



FLORIDA SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY
FLASCO BLAST – January 7, 2010
FLASCO WEBSITE: www.flasco.org
FLASCO CLINICAL TRIALS NETWORK WEBSITE: www.fctn.org

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: Gerald Robbins, MD

Thank all of the companies who supported FLASCO in 2009. FLASCO is looking forward to working with 2010 Corporate Members and Supporters.

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON PAYER RELATIONS: Thomas Marsland, MD, Chairman

Last November Dr. Robbins sent letters to all of the major private payers in Florida indicating that FLASCO was interested in working with them. A copy of the FLASCO Position Statement was also enclosed with the letter.

I am happy to report that we had a very positive telephone conference call with representatives of Aetna and that it is planned to continue the dialogue with them. Also, we either have meetings or conference calls scheduled in the next month with: Humana, Av Med, CIGNA, BCBS, and FCSO.

We will keep you informed regarding the communications with these companies.

CLINICAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE: Thomas Gaddis, MD, Chairman
Several New HCPCS Codes to Take Effect in 2010

A number of agents have new HCPCS codes that will take effect on January 1, 2010.

- C9257, Injection, bevacizumab, 0.25 mg (Replaces deleted code Q2024, Injection, bevacizumab, 0.25 mg)
- J2562, Injection, plerixafor, 1 mg (Replaces deleted code C9252, Injection, plerixafor, 1 mg)
- J2796, Injection, romiplostim, 10 mcg (Replaces C9245, Injection, romiplostim, 10 mcg)
- J7185, Injection, Factor VIII (antihemophilic factor, recombinant) (Xyntha), per I.U. (Replaces Q2023, Injection, Factor VIII (antihemophilic factor, recombinant) (Xyntha), per I.U.)
- J9171, Injection, docetaxel, 1 mg (Replaces J9170, Injection, docetaxel, 20 mg)
- J9328, Injection, temozolomide, 1 mg (Replaces C9253, Injection, temozolomide, 1 mg)

FCSO UPDATES:

2010 Physician fee schedules are listed on FCSO website with a modified date of 12/31/2009.
http://medicare.fcso.com/Data_files/

CMS UPDATES:

2010 Physician Quality Reporting Initiative & Electronic Prescribing Incentive Program - National Provider Call with Question & Answer Session

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) Provider Communications Group will host a national provider conference call on the 2010 Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) and Electronic Prescribing Incentive Program (eRx). **This toll-free call will take place from 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., EST, on Tuesday, January 12, 2010.**

The topics covered on this national provider call will include:

- Program Announcements & Updates; and
- Introduction to 2010 PQRI – How to Get Started.

Following the presentation, the lines will be opened to allow participants to ask questions of CMS PQRI and eRx subject matter experts.

Educational products are available on the PQRI dedicated web page located at, <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI>, on the CMS website, in the Educational Resources section, as well as educational products are available on the eRx dedicated web page located at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ERxIncentive> on the CMS website. Feel free to download the resources prior to the call so that you may ask questions of the CMS presenters.

In order to receive the call-in information, you must register for the call. It is important to note that if you are planning to sit in with a group, only one person needs to register to receive the call-in data. This registration is solely to reserve a phone line, NOT to allow participation.

Registration will close at 1:30 p.m. EST on **January 9, 2010**, or when available space has been filled. No exceptions will be made, so please be sure to register prior to this time.

1. To register for the call participants need to go to:
<http://www.eventsvc.com/palmettogba/011210>
2. Fill in all required data.
3. Verify your time zone is displayed correctly the drop down box.
4. Click "Register".
5. You will be taken to the "Thank you for registering" page and will receive a confirmation email shortly thereafter. **Note:** Please print and save this page, in the event that your server blocks the confirmation emails. If you do not receive the confirmation email, please check your spam/junk mail filter as it may have been directed there.

For those of who will be unable to attend, a transcript of the call will be available at least one week after the call at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/pqri> on the CMS website.

2010 Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) & Electronic Prescribing Incentive Program (eRx) Updates

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is pleased to announce updates to several 2010 PQRI and eRx measures-related documents. The updated documents are now available on the CMS PQRI webpage at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI> and the CMS eRx webpage at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ERxincentive> respectively on the CMS website.

