FLASCO 2017 a Year in Review with Corporate Support

The Florida Society of Clinical Oncology is excited to say that 2017 was another great year of growth. Your support is vital to FLASCO’s success as it enables us to accomplish more than ever as we strive to reach our mission.

FLASCO Mission Statement:

The Florida Society of Clinical Oncology is a statewide non-profit organization committed to facilitating and promoting multidisciplinary efforts to improve patient care in Florida by:

- fostering access to quality cancer care to the citizens of Florida;
- assisting the cancer practitioners in providing the most cost effective quality care for their patients;
- acting as an advocate for Florida cancer patients and their families; and
- coordinating the dissemination of information and providing an opportunity for oncologists, physicians, and other health care professionals to network and exchange information.

The FLASCO Membership Initiative continues to grow at a record pace. Our membership numbers have increased by 18% over last year and the organization now has over 2,800 members. Some of the state’s largest academic centers, community oncology practices and hospital based clinics have committed to the 100% Membership Initiative and show further support for FLASCO by encouraging their oncology focused - healthcare providers to become members. The 100% membership list includes:

- Broward Health
- Cancer Care Centers of Brevard
- Cancer Center at Larkin
- Cancer Specialists of North Florida
- Cleveland Clinic Florida
- Florida Cancer Specialists & Research Institute
- Florida Hospital Gynecologic Oncology
- Holy Cross Hospital, Michael and Dianne Bienes Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Lynn Cancer Institute
- Memorial Cancer Institute
- Mid Florida Hematology and Oncology
- Moffitt Cancer Center
- Oncology and Hematology Associates of West Broward
- Premier Hematology and Oncology
- Suncoast Cancer Institute
- Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Miami
- University of Florida Health Cancer Center
- University of Florida Cancer Center, Orlando Health
- Winter Haven Hospital Cassidy Cancer Center

Through your support, FLASCO is able to provide five needed educational conferences throughout the year that offer continuing education credits at a reduced or at no charge to members:

- FLASCO Puerto Rico Business of Oncology Conference
- The FLASCO Great Strides Together Conference (PA/NP Conference)
- The FLASCO Business of Oncology Conference
- The FLASCO Spring Session
- The FLASCO Fall Session
The 2017 FLASCO Fall Session includes a Pharmacy, Multi-Disciplinary, Nursing/Patient Navigation and Administrator track. The subject of Pathology has been included in the Multi-Disciplinary track to further serve our diverse membership.

FLASCO members also receive discounted registration fees to attend co-sponsored meetings. FLASCO demonstrates the significance to support our practices by co-sponsoring several meetings including the 12th Annual Clinical Breakthroughs & Challenges in Hematologic Malignancies Conference, 13th Annual Miami Cancer Meeting, Blood Cancer Conference, Annual International Symposium on Melanoma and Other Cutaneous Malignancies, Rhinehart Reception, current Perspectives in Oncology Nursing, AfPA Oncology Therapy Access Working Group, Annual International Congress on Hematologic Malignancies, COEDs, Acute Myeloid Leukemia Rounds, 8th Annual Oncology Symposium, Annual Miami Breast Conference, Current Concepts Advanced Practice Professionals Conference, Annual Miami Lung Conference, the Florida Hospital Best of ASCO®, the Memorial Cancer Institute Best of ASCO®, and the Annual New Orleans Summer Cancer Meeting. Through these meetings and others, FLASCO is continuing to build a strong relationship with other organizations/societies in Florida such as the Physicians’ Education Resources, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and The Medical Educator Consortium, etc.

The FLASCO mission is to assist the practitioners in bringing the best care to the cancer patients of Florida. An initiative that many of our members feel strongly about is patient advocacy. Combining the efforts of the pharmaceutical company, the patient liaison, and the physician, FLASCO assists by organizing meetings that bring vital information to cancer patients and their caregivers throughout the state of Florida.

The FLASCO Clinical Practice Committee has been exceedingly active in 2017, by assisting our member practices with reimbursement issues, and by leveraging our relationships with all of the payers in Florida to urge them to consider including new drugs, new drug indications and diagnostic tests in their reimbursement policies.

FLASCO does not make direct lobbying efforts, but does sign onto letters and connect our members to speak as a unified voice. The FLASCO Legislative Committee has attempted to address many issues both on the State and Federal Level, including the following:

- Step Therapy/Fail First
- CY 2018 Proposed Rule for the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule - Biosimilars
- Mary Brogan Breast & Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program Funding
- Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB), a provision of the PPACA
- CMS Medicare Part B Drug Payment Model

Your support is essential to the continuation of the FLASCO mission to provide services to oncology communities throughout Florida. We are confident that you will find value and see many successes as a result of your membership with FLASCO. I look forward to hearing from you as we continue building our relationship through your 2018 Corporate Membership renewal. Please let me know if I can be of assistance to you and do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions.