ASCO Endorses ESMO Guideline on Care for People at Risk for Hereditary Colorectal Cancer Syndromes

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ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) today issued an endorsement of the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) guideline on prevention, screening, genetics, treatment, and management for people at risk for hereditary colorectal cancer (CRC) syndromes. The ASCO endorsement was published today in the Journal of Clinical Oncology.

The ESMO guideline, which was based on a systematic review of relevant medical literature, recommends screening for hereditary CRC syndrome for every patient at the time of CRC diagnosis. A diagnosis of Lynch syndrome, Familial Adenomatous Polyposis (FAP), or another genetic syndrome (e.g. Attenuated Familial Adenomatous Polyposis (AFAP), MUTYH-associated Polyposis (MAP), and Familial Colorectal Cancer Type X) can influence clinical management for patients with CRC and their family members. Screening for hereditary cancer syndromes in patients with CRC should include review of personal and family history and testing of tumors for DNA mismatch repair deficiency and/or microsatellite instability. Formal genetic evaluation is recommended for individuals who meet defined criteria. Specific surveillance recommendations are provided for each of the hereditary CRC syndromes—Lynch syndrome, FAP, and AFAP.

An ASCO guideline endorsement panel determined that the guideline recommendations by Balmana, et. al., published in 2013 in the Annals of Oncology, are clear, thorough, and based on the most relevant scientific evidence. ASCO’s endorsement panel added a few minor qualifying statements.

Information for patients about colorectal cancer is available at Cancer.Net. The guideline endorsement is available in the Guidelines section.
ASCO encourages feedback on its guidelines from oncologists, practitioners and patients through the ASCO Guidelines Wiki.

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**About ASCO:**

Founded in 1964, the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) is the world’s leading professional organization representing physicians who care for people with cancer. With nearly 40,000 members, ASCO is committed to improving cancer care through scientific meetings, educational programs and peer-reviewed journals. ASCO is supported by its affiliate organization, the Conquer Cancer Foundation, which funds groundbreaking research and programs that make a tangible difference in the lives of people with cancer. For ASCO information and resources, visit asco.org. Patient-oriented cancer information is available at Cancer.Net.