Revised--Special Edition MLN Matters Article #SE0929 - 2010 Annual Participation Enrollment Program Extension

This article was revised on December 22, 2009, to show that the 2010 Annual Participation Enrollment Program has been extended through March 17, 2010. Due to recent revisions that were made to the 2010 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS), CMS has extended the 2010 Annual Participation Enrollment Program end date from December 31, 2009, to March 17, 2010 – therefore, the enrollment period now runs from November 13, 2009, through March 17, 2010. The effective date for any Participation status change during the extension, however, remains January 1, 2010; and will be in force for the entire year. For more information, please view the article located at: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0929.pdf> on the CMS website.

MLN MATTERS UPDATES:

New:

MM6761 - January 2010 Integrated Outpatient Code Editor (I/OCE) Specifications Version 11.0

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6761.pdf>

Revised:

MM6756 – Summary of Policies in the 2010 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) and the Telehealth Originating Site Facility Fee Payment Amount

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6756.pdf>

PATIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:

The Neulasta First Step Program (Amgen)

Amgen is excited to renew the Neulasta FIRST STEP Program for 2010. This program is intended to provide assistance to eligible low-income patients who need help meeting their Neulasta co-insurance or co-payment requirement. If you have any questions or comments concerning the Neulasta FIRST STEP Program, please contact your Amgen representative, call: 1-888-657-8371, or go online to www.neulastaFIRSTSTEP.com.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE UPDATES: Jose Lutzy, MD, Chairman

Clinical Breakthroughs & Challenges in Hematologic Malignancies

We are pleased to announce that FLASCO is co-sponsoring with Moffitt Cancer Center a conference on Clinical Breakthroughs & Challenges in Hematologic Malignancies, which will be held on **January 16, 2010** at the Grand Floridian Resort, Lake Buena Vista - For more information, call (813) 745-1247 or e-mail:

Melissa.Pearson@MOFFITT.org

FLASCO Annual Meeting and Spring Session:

The FLASCO Annual Meeting and Spring Session will be held on March 5-6, 2010, at the Tampa Airport Marriott Hotel. Dr. Doug Blaney, President of ASCO, will be the key note speaker at the Friday night dinner. The FLASCO Office will be faxing out an agenda for this meeting and a Registration Form. We sincerely hope that you will make every effort to attend this extremely important meeting.

2010 PA/NP Conference:

We are pleased to announce that FLASCO will sponsor its Second Annual Conference for PAs/NPs on March 26, 2010, in Miami. Special thanks are extended to Dayne Alonso, PA-C and Michele Taffaro Neskey, RN for agreeing to serve as Co-Chairmen of the Workgroup to plan this Conference.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

COA Webcast – Health Care Reform

On Wednesday, January 6th, COA will be hosting a webcast on *Health Care Reform and its impact on Community Oncology*. Rather than repeat what is widely reported in the press and updated daily on the COA website, this 50-minute webcast will focus on the following:

- Content in both House and Senate health care reform bills that can impact community oncology practices now and over the next 3-5 years.
- The insider's view on the likely outcome of legislation, politics shaping a final bill, and timetable.
- CMS' actions and payment cuts to community oncology scheduled through 2013.
- Specific steps that the cancer community should be taking to fight any further cuts to cancer care.

Ted Okon, COA Executive Director, will cover very specific issues impacting community oncology in 2010 and over the next 5 years. In practical terms, the emphasis will be on 2010 and will touch upon the 21.2% Medicare payment cut still looming on March 1, 2010 and the roll-out of Medicare oncology-specific cuts.

Mark your schedules for **Wednesday, January 6th**. The webcast will be broadcast live three times on that day; **9:00 AM EST, 1:00 PM EST, and 5:00 PM EST** in order to accommodate all time zones and schedules.

Access meeting registration via Readycomm Meeting Center Web. **Go to: <http://readycommconf.com/coa/events.php>** and **register today!**

Genomic Health --Oncotype Dx Post SABCS Data Review

Please call 1 866 984 5109 to Pre Register Or email kpecquet@envisioncomm.net

January 7th, 2010 12PM EST

Conference number 1 888 732 6202 Code 181313

Meeting URL <http://campaign.envisioncomm.net/genomichealth/webcast/01072010>

January 14th, 2010 9AM EST

Conference number 1 888 373 5705 Code 283977

Meeting URL <http://campaign.envisioncomm.net/genomichealth/webcast/01142010>

Teleconference: Medicare Physician Payment Update

Centocor Ortho Biotech Inc. is pleased to invite you and your colleagues to participate in an informational teleconference entitled "Medicare Physician Payment Update." The goal of this session will be to provide physicians and their staff with a concise overview of key issues contained within the 2010 final rule on Medicare physician office payment. These issues include:

- Overview of the 2010 final physician payment rule;
- Update on the sustainable growth rate formula and changes; and
- Update on regulatory changes to reimbursement for physician services.

