



**FLORIDA SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY FAX BLAST –January 15, 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 FLASCO PRESIDENT: Robert Cassell, MD**

**ASTRAZENECA** has renewed it's Platinum Corporate Membership with FLASCO! Thank you so much for your continued support of our society!

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Rogério Lilenbaum, MD, Chairman**

**Save the date for Highlights of ASH®**

This year one of the Highlights of ASH is taking place in Miami, FL, on February 6-7, 2009. The following is a direct link to the Highlights information on the ASH Web site: <http://hematology.org/meetings/highlights/index.cfm#2>  
The FLASCO member code is FLH09 – FLASCO special registration fee - \$110. Let's have a good showing of attendees from FLASCO! Early registration discount **ends December 31, 2008**. REGISTER TODAY

**Save the date for FLASCO Annual Meeting & Spring Session:**

**The 2009 FLASCO Annual Meeting and Spring Session will be held on February 27 and 28, 2009, at the Marriott Sawgrass Resort near Jacksonville. The President of ASCO and the CEO of ASCO will both speak at the dinner on Friday, February 27. Please mark your calendars to attend this meeting. A meeting announcement and registration form has been mailed to all FLASCO members.**

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

**Florida Department of Health:**

The department began issuing the Health Care Clinic Establishment (HCCE) permits this week. This permit authorizes the purchase of prescription drugs by a professional corporation or professional limited liability company. It also authorizes the purchase of prescription drugs by corporations that employ veterinarians. Health care practitioners or veterinarians who are personally purchasing prescription drugs through the use of their professional license number need not apply. The Health Care Clinic Establishment applicant listing is available by visiting:

1. Go to [www.flhealthsource.com](http://www.flhealthsource.com)
2. Click on the "Citizen/Consumer" button
3. Click on "Download Data Files"
4. Go to the bottom of the page and click on "Health Care Clinic Establishments"
5. Click on the "Health Care Clinic Establishments Applicant Listing"

This downloaded file contains a listing of applicants that are applying for the HCCE permit and have NOT yet been issued a permit.

For additional information, please visit [www.doh.state.fl.us/pharmacy](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/pharmacy) or you may call us at (850) 488-0595 or (850) 245-4227. We are committed to providing prompt and reliable information and processing your application as quickly as possible

**FLASCO CANCER TRIALS NETWORK UPDATE: Randal Henderson, MD, Chairman**

FCTN added 2 new sites at the end of 2008, Gainesville Hematology Oncology Associates, **Lucio Gordan, MD**, Principal Investigator, and Ocala Oncology Center, **Craig Reynolds, MD**, Principal Investigator. We welcome these new members.

Pfizer A1021016 is now active and the first patient was enrolled January 7, 2009 by Dr. **Waseem Khan at Cancer Care of North Florida**. Congratulations to Dr. Khan and his research staff for entering the first patient on an FCTN study.

A4021016 is for first line treatment of chemotherapy-naive patients with locally advanced (Stage IIIB with pleural effusion) or metastatic (Stage IV or recurrent) Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) with a primary tumor histology of squamous cell, large cell or adenosquamous carcinoma (non-adenocarcinoma histology). Patients are randomized to standard platinum-based doublet chemotherapy consisting of paclitaxel and carboplatin plus or minus CP-751,871 administered in 3-week cycles for a maximum of 6 cycles. CP-751,871 is a fully human monoclonal antibody against the insulin-like growth factor 1 receptor (IGF-1R).

Other sites participating in this study are:

Florida Cancer Institute  
Gerald Robbins, MD, Principal Investigator

Florida Hospital Cancer Institute,  
Lee Zehngbot, MD, Principal Investigator

Lakeland Regional Cancer Center  
Madhavi L. Venigalla, MD, Principal Investigator

### **FCSO UPDATES:**

#### **IMPORTANT NEWS RE: BILLING FOR ESAs AND 'EC' MODIFIER**

Because of issues related to the appropriate use of the EC modifier, the FCSO system had edits in place that were causing claims to deny if THE DETAIL LINE CONTAINING THE EC MODIFIER ALSO CONTAINED A CANCER DIAGNOSIS. The EC modifier indicates a non-cancer diagnosis such as MDS (238.7....) and requires a dual diagnosis (ex. 285.29 and 238.72)

This was causing a problem with patients who needed to see the physician in follow up for their cancer or those receiving treatment on the same day as an ESA administration.

SO.....Should the physician need to see the patient in follow up of their cancer and also receive an ESA on the same day OR should the patient receive chemotherapy and an ESA on the same day, you will need to make certain THE DIAGNOSIS ON THE DETAIL LINE CONTAINING THE EC MODIFIER DOES NOT ALSO LIST A CANCER DIAGNOSIS.

#### **System 'dark day' for Part B providers in Florida**

Effective February 2, 2009, First Coast Service Options (FCSO) will transition to its new role as the Jurisdiction 9 A/B Medicare Administrative Contractor (J9 A/B MAC) for the Florida Part B segment. To transfer the workload successfully, FCSO will impose a system dark day on Monday, February 2, 2009.

