



**FLORIDA SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY FAX BLAST –April 22, 2009**

**FLASCO WEBSITE: [www.flasco.org](http://www.flasco.org)**

**FLASCO CLINICAL TRIALS NETWORK WEBSITE: [www.fctn.org](http://www.fctn.org)**

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: Gerald Robbins, MD**

**FLASCO extends a warm welcome to the following new members:**

Gregory Hale, MD	All Children's Hospital	Regular Member
Ney Alves, MD	Amit I. Shah, MD, P.A.	Regular Member
Deanna Grubbs, PA-C	Moffitt Cancer Center	Affiliate Member

**FLASCO Executive Director:**

Please note the FLASCO Executive Director will be on vacation from April 24 until Tuesday, May 5. During this time you may contact the FLASCO Assistant Jamie at: 813.349.4228.

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Jose Lutzky, MD, Chairman**

**RAC and Medicare Seminar**

The Florida Medical Association and the Orange County Medical Society are providing a RAC and Medicare Seminar at the FSU College of Medicine – Orlando Campus on Wednesday, April 29, 6 -8 pm. There will be two speakers from CMS and one from Connolly Consulting. If you are interested in attending please RSVP to: Melanie Boscan, OCMS Executive Director at: [mboscan@ocms.org](mailto:mboscan@ocms.org) or phone 407.622.8188

**CLINICAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE UPDATE: Thomas Gaddis, MD, Chairman**

A complete listing of all Drug and Industry Updates for 2009 may be found on the FLASCO website: [www.flasco.org](http://www.flasco.org), under Practice Issues, Drug Updates.

**NCCN Updates Kidney Cancer Guidelines to Incorporate FDA Approval of Everolimus**

NCCN has added everolimus (Afinitor(R), Novartis) to the NCCN Guidelines for Kidney Cancer as a recommended treatment for patients with renal cell carcinoma whose disease has progressed after treatment with kinase inhibitors. This recommendation comes on the heels of the March 30, 2009 FDA approval of everolimus based upon results of a clinical trial which showed that the therapy significantly extended progression-free survival in a specific group of patients.

**Billing and Coding Q&A (Source – ASCO)**

**Question:**

Can I bill for an intramuscular or subcutaneous injection (96372) if there is no physician supervision?

**Answer:**

The CPT manual states that the Level 1 office visit, 99211, should be reported when an intramuscular/subcutaneous injection is performed without direct supervision. Private payers may follow this coding rule; however, under Medicare rules, an intramuscular/ subcutaneous injection requires direct supervision. (This means the physician must be present in the office suite and immediately available while the service is being performed.) If there is no physician supervision, the service cannot be reported as an incident-to service.

The service may be billed by a non-physician practitioner with a Medicare billing number and it is allowed under his/her state scope of practice. If billed by a non-physician practitioner, it will be reimbursed at 85% of the Medicare fee schedule amount

## **DRUG AND INDUSTRY UPDATES:**

**Genentech, Inc. – Phase III study of Avastin®** Genentech, Inc., announced that a Phase III study of Avastin® (bevacizumab) plus chemotherapy following surgery in patients with early-stage (adjuvant) colon cancer (NSABP C-08) did not meet its primary endpoint of reducing the risk of cancer returning (improvement in disease-free survival). Results are from a planned final analysis of the study. This is the first trial of Avastin in early-stage cancer and results do not affect approved indications in advanced (metastatic) disease.

## **MEDICAID UPDATE:**

### **2009 Health Care Procedure Codes (HCPCS) and Fees**

Medicaid implementation of the 2009 Health Care Procedure Codes (HCPCS) and fees is now complete in the Florida Medicaid Management Information System. These codes will be posted and accessible on the public Web Portal under Provider Support | Fee Schedules within the next few weeks. Codes deleted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on January 1, 2009, will remain deleted and can no longer be used for billing. Deleted codes that have been given replacement codes by CMS will have a January 1, 2009, effective date. New 2009 codes designated for Medicaid coverage will also have a January 1, 2009, effective date.

