



FLORIDA SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY FAX BLAST – April 10, 2008

MESSAGE FROM FLASCO PRESIDENT: Robert Cassell, MD

Dr. Jeffrey Bubis, our Liaison to ACCC, and our FLASCO Executive Director attended the recent ACCC Annual Meeting in Baltimore. Congratulations to ACCC on an outstanding meeting. Ernest R. Anderson, Jr., MS, RPh, became President of the Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC) at its 34th Annual Meeting last week. He is the first Pharmacist to serve as President.

The FLASCO Executive Director also attended and represented FLASCO at the AOHA Annual Meeting in Orlando, which immediately followed ACCC. Nancy Payne from Orlando, who is a FLASCO Affiliate Member, will go in as President in October.

As President, I attended a reception on Sunday night which was hosted by FLASCO for all Florida attendees and their guests. This was a great networking opportunity for FLASCO.

CLINICAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE: Thomas Gaddis, MD, Chairman

JW Modifier:

FCSO has advised that as of this time they are **not requiring the use of the JW modifier**. If providers report drug wastage on a separate line and append the JW modifier, that line will be denied as a duplicate. **A med learn matters article will be posted within the next 30 days.**

Meeting with First Coast Service Options (Florida Medicate)

The next joint meeting with FCSO will be held in May. You are encouraged to submit potential agenda items for this meeting to our FLASCO Executive Director by tomorrow - **April 11**

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE: Erin Dunbar, MD, Chairman

An update on the legislation regarding the Administration of Injection Drugs in Clinics:

The HB 7049 passed the House (115 Yeas / 0 Nays) on Wednesday, 02April08. The "preferred" language of HB 7049 was "transferred" to SB 2756 thus creating what is referred to as a CS (Committee Substitute) for SB 2756.

The SB2756 is currently in committees in the Senate. The bottom line is that with the CS for SB 2756, the two versions (HB and SB) are very close together and, unless there is some major amendment to the Senate version (that would send the bill back to the House) it is likely to continue on its present course and stop next at the Senate Judiciary Committee (not scheduled yet). The general sense is that the SB will eventually pass, as well.

For this Legislation regarding the Administration of Injection Drugs in Clinics (HB 7409/SB2756), there continue to be numerous "potential" issues with language/definition specifics. However, FLASCO is being informed by advocates & legal representatives that the current SB2756 is at least adequate (and much improved from its original content) for our needs.

FLASCO members provided a letter, email, and phone call campaign. In addition, members of FLASCO's legislative committee represented oncologists & patients at the State Capitol, the Department of Health, and in other critical meetings. Initial feedback from senators, representatives and others involved report that our advocacy was both well-received and effective.

The Members of FLASCO's legislative committee will continue to work closely with the FMA, ASCO, OMF, and numerous involved industry-representatives to contribute towards the optimal final language/definitions contained in the SB. If new concerns over specific language/definitions arise, FLASCO members may again be called upon to act.

Future Legislation - During this legislative session, several potentially-important oncology-related issues have already emerged as legislative targets in future legislative sessions, including the role of "clean rooms" in practices, etc.. Members of the FLASCO legislative committee are already working with the FMA, ASCO, OMF, and numerous involved industry-representatives on necessary actions. FLASCO members will be updated at upcoming meetings and asked to participate.

Lastly, it is ever-apparent to **FLASCO** that critical inaccuracies and omissions result when oncologists are absent in the legislative process. Consistent & robust oncologist representation in the legislative process **ALL YEAR-ROUND is the MOST POWERFUL** advocacy tool. I strongly urge every FLASCO member to regularly communicate with your district senate/house representatives, including electronic correspondence and consider inviting them into your practice. Instructions for finding your state legislators: <http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/> for representatives and <http://www.flsenate.gov> <<http://www.flsenate.gov/>> for senators. On the left will be a window, enter your zip code, and members addresses and phone numbers for their Tallahassee Capitol and district offices will appear.

FCSO UPDATES:

IV Emend

First Coast Service Options (FCSO) will cover IV EMEND if it is medically necessary and reasonable. Claims currently, will receive individual consideration. If documentation/medical literature submitted supports that the administration of EMEND intravenously, is medically reasonable and necessary it will be allowed.

Would be interested in seeing literature which supports giving of EMEND IV as medically necessary. I was unable to find any such literature. If you know of any literature, please e-mail it to the FLASCO Executive Director.

Webcast to demonstrate how best to utilize the Florida Medicare Web site

Learn how you can best leverage floridamedicare.com to assist you in your day-to-day functions around the Medicare program during a webcast April 10 from 5-6 p.m. The webcast will show you:

- how to best use the site's search engine
- an overview of the redesigned news and bulletins sections for both Part A and Part B
- how to use the interactive physician and Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASC) fee schedules
- and how to use the LCD lookup sections

Please follow this path to register for the webcast. Registration is limited to the first 50 who register, based on a first-come, first- served basis: <https://fcsowebex.com/fcso/j.php?ED=100190932&RG=1>

Service Included in the Monthly Capitation Payment

Last Modified: 4/1/2008 - Separate payment may be made for medically necessary services that are included or bundled into the MCP when furnished by physicians other than the monthly capitation payment physician. [Pub 100-04, Chapter 8, Section 140A] http://www.floridamedicare.com/Part_B/Billing_and_Coverage/124292.asp

The Outpatient Maintenance Dialysis - End-Stage Renal Disease Fact Sheet, which provides general information about outpatient maintenance dialysis for End-Stage Renal Disease, the composite payment rate system, and separately billable items and services, is now available in downloadable format from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid **Services Medicare Learning Network** at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/ESRDpaymtfctsht08-508.pdf> .

