

ACCC Pivots to Provide COVID-19 Information and Resources

BY RANDALL A. OYER, MD



COVID-19 has brought an unexpected, unwelcome, and unwanted disruption to oncology care, as it has to every other facet of life. ACCC has met this unprecedented

pandemic, however, with its characteristic “how to” approach.

Very soon after ACCC members began to report in with their experiences and to reach out for help, ACCC staff and member volunteers began to produce a series of high-level programs designed to share experience among the membership, to survey members about challenges they are facing, and to provide strategies and helpful evidence-based information where this exists.

ACCC's COVID-19 Resources (acc-cancer.org/COVID-19) is a landing webpage that offers thoughtfully curated information, including:

- A series of 30-minute, moderated, and member-driven webcasts on a broad range of topics such as Financial Assistance Amid COVID-19; Telehealth Billing and Coding; Clinical Trials Amid COVID-19; Managing COVID-Positive Patients in the Clinic; Planning Your COVID-19 Testing Strategy; and more.
- A series of mini-podcasts (less than 10 minutes in length) on topics like Urban Cancer Care During COVID-19; COVID-19 & Rural Cancer Care; Drive-Thru COVID-19 Screening; COVID-19 Conversations with Patients; COVID-19 Self-Care; and more.
- A blog series, including Creating a Safe Workplace During COVID-19; Immunotherapy Trials Amid COVID-19; Patient Financial Toxicity as a Result of the Pandemic; and more.
- Evidence-based COVID-19 information and resources from professional associations (i.e., ASCO, ASHP, ASTRO, ONS, etc.) and government organizations (i.e., CDC, CMS, FDA, NIH, etc.).


- Medicare and Medicaid pandemic-related coverage and payment updates.
- Peer resources.

With all the challenges that we have individually and collectively faced, it behooves us to take a moment and recognize all of the extraordinary work done by our teams, and all of YOU! In oncology practices, cancer centers, hospitals, and other health-care settings all over the world, multidisciplinary oncology teams have transcended difficulties, demonstrated tremendous bravery and skill, and continued to provide life-saving therapies in a severely constrained and at times dangerous environment. We must all share the pride that we can do this—and do it well! It is nothing short of extraordinary.

We were not ready for this virus, but we were (and remain) ready to face any new problem together. We have done hard work together before and we have what it takes. Our cancer care teams share the absolute commitment that our patients always come first and that we will do whatever it takes to care for them.

We work tirelessly across disciplines and specialties to share information, collaborate on getting the job done, and support each other through thick and thin. Think about all that we have accomplished in the past few months! We have learned very quickly about a new disease and how to care for its victims. We have learned how to keep our patients and staff safe in a very risky environment. And we have rapidly integrated new tools into our daily workflow.

I think going forward that there will be some good that comes of everything that we have been through together. I, for one, am going to remember how ACCC was able to quickly pivot and became a trusted source of COVID-19 resources and beacon to my program and to many others as we navigated the uncharted territory of this global pandemic together.

Thank you for being our ACCC colleague and member. Please continue to care for one another and for yourselves. 

Coming in Your 2020 ONCOLOGY ISSUES

- ▶ Developing a Model of Risk Modification for Breast Cancer Using Integrative Oncology
- ▶ Optimizing Provider Access in the Rural Healthcare Setting by Utilizing a Physician-Advanced Practice Provider Model
- ▶ Built to Care: Cancer Centers for the Future
- ▶ The Role of Nurse Practitioners in Clinical Research
- ▶ Cybersecurity in Oncology Practices
- ▶ Management of Hospital Admissions for Checkpoint Inhibitor Immune-Related Adverse Events at a Regional Cancer Center
- ▶ Medication Transitions in Hematologic Malignancy Patients at a Safety Net Hospital
- ▶ An Investigation of Self-Determined Work Motivation Among Young Adult Central Nervous System Cancer Survivors
- ▶ Leveraging a 3D Lung Nodule Educational Tool to Reduce Patient Distress
- ▶ Utilizing Technology to Identify Patient Co-morbidities and Reduce Hospital and ED Admissions
- ▶ Onboarding Experienced Non-oncology Nurses to Address Staffing Shortages: Miami Cancer Institute's Oncology Training Academy
- ▶ Improve Oral Oncolytic Workflow and Reduce Treatment Delays with a Pharmacist Collaborative Practice Agreement