



FLORIDA SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY FAX BLAST –July 23, 2009

FLASCO WEBSITE: www.flasco.org

FLASCO CLINICAL TRIALS NETWORK WEBSITE: www.fctn.org

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: Gerald Robbins, MD

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new FLASCO members:

Thomas George, MD University of Florida Regular Membership

Mohammad Jahanzeb, MD Lynn Cancer Center – West Regular Membership

We look forward to your involvement and contribution to our state society.

DRUG AND INDUSTRY UPDATES:

FDA approves Onsolis

The FDA has approved Onsolis (fentanyl buccal soluble film, from BioDelivery Sciences International and Meda AB), formerly referred to as BEMA Fentanyl, for the management of breakthrough pain in patients ≥ 18 years of age with cancer, who are already receiving and who are tolerant to opioid therapy for their underlying persistent cancer pain. Onsolis utilizes BioDelivery's proprietary BioErodible MucoAdhesive (BEMA) drug delivery technology, which consists of a small dissolvable, polymer film for application to the buccal mucosa.

Onsolis is expected to be made available by Meda Pharmaceuticals in the fourth quarter of 2009, only through a restricted distribution program called the FOCUS (Full Ongoing Commitment to User Safety) Program and requires prescriber, pharmacy, and patient enrollment. The FOCUS program was created in accordance with the FDA's requirements to help ensure that the benefits outweigh the risks of Onsolis. The program will facilitate appropriate use of Onsolis and provide healthcare practitioners, patients, and caregivers support through training and education. For more information call (919) 582-9050 or visit www.bdsinternational.com.

FDA approves revised labelling for Erbitux in metastatic colorectal cancer (Source: First Word)

Bristol-Myers Squibb and Eli Lilly announced that the FDA approved their proposed revisions to the label of Erbitux (cetuximab) concerning patients with EGFR-expressing metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC). The prescribing information will now state that there is no evidence that the drug benefits patients with the disease who carry KRAS gene mutations, and that the product is not recommended to treat this population.

The label change was based on retrospective analyses across seven randomised clinical trials which included treatment with Erbitux or Amgen's Vectibix (panitumumab). The companies explained that results from the studies "suggest anti-EGFR monoclonal antibodies are not effective for the treatment of patients with mCRC tumours containing KRAS mutations."

The American Society of Clinical Oncology and the National Comprehensive Cancer Network recently issued recommendations that all patients with mCRC be tested for KRAS mutations prior to treatment with an anti-EGFR monoclonal antibody therapy, Eli Lilly and Bristol-Myers Squibb noted.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Erin Dunbar, MD, Chairman, Scott Tetreault, MD, Vice Chairman

H.R. 1392: Prompt Pay Legislation

FLASCO would like to acknowledge and thank the following United States Congressman for co-sponsoring HR1392:

Rep. Corrine Brown [D-FL3], Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart [R-FL21], Rep. Alcee Hastings [D-FL23],
Rep. Kendrick Meek [D-FL17], and Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz [D-FL20]

FLASCO actively supports this legislation and greatly appreciates the support of the above listed US Congressmen representing the Florida constituency.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE UPDATES:

FLASCO will be holding its 1st Annual Business of Oncology Summit on October 3, 2009, in Tampa. FLASCO has partnered with Abraxis BioScience to hold this very exciting and timely conference. Topics that will be presented by expert speakers are as follows: Financial Planning, Managed Care Contract Negotiations, Succession Planning, Clinical Pathway Development and Implementation, Utilizations and Responsibilities of the PA/ARNP, and Strategic Planning: What, Why and How.

JOIN US for this professional forum that explores what cancer care leaders are doing to achieve a future vision of successful cancer care delivery, focusing on innovative business practices, clinical integration, and patient-centric approaches to providing care. For more information on the Business of Oncology Summit or to register, please go online to www.flasco.org. The meeting announcement and registration form are available there.

MLN MATTERS UPDATES:

New:

MM6520 – Medicare Contractor Annual Update of the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM)

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6520.pdf>

PA/NP UPDATES:

12th Annual APAO Conference

The APAO National Conference is scheduled for September 10-13, 2009, in Boston. The meeting is for MidLevels and Physicians . There will be an ASCO highlights on 9/10/09. You may register on-line at: <http://www.focus-ed.net/apao/>

BUSINESS Q & A: (Source: The Phipps Wealth Management Group)

- Q. I am tired of earning next to nothing (after tax) on my savings accounts. Is there a way I can make these historically low interests rates work in my favor?
- A. Of course you are concerned...we are all. The strategy to employ is review any and all forms of borrowing you are currently committed to. Are you receiving the lowest rates possible? Remember, lenders make money on the “spread” of what they pay for money and what they charge you for it. If you would like us to help you review the debt side of your personal balance sheet, please advise.

For more information you may contact: 561-276-1635 Direct - 877-276-1635 Toll Free – fax: 561-922-3275 - E-mail: 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
Allos Therapeutics,
Inc.
ImClone

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 – FLASCO Spring Meeting and Annual Session – Tampa Airport Marriott Hotel

OTHER MEETINGS/WEBCASTS

September 10-13, 2009 APAO Annual meeting in Boston

September 22-25, 2009 - ACCC's 26th National Oncology Economics Conference - - Hyatt Regency Minneapolis on Nicollet Mall, 1300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55403 - 612.370.1234

October 6-7, 2009 ASCO Electronic Health Records Symposium - Harnessing the EHR: *From Incentives to Sustainability*- San Francisco Marriott Hotel - to register: www.asco.org/ehrsymposium

Nov 1-5, 2009 – ASTRO's Annual Meeting - Chicago

November 13 - 15, 2009 - Oncology Nursing Society Fall (ONS) – Tampa

December 5-8, 2009 – ASH Annual Meeting – Ernest N, Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA

December 10 - 13, 2009 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium (SABCS) San Antonio, TX

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

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