ABN Form Revisions

Beginning Monday, March 3, 2008, providers (including independent laboratories), physicians, practitioners, and suppliers may use the revised ABN for all situations where Medicare payment is expected to be denied. The revised ABN replaces the existing ABN-G (Form CMS-R-131G), ABN-L (Form CMS-R-131L), and NEMB (Form CMS-20007). CMS will allow a 6-month transition period from the date of implementation for use of the revised form and instructions. Thus, all providers and suppliers must begin using the revised ABN (CMS-R-131) no later than September 1, 2008. http://www.cms.hhs.gov/BNI/02_ABNGABNL.asp#TopOfPage

LOOKUP TOOL: FCSO 2008 Physician Fee Schedule - Part A & Part B

Last Modified: 4/4/2008 - Fee information for 2008 for nearly all Medicare-covered procedure codes. Select from a set of code lists, scroll to the code desired, press the "query fee" button, and the applicable fee(s) will be returned. http://www.floridamedicare.com/Part_B/Fee_Schedules/116556.asp

Announcing the Release of the Revised CMS-855 Medicare Enrollment Applications Part A & Part B

Last Modified: 4/4/2008 - Providers should begin to use the new CMS-855 (02/08) Medicare enrollment applications immediately. With the exception of providers enrolling as a specialty hospital on the CMS-855A, the 2006 CMS-855 version will be accepted through June 2008. [SE0810]

April Update to the 2008 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database – Part B

Last Modified: 4/4/2008 - This article is based on CR 5980, which amends payment files previously issued to Medicare contractors based upon the 2008 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule. CR 5980 also includes new/revised codes for the PQRI. [CR 5980] http://www.floridamedicare.com/Part_B/Fee_Schedules/

Part A Remittance Advice Issue –April 8, 2008

As a result of NPI changes installed in the April release, an issue has been identified with the Part A remittance advice. The issue causes the remittance advice to be split into two segments:

- One remittance will contain the legacy number and summary information
- The subsequent remittance will have NPI and detail information

The problem **does not** affect payment amounts. The issue is being researched to determine a resolution. As soon as more information becomes available, an update will be provided.

CMS UPDATES:

The **Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule Fact Sheet**, which provides general information about the Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule, coverage of clinical laboratory services, and how payment rates are set, is now available in downloadable format from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services **Medicare Learning Network** at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/clinical_lab_fee_schedule_fact_sheet.pdf .

HCPCS Code Modifications:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services is pleased to announce the scheduled release of modifications to the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code set. These changes have been posted to the HCPCS website at www.cms.hhs.gov/HCPCSReleaseCodeSets/02_HCPCS_Quarterly_Update.asp . Changes are effective on the date indicated on the update.

The **Outpatient Maintenance Dialysis - End-Stage Renal Disease Fact Sheet**, which provides general information about outpatient maintenance dialysis for End-Stage Renal Disease, the composite payment rate system, and separately billable items and services, is now available in downloadable format from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services **Medicare Learning Network** at (<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/ESRDpaymtfctsh08-508.pdf>)

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

Roche is offering the following free educational oportunities

1 – Oral Chemotherapy - from ECCO 14

William J. Gradishar, MD - Breast Cancer
John L. Marshall, MD - Colorectal Cancer

This is available until December 2008; 1 AMA PRA Category 1 credit for physicians, 1 contact hour for nurses and 1 contact hour for pharmacists.

2 - Breast Cancer - from 2007 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium

William J. Gradishar, MD
Maura N. Dickler, MD

This is available until February 2009; 1 AMA PRA Category 1 credit for physicians, 1 contact hour for nurses and 1 contact hour for pharmacists.

They are both available at: www.freeCME.com/UpToDate.

DISCLAIMER: FLASCO has not reviewed this program and “any views presented are not the views of FLASCO”

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 EVENTS:

August 8-9, 2008 – FLASCO Executive Committee Retreat – Location TBD

November 7-8, 2008 – FLASCO Fall Meeting – Tampa Airport Marriott Hotel

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OTHER EVENTS:

May 30 – June 4, 2008 – ASCO Annual Meeting - Chicago

September 17-20, 2008 – ACCC 25th National Oncology Economic Conference – San Francisco, California

September 19-20, 2008 - Annual ASCO/ASH/SGO Meeting of the Hematology/Oncology CAC Network

December 6-9, 2008 – ASH Annual meeting – San Francisco

February 5-8, 2009 - Florida Joint Cancer Conference – Orlando

February 26-28, 2009 – ASCO - GU Symposium, Orlando World Center Marriott

March 22-24.2009 - 2009 AOHA Assembly Conference – Los Angeles, California