Medicaid will not reprocess any claims due to delayed implementation of 2009 HCPCs and fees. Reprocessing and adjustments are based on the reimbursement rules for the dates of service that are in the Medicaid computer system on the date of processing. Therefore, any claims adjustments and reprocessing for any other reason will be based on the rules in the system at the time of the reprocessing or adjustment. Providers may resubmit any claim that may have been denied

## **CMS UPDATES:**

### **CMS Attempts to Clarify RAC Review Process of Provider Claims**

More than 1,000 participants phoned in to the April 14 open door conference call sponsored by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The topic: Recovery Audit Contractors (RACs), which CMS established to examine billing trends and patterns across Medicare by focusing on companies and individuals whose billings for Medicare services are higher than the majority of providers and suppliers in the community.

According to CMS, there will be two types of reviews: automated reviews and complex reviews. Automated reviews will use data searches to identify misalignments in coding claims and will likely generate large volumes of re-payment requests in an automated format. These automated reviews may also then generate the complex review, in which the RAC identifies a claim issue and sends a written request for medical records. The provider has 45 days to reply and then the RAC has 60 days to send in the results. The RAC can also make another request during that time, starting a fresh clock. The demand letter, as well as further discussions, takes place between the provider and the RAC. The RACs will likely handle the appeals as well.

With regard to the specifics of RAC requests to providers:

- The RAC can look backwards no more than three years from a period that begins Oct 1, 2007.
- RACs cannot accept records electronically (via EMR). They can only accept images of medical records on CDs or paper.
- There is a limit on the number of records RACs can request: Solo practice, 10 records; 2-5 docs, 20 records; 6-15 docs, 30 records; and 16+ docs, 50 records.

For further details, visit the CMS website at [www.cms.hhs.gov/RAC](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/RAC).

## **Open Door Forum – PECOS**

CMS will hold a special open door forum on April 30th, 2009 between 2:00PM and 3:30PM EST, to discuss the availability of Internet-based provider enrollment, chain and ownership system (PECOS) and the implementation of regulatory provisions. Capacity is limited so dial in early. You may begin dialing in as early as 1:45 PM. There will be an opportunity for you to ask questions following the presentation.

To participate: Dial: 1-800-837-1935 – Reference Conference ID 94109369. An audio recording of this forum will be posted to the special ODF website at: [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/OpenDoorForums/05\\_ODF\\_SpecialODF.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/OpenDoorForums/05_ODF_SpecialODF.asp) It will be available for downloading beginning Monday, May 11, 2009 and available for 30 days.

## **CMS MLM MATTERS:**

Revised:

MM6310 – Incorporation of Physician Fee Schedule Regulatory Changes into Chapter 10 of the Program Integrity Manual (PIM) <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6310.pdf>

## **ASH UPDATE:**

### **Register Now: Webinar to Assure Hematologists Receive PQRI and E-Prescribing Bonuses for Participation**

The ASH webinar "PQRI and E-Prescribing: Nuts and Bolts" has been rescheduled for Tuesday, April 28th, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. Eastern Time. This webinar will focus on the basics of how to report the 2009 hematology-related Physician Quality Reporting Initiative measures and how to complete the E-Prescribing measure. It will help ensure that practitioners follow the correct steps and receive the bonus for successful reporting.

Sylvia Publ, CMS Senior Quality Advisor, will discuss the basics of how to satisfactorily report the 2009 PQRI quality measures and to participate in the E-Prescribing program. Afterwards, there will be an opportunity to ask questions. The webinar focuses on assisting **hematologists as well as their office staff** who may benefit from a greater understanding of the PQRI and E-Prescribing process. Please contact Matt Eckel at [grassroots@hematology.org](mailto:grassroots@hematology.org) to sign up for this webinar

## **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Bristol Myers Squibb – Development in Chronic Leukemia – on demand conference**

This 24 hour a day on-demand conference features Michael J. Mauro, MD. To participate, please type in the following URL address: <http://developmentsinml.com> – please complete the registration page and when prompted, please enter the following password: **ondemand**.

