Debra A. Patt, MD, MPH, MBA, Named Editor-in-Chief of ASCO’s New Journal, JCO Clinical Cancer Informatics

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ALEXANDRIA, Va. – Debra A. Patt, MD, MPH, MBA, has been named editor-in-chief of the new JCO Clinical Cancer Informatics (JCO CCI), a publication of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO).

Dr. Patt will oversee the development and production of each issue of JCO CCI, the most recent addition to the family of journals published by ASCO, including the Journal of Clinical Oncology, Journal of Oncology Practice, and Journal of Global Oncology. Defined by the American Medical Informatics Association, “biomedical informatics (BMI) is the interdisciplinary field that studies and pursues the effective uses of biomedical data, information, and knowledge for scientific inquiry, problem solving and decision making, motivated by efforts to improve human health.”[1]

JCO CCI will be a peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary journal publishing clinically relevant research covering policy, healthcare services delivery, and clinical insights based on biomedical informatics methods and processes applied to cancer-related data.

“We are pleased to have Dr. Patt overseeing this new ASCO journal which is focused on one of the most promising new fields in health care,” said ASCO Chief Executive Officer Allen S. Lichter, MD, FASCO. “Her unique qualifications and expertise make her the ideal physician editor to take this journal from a concept to a world-class publication.”

Dr. Patt, who specializes in medical oncology and hematology, is Vice President, Texas Oncology and Medical Director of outcomes research and the pathways task force for The US Oncology Network. She was formerly Medical Director of Healthcare Informatics for McKesson Specialty Health. Her primary research interests are in health services research, health economics outcomes research, and health policy. Her subject-matter expertise in the field of clinical
informatics was most recently showcased at the national level when she presented on “Using Electronic Health Records to Improve the Quality of Cancer Care” at the Value-Based Oncology Management workshop in October 2015.

“I am very excited to lead this new journal and develop it into a world class platform for research and ideas that can advance the field of clinical informatics,” Dr. Patt said. “It’s a thrilling time to be in this field, since its influence and potential are increasing exponentially as biomedical informatics becomes more integrated into all aspects of health care. Understanding this growing wealth of informatics capabilities and applying them to patient care in oncology is something that will help us all improve oncology care.