A dark day is a business day during the cutover period when the Medicare claims processing system is not available for normal business operations. On this dark day, claim information cannot be provided, nor will claims be processed. Since the dark day affects both internal and external use, the customer contact center and the interactive voice response (IVR) system not be available as well. Providers may continue to submit electronic media claims as usual, however. FCSO will begin its first day of normal business operations as the J9 A/B MAC for Florida Part B providers on Tuesday, February 3, 2009.

#### **Medicare Part A to begin creating daily payments**

**Great news for providers, clearinghouses and billing services** – First Coast Service Options Inc. (FCSO) will implement changes to the financial cycle that will improve timeliness of your payments and cash flow. Currently, Part A providers receive Medicare payments on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Effective Monday, February 16, 2009, providers will receive Medicare payments each business day, excluding holidays.

##### **Providers**

- Receive payments each business day
- Access electronic remittance advices on a daily basis

##### **Clearinghouse/Billing Service impacts**

- Provide remittance advice files to your customers on a daily basis

## **MEDLEARN MATTERS:**

### **New:**

**MM6349** – Summary of Policies in the 2009 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) and the Telehealth Originating Site Facility Fee Payment Amount <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6349.pdf>

**MM6245** – End Stage Renal Dialysis (ESRD) Medicare Claims Processing Manual Clarification  
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6245.pdf>

### **Revised:**

**MM6070** – Calendar Year (CY) 2009 Annual Update for Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule and Laboratory Services Subject to Reasonable Charge Payment.  
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6070.pdf>

**SE0822** – Clarification of Medicare Payment for Routine Costs in a Clinical Trial  
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0822.pdf>

## **ASCO UPDATE:**

ASCO invites you and your practice staff to participate in a national audioconference - Adapting to Changes in Medicare for 2009

**Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> – 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM (EST)**

### **Discussion topics will include:**

- **Overview of Medicare's 2009 Physician Fee Schedule**
- **Overview of Medicare's 2009 Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System**
- **Review of 2009 PQRI Program and oncology-specific measures**
- **E-prescribing**
- **Oncology coding update**

### **To Register & Access this Call:**

- 1) Go to <https://jsp.premiereglobal.com/webrsvp/index.html>
- 2) Click on link above and enter the code: 5349957
- 3) Create a new profile and enter the requested information.
- 4) Dial-in details will be available after entry. (An e-mail with the dial-in will be sent automatically unless box is unchecked.)
- 5) On the call date, access conference using the provided dial-in details.
- 6) Provide operator with Confirmation Code: 5349957

**Please Note:** Call materials will be sent via e-mail on/around Wednesday, January 21. If you are unable to participate on this live call, a replay will occur and background materials will be available on ASCO's website.

**Registration Deadline: 12:00 PM ET Wednesday, January 21**

## **COA UPDATE:**

Patrick Cobb, MD, a practicing medical oncologist from Billings, Montana, has been elected to serve as President of COA. In addition to Dr. Cobb, the following individuals were elected by the COA Board to serve as officers - Congratulations to FLASCO member, Dr. Scott Tetreault.

- Dave Eagle, MD, Vice President (North Carolina)
- Robert Hermann, MD, Secretary (Georgia)
- Ricky Newton, CPA, Treasurer (Virginia)

- Mark Thompson, MD, Officer at Large (Ohio)
- Lance Miller, MD, Officer at Large (Oklahoma)
- Scott Tetreault, MD, Officer at Large (Florida)

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

**Q What can I do with my “jumbo” (\$417,000 plus) mortgage that is currently at a non competitive rate? I know interest rates, in general, are almost historically low and would like to capitalize on them...jumbos seem to be immune from this.**

**A Jumbos are a world into themselves. Many FLASCO members own these and are concerned. Similar to your patients, no two FLASCO members are entirely alike.**

**Our best answer is to contact us and describe your situation. Hopefully, we can help, by using the combined resources of Bank of America and Merrill Lynch.**

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

**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:**

Genomic Health, Inc. sponsored Interactive Web Conferences

Oncotype Dx Post San Antonio Breast Conference Data Review

Call in number for all: 1-888-504-7949

January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 3PM EST Pass code 9135429

Meeting URL: <http://web.envisioncomm.net/OncotypeDX/Jan22.htm>

Tech support 1 888 569 3848 - To pre register 1 866 984 5114

**CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP/SPONSORSHIP: (January 1 – December 31, 2008)**

FLASCO Members extends a big thanks to all of our 2008 Corporate Members/Sponsors

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**FLASCO 2009 MEETINGS:**

**February 27 & 28, 2009** – FLASCO Spring Meeting – Marriott Sawgrass – Jacksonville

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

**FLASCO EVENTS:**

**FLASCO is co-sponsoring the following three Events:**

**(1) January 17-18, 2009** –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)**

**(2) February 6 & 7, 2009** – Highlights of ASH – Miami - <http://hematology.org/meetings/highlights/index.cfm#2>.  
The FLASCO member code is FLH09

**(3) March 20, 2009** – Statewide PA & NP Conference, Moffitt Cancer Center – Tampa

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Email: [Dorothy.Green@cancer.org](mailto:Dorothy.Green@cancer.org)