**Roche** would like to extend the offer for FLASCO members to participate in an educational webcast series, updating you on current issues affecting the management of Colorectal Cancer (CRC). There is free CME course for physicians.

Information on the Webcasts as follows:

#### Educational Intervention 1

Webcast 1: Individualized Therapy for Colorectal Cancer: Ready for Prime Time?  
Available NOW!!

#### Educational Interventions 2 and 3

Webcast 2: A pre-ASCO Webcast -*Available May 2009*  
Webcast 3: A post-ASCO Webcast continuation - *Available July 2009*

#### Educational Intervention 4

Webcast 4: Performance Measures: Trying It All Together - *Available October 2009*

#### Educational Intervention 5 & 6

Webcasts: Reach the Experts Teleconference (An individualized question/answer session between learners and the experts)

#### Educational Intervention 7

Webcast: Publication and dissemination of an extensive, learner-stratified, Commitment-to-Change measured outcomes report.

**To register for these webcasts or to view the presentation, please go to [www.meddigest.com/CRC](http://www.meddigest.com/CRC)**

## **BUSINESS AND FINANCE: (Source: Phipps Wealth Management Group)**

Q Is there a way to **own** versus **rent** my malpractice insurance premium payments? I have never had an out of pocket settlement and have been paying the insurance company for years.

A Maybe. It depends on many variables but clearly is worth looking into. Please contact us if you have questions.

For additional information you may contact: 561-276-1635 Direct - 877-276-1635 Toll Free – fax: 561-922-3275 - E-mail: [jeffrey\\_phippsr@ml.com](mailto:jeffrey_phippsr@ml.com) - <http://fa.ml.com/PhippsGroup/>

## **CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP/SPONSORSHIP: (January 1 – December 31, 2009)**

FLASCO Members extend a big thanks to all of our 2009 Corporate Members/Sponsors (Companies listed below have either paid 2009 dues or have submitted letters of intent)

### **PLATINUM**

AMGEN  
Bayer/Onyx  
Cephalon Oncology  
Eli Lilly  
Oncology Supply/ION  
Sanofi-Aventis  
Celgene  
Eisai, Inc.  
Ortho Biotech  
Genentech  
GlaxoSmithKline  
The Phipps Wealth  
Management Group  
Novartis  
Astra Zeneca  
Pfizer

### **GOLD**

Abraxis Oncology  
Bristol Myers Squibb  
Genomic Health  
Wyeth  
Roche  
Millennium

### **SILVER**

OSI Pharmaceuticals  
US Oncology

### **BRONZE**

Genzyme

### **FLASCO 2009 MEETINGS:**

**October 3, 2009** – FLASCO Business of Oncology Summit - Tampa

**November 6-7, 2009** – FLASCO Fall Meeting – Tampa Airport Marriott Hotel

**March 5-6, 2010** – Location TBD

### **OTHER MEETINGS/WEBCASTS**

**May 6 and 13, 2009** - American Cancer Society/Moffitt FREE Webinar for Nursing CEUs –

Wednesday, May 6, 2009 / Noon – 1 p.m. - Why should I, as a Nurse, Talk to My Patients About Tobacco Prevention and Cessation? Wednesday, May 13, 2009 / Noon – 1 p.m. - Addressing Disparities in Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Interventions - Register by visiting [www.ahecregistration.org](http://www.ahecregistration.org) or email Susie Lloyd, CE Coordinator at Suwanee River AHEC at [slloyd@srahec.org](mailto:slloyd@srahec.org)

**FLASCO Contact Information:** Dorothy Green Phillips, Executive Director -3709W. Jetton Ave., Tampa, Florida 33629 - Tel: 800.444.1410, Ext. 4410 - Cell Phone: 813.294.2620 - Fax: 813.349-4410 or 813.349.4472  
Email: [Dorothy.Green@cancer.org](mailto:Dorothy.Green@cancer.org)