This session, approximately 30 minutes in length, will be hosted by Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, and The Resource Group, and will be offered at a variety of times for your scheduling convenience.

Teleconference Schedule

January 7, 2010 3:00 pm

January 8, 2010 4:00 pm

To sign up to participate in a teleconference, please call Colleen Flanders at Akin Gump at 202-416-5064. Colleen will provide you with a toll-free call-in number and pass code, and will send you by email or fax the slide deck that will be presented during the teleconference.

This document is presented for informational purposes only and is not intended to provide reimbursement or legal advice. Laws, regulations, and policies concerning reimbursement are complex and are updated frequently. While we have made an effort to be current as of the issue date of this document, the information may not be as current or comprehensive when you view it. In addition, this information does not represent any statement, promise or guarantee by Centocor Ortho Biotech Inc. about coverage, levels of reimbursement, payment or charge. Please consult with your payer organization(s) for local or actual coverage and reimbursement policies and determination processes. Please consult with your counsel or reimbursement specialist for any reimbursement or billing questions specific to your institution.

US Oncology Educational Opportunity

Health Care Reform Update:

Presented by Matt Brow, Vice President, Government Relations & Public Policy, US Oncology

Webinar to be held Thursday, January 7, 2010 at 1:00 PM Eastern Time.

Matt Brow will provide an overview of the latest updates from Washington, DC on Congressional efforts to enact health care reform and coverage expansion legislation and what it means for community oncology practices. Register at www.opspharmacist.com/opes

AMGEN Educational Opportunity:

A webcast specifically designed for Oncology Office Practice Managers and reimbursement personnel.

DISCUSSION TOPICS WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Update on Administration and Diagnosis Coding (including information on select Amgen products)
- Recovery Audit Contractors (RACs)
- Changes to the Final Rules for the Physician Fee Schedule and Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System
- Best Practices for clean claims submission
- Patient Assistance Programs, including the Neulasta First Step™ Copay Card Program

FEATURED SPEAKER: Thomas Gallo, Executive Director, Virginia Cancer Institute, Inc. Richmond, Virginia

Tuesday, January 12: 3:00pm; 7:00pm

Wednesday, January 13: 12:00pm; 4:00pm

To register, click the link below: OPMinfo@CommunicationPartners.com or call: 800-922-0949 ext. 3190

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP/SPONSORSHIP: (January 1 – December 31, 2010)

FLASCO Members extend a big thanks to all of our 2010 Corporate Members/Sponsors (Companies listed below have either paid 2010 dues or have submitted letters of intent)

<u>DIAMOND</u>	<u>PLATINUM</u>	<u>GOLD</u>	<u>SILVER</u>	<u>BRONZE</u>
Celgene	AMGEN	Allos Therapeutics	Genzyme	Biogen Idec
Cephalon	AstraZeneca	Genomic Health		The France Foundation
Eli Lilly	Bayer Onyx	Bristol Myers Squibb		
Genentech	Eisai, Inc.			
Sanofi-Aventis	GlaxoSmithKline			
	Pfizer			
	The Phipps Wealth Management Group			

FLASCO MEETINGS:

March 5-6, 2010 – FLASCO Spring Meeting and Annual Session – Tampa Airport Marriott Hotel

March 26, 2010 – PA/NP Conference – Miami

November 5-6, 2010 – FLASCO Fall Meeting – Miami

FLASCO CO-SPONSORED MEETINGS:

January 16, 2010 - Clinical Breakthroughs & Challenges in Hematologic Malignancies – Grand Floridian Resort – Lake Buena Vista - For more information, call (813) 745-1247 or e-mail: Melissa.Pearson@MOFFITT.org

OTHER MEETINGS/WEBCASTS

Feb 25-27, 2010 - American College of Radiation Oncology Annual Meeting – Lake Buena Vista, Fl

March 17-20, 2010 - ACCC's 36th Annual National Meeting - -Baltimore Marriott Waterfront

FLASCO Contact Info:

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