



**FLORIDA SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY**  
**FLASCO BLAST –October 1, 2009**  
**FLASCO WEBSITE: [www.flasco.org](http://www.flasco.org)**  
**FLASCO CLINICAL TRIALS NETWORK WEBSITE: [www.fctn.org](http://www.fctn.org)**

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE UPDATES: Jose Lutzy, MD, Chairman**

**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, PA-C for agreeing to serve as Co-Chairmen of the Workgroup to plan this Conference.

**DRUG & INDUSTRY UPDATES:**

**Pralatrexate injection (FOLOTYN™, Allos Therapeutics, Inc)**

On September 24, 2009, the Office of Oncology Drug Products granted accelerated approval to pralatrexate injection (FOLOTYN™, Allos Therapeutics, Inc.) for the treatment of patients with relapsed or refractory peripheral T-cell lymphoma (PTCL). This approval was based on an overall objective response rate observed in a single-arm trial. As a condition of the accelerated approval, randomized, controlled trials are required post-approval to verify and describe the clinical benefit of pralatrexate in PTCL.

Full prescribing information, including clinical trial information, safety, dosing, drug-drug interactions and contraindications is available at [http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda\\_docs/label/2009/022468lbl.pdf](http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2009/022468lbl.pdf)

**FCSO UPDATES:**

**September 2009 Medicare B Update**

**Modified:** 9/30/2009 **Business:** Part B **Location:** FL, PR, USVI

This publication includes information on the October update of the Medicare physician fee schedule database, coverage and reimbursement of the H1N1, and release of the revised CMS-855 Medicare enrollment applications.

[http://medicare.fcso.com/Publications\\_B/index.asp?lob=Part%20B&loburl=/Landing/135985.asp](http://medicare.fcso.com/Publications_B/index.asp?lob=Part%20B&loburl=/Landing/135985.asp)

**2010 ICD-9 CM Changes**

The 2010 update to the ICD-9-CM diagnosis coding structure is effective October 1, 2009. Updated diagnosis codes must be used for all services billed **on or after October 1, 2009**. Physicians, practitioners, and suppliers must bill using the diagnosis code that is valid for that date of service. Carriers will no longer be able to accept discontinued diagnosis codes for dates of service after the date on which the diagnosis code is discontinued. First Coast Service Options Inc. (FCSO) has reviewed all local coverage determinations (LCDs) for procedure codes with specific diagnosis criteria that are affected by the 2010 ICD-9-CM update. The table on the following pages lists the LCDs affected and the specific conditions revised as a result of the 2010 ICD-9-CM update:

Listed on FCSO website are the 2010 ICD-9CM changes effective on or after October 1, 2009  
([http://medicare.fcso.com/Coverage\\_News/156866.asp](http://medicare.fcso.com/Coverage_News/156866.asp))

For Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents, ESAs (J0881 & J0885) Added diagnosis codes 285.3, 209.31-209.36, and 209.70-209.79 for procedure code J0881 and J0885 with an EA modifier. This will require a dual diagnosis (285.3 and one of the malignancy codes listed in List 2 of LCD 29168 must be billed together).

**ADDED CODES FOR ESA USING AN EA MODIFIER**

285.3 - Anemia Due To Chemotherapy

209.31 - 209.36 - Merkel Cell Carcinoma, Specified Site

209.75 - Merkel Cell Carcinoma, Unknown Primary Site  
209.70 - 209.79 - Secondary Neuroendocrine Tumor

## **ASCO UPDATES:**

### **Assess and Improve Care in Your Hematology-Oncology Practice**

ASCO's Quality Oncology Practice Initiative (QOPI<sup>®</sup>) is designed to promote excellence in cancer care by helping oncologists create a culture of self-examination and improvement. ASCO is now offering the **QOPI Certification Program** to recognize QOPI participants who achieve rigorous standards for cancer care. The *QOPI Certification* designation can be used by certified practices to demonstrate an advanced commitment to quality. For more information or to register, go to [qopi.asco.org](http://qopi.asco.org).

