

Legacy of Upskilling: Building the Future of Oncology Care

OLALEKAN AJAYI, PHARMD, MBA



As I conclude my term as ACCC president, I cannot help but reflect on the journey we've undertaken together, a journey dedicated to one crucial mission: building a future-proof

oncology workforce.

Cancer care is on the cusp of a revolution. New technologies like precision medicine, immunotherapy, and artificial intelligence are transforming how we diagnose, treat, and manage cancer. However, these advancements are only as effective as the people who wield them. That's where workforce development and upskilling come in, and that has been the cornerstone of my presidential theme.

We began with a simple yet powerful premise: the future of oncology care lies in the hands of a skilled, adaptable, and passionate workforce. We recognized the need to equip our professionals with the knowledge and tools to navigate the ever-evolving landscape of cancer research and treatment.

Our efforts have taken many forms. We launched comprehensive training programs focused on emerging technologies and evidence-based practices. We championed the development of specialized certifications to recognize and reward expertise in specific areas. We fostered collaborations with academic institutions to create seamless pathways for new talent to enter the field.

But our work was not limited to technical skills. We understood the importance of soft skills like communication, collaboration, and cultural competency. We invested in leadership training programs to empower our professionals to navigate complex situations and inspire their teams. We promoted mentorship programs to foster knowledge transfer and create a supportive network for all.

The results have been inspiring. We've seen a surge in participation in our training programs, with professionals eager to embrace new knowledge and skills. We've witnessed improved patient outcomes as our workforce adopts


cutting-edge practices. And perhaps most importantly, we've fostered a culture of continuous learning and innovation within our organization.

However, our work is far from over. The landscape of oncology care continues to evolve at a rapid pace, demanding even greater adaptability and agility from our workforce. As I pass the torch to the next president, I urge you to continue building on the foundation we've laid.

Here are some key areas for continued focus:

- **Embrace personalized learning:** Develop tailored training programs that cater to individual learning styles and career aspirations.
- **Invest in digital learning platforms:** Leverage technology to make learning accessible, engaging, and readily available.
- **Promote lifelong learning:** Cultivate a culture where continuous learning is valued and encouraged.
- **Prioritize diversity and inclusion:** Ensure that our workforce reflects the communities we serve and that everyone has equal access to opportunities for growth.
- **Collaborate with industry partners:** Partner with pharmaceutical companies, technology providers, and other stakeholders to develop innovative training solutions.

We are building a future of oncology care that rests in the hands of a workforce that is not just skilled, but exceptional. A workforce that is ready to tackle the challenges of tomorrow and deliver hope and healing to patients everywhere.

I am proud to have served as your president and to have played a role in shaping this legacy. Let's continue to work together, build upon our successes, and ensure that the future of oncology care is brighter than ever. Remember, the future is not something that happens to us; it's something we create. Let's create a future where every patient has access to the best possible care, delivered by the most skilled and compassionate professionals. 

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