICE OPTIONS (FCSO) UPDATES:

EPO: Epoetin alfa—LCD Revision

This local coverage determination (LCD) was last revised on May 3, 2007. Since that time, the LCD has been revised. Under the list of medically necessary ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes, the following ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes were deleted: 571.40, 571.41 and 571.49. These were replaced with ICD-9-CM codes 070.54 and 070.70.

In addition, the following ICD-9-CM codes were also added to the list of medically necessary ICD-9-CM codes: 205.10 and 205.11. These codes allow for appropriate billing of the covered off-label indication for chronic myelomonocytic leukemia, which may be considered a form of MDS.

In addition to the coding changes, this LCD was broken out into individual Florida B and Connecticut B LCDs. The coding guidelines were also revised as appropriate.

Effective Date

This revision is effective for services rendered on or after August 10, 2007. The full text of this LCD is available through our provider education Web site at <http://www.floridamedicare.com> on or after this effective date.

Provider Enrollment Conference:

First Coast Service Options, Inc., (FCSO) is encouraging all providers and suppliers to attend Friday's Open Door Forum to discuss useful tips to help facilitate successful enrollment into the Medicare program. The call, which is being hosted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), is scheduled to start at 2 p.m., EST.

After reviewing 2006 Medicare enrollment applications and supplying direction around how to enroll, there will be an open discussion for CMS staff to listen to provider comments regarding the enrollment process.

To register for the call, please follow this path: http://registration.intercall.com/menu.php?short_name=cms2

USP DI UPDATES: --

Avastin (June 21, 2007)

[Metastatic breast carcinoma, HER2-negative disease, first line therapy in combination with paclitaxel]—Bevacizumab-containing regimens have demonstrated anti-tumor activity in patients with metastatic breast cancer. {13}{14}{15}{16} Interim analysis of the Eastern Oncology Cooperative Group (E2100) phase III trial assessing the addition of paclitaxel to bevacizumab as first-line therapy in mostly HER2-negative metastatic breast cancer patients yielded improvements in response rates, progression-free survival, and a trend toward improved survival. {17}

FDA:

Erbitux (Cetuximab)

The FDA has approved a new 200 mg vial of Erbitux (cetuximab). The new 200 mg vial will offer a reduction in preparation time and effort, requiring the use of only three vials where previously five vials would have been required. Additionally, the 200 mg vial will require less storage space than that required for the equivalent mgs.

quantity of the 100 mg vial. The 100 mg vial will continue to be available to provide convenience and minimization of waste. The new Erbitux vial will be priced on an equivalent basis to the 100 mg vial price. The price remains unchanged from the product launch price in 2004.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES: Lowell Hart, MD, Chairman

US Representatives Ann Eshoo (D-CA) and Mike Rogers (R-MI) have drafted a letter to CMS regarding the proposed National Coverage Decision for erythropoiesis-stimulating agents for Medicare beneficiaries with cancer. FLASCO, over the signature of our President, Dr. Robert Cassell, faxed letters to Florida US Representatives asking them to sign onto this letter. FLASCO also sent a thank you letter to Reps. Ginny Brown Waite and Vern Buchanan who have already signed onto the letter.

In addition, US Senators Kent Conrad (D-ND) and Thad Cochran (R-MS) drafted a similar letter to CMS. FLASCO, over the signature of our President, Dr. Robert Cassell, faxed letters to our Florida US Senators asking them to sign on to this letter.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Gerardo Colon-Otero, MD

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**

CMS:

CMS Physicians, Nurses & Allied Health Professionals Open Door Forum

Date: July 10, 2007

Start Time: 2:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

Conference Leader(s): Liz Richter/Dr. Bill Rogers/Mark Gilbert/Natalie Highsmith

To participate by phone: **Dial: 1-800-837-1935 & Reference Conference ID 2465673**

Persons participating by phone do not need to RSVP.

2007 Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) Measure Finder Tool (Version 1.0)

This is now available as part of the *2007 PQRI Tool Kit ~ Six Steps to Success*. The Measure Finder Tool (Version 1.0) is designed to help eligible professionals and their coding/billing staff to quickly search for applicable measures and their detailed specifications. This tool will allow users to search for applicable measures based on a single code or a combination of codes.

To access the Tool Kit, visit, <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI>, on the CMS website in the *PQRI Tool Kit* section. Once on the *PQRI Tool Kit* page, scroll down to the “**Downloads**” section.

MLM MATTERS:

New: Please pay particular attention to Attachment 1 of CR5614

MM5614 – Update to the 2007 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database (MPFSDB)
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5614.pdf>

Revised:

MM5646 – July 2007 Quarterly Average Sales Price (ASP) Medicare Part B Drug Pricing File, Effective July 1, 2007, and Revisions to January 2007 and April 2007 Quarterly ASP Medicare Part B Drug Pricing Files
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5646.pdf>

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

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

<u>PLATINUM</u>	<u>GOLD</u>	<u>SILVER</u>	<u>BRONZE</u>
Astra Zeneca	Cephalon Oncology	Genomic Health, Inc.	Oncology Pharmaceutical Services
Genentech	Pharmion Corporation	Talecris Biotherapeutics	
Oncology Supply/ION	OSI Pharmaceuticals	Millennium	
Sanofi-Aventis	GlaxoSmithKline	Celgene	
Bristol-Myers Squibb	Roche	Novartis	
Eli Lilly	Pfizer		
Bayer/Onyx	Amgen		
Ortho Biotech			
Abraxis Oncology			

FLASCO 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

OTHER EVENTS:

The 2007 Annual Meeting of FRS FRBMA, (Florida Radiological Society...Florida Radiology Business Management Association) will be held on July 13-15, at the Ritz Carlton in Sarasota. To register please visit the following site: <http://www.flrad.org/meetings.asp>

The Florida Association of Pediatric Tumor Programs will hold its 30th Anniversary Annual Seminar at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress in Orlando from November 15-17, 2007. To register please visit the following website: www.faptp.org

FLASCO Contact Information:

Dorothy Green Phillips, Executive Director - 3709 W. Jetton Ave., Tampa, Florida 33629
Tel: 800.444.1410, Ext.4410 - Cell Phone: 813.294.2620 - Fax: 813.254.5857 or 813.349.4472
e-mail: Dorothy.Green@cancer.org