### **Highlights from the September 2009 issue**

The new issue of *Journal of Oncology Practice*, the authoritative resource for oncology practices, can now be read online. The September 2009 issue carries a special series on The Cost of Cancer Care and includes reports from the ASCO Task Force on the subject and from ASCO's Clinical Practice Committee. Also in this issue are:

- original research reports on oncology practices' response to rising supply costs and decreasing reimbursements,
- chemotherapy in community-based practices,
- practical tips on billing for multiple injections, and
- strategies for work-life balance.

Read these articles and more by using your free FLASCO-arranged access to: <http://jop.ascopubs.org>

ASCO would really like to have input on how you utilize this journal – it will be greatly appreciated if you will please respond to the following four questions. Replies may be sent directly to: [Paul.Privitera@ASCO.org](mailto:Paul.Privitera@ASCO.org) or to the FLASCO office at [Dorothy.Green@cancer.org](mailto:Dorothy.Green@cancer.org)

1. How frequently have you accessed the JOP website?
2. What content did you find particularly useful?
3. Who else did you share the content with?
4. What would make the site more valuable for you?

### **Cancer Doctors and Nurses Release Comprehensive Safety Standards for Chemotherapy Administration To Ensure Quality Care For Cancer Patients**

In a major step toward ensuring high-quality care for people with cancer, ASCO and ONS are releasing the first-ever national standards for safe administration of chemotherapy drugs.

<http://www.asco.org/ASCOv2/Press+Center/Latest+News+Releases/General+News+Releases/Cancer+Doctors+and+Nurses+Release+Comprehensive+Safety+Standards+for+Chemotherapy+Administration+To+Ensure+Quality+Care+For+Cancer+Patients>

## **FLORIDA MEDICAID:**

### **Fall 2009 Medicaid Provider Bulletin**

Florida Medicaid recently published the Fall 2009 Medicaid Provider Bulletin. The bulletin contains policy clarification and important Florida Medicaid information.

To view the bulletin, please visit <http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid> and click on "Fall 2009 Medicaid Provider Bulletin" under the "What is occurring in Medicaid?" heading.

## **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY:**

### **CME PROGRAM**

New Directions in Cancer Treatment: Targeted Therapies  
October 17 -- 8am-4pm  
Hyatt Regency Bonaventure -- Weston FL

There is no cost for this event, and it includes a stellar faculty from Emory, Mass General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Sloan-Kettering, National Cancer Institute and more. The link above contains the full agenda and faculty list, and FLASCO Members can easily register either online or via phone at (203) 840-5562.

### **Teleconference: Healthcare Reform September 2009**

Centocor Ortho Biotech Inc. is pleased to invite you and your colleagues to participate in an informational teleconference entitled "Healthcare Reform: September 2009." The goals of this session will be to provide an overview of the healthcare reform debates happening in Congress this fall. The discussion will include an overview of certain healthcare reform proposals, including:

- Insurance coverage expansions, including the debate over the public plan;
- Comparative effectiveness research;
- Changes to the sustainable growth rate formula;
- Delivery system reforms, including accountable care organizations and medical homes; and
- How Congress plans to pay for healthcare reform.

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

Teleconference Schedule

Date	Time (Eastern time)
September 28	12:00 pm
September 29	9:00 am
September 30	3:00 pm

Date	Time (Eastern time)
October 1	8:00 pm
October 2	11:30 am
October 5	5:00 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.

### **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

#### **GOLD**

Abraxis Oncology  
Bristol Myers Squibb  
Genomic Health  
Wyeth  
Roche  
Millennium  
Allos Therapeutics, Inc.  
ImClone

#### **SILVER**

OSI Pharmaceuticals  
US Oncology

#### **BRONZE**

Genzyme

Management Group  
Novartis  
Astra Zeneca  
Pfizer

**FLASCO 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

**March 26, 2010** – PA/NP Conference – 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](mailto:Melissa.Pearson@MOFFITT.org)

**OTHER MEETINGS/WEBCASTS**

**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](http://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 – For more information: <http://hematology.org/meetings/2009/index.cfm>

**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

**FLASCO Contact Info:**

Dorothy Green Phillips, Executive Director - Phone: 1.813.349.4410 – [Dorothy.Green@cancer.org](mailto:Dorothy.Green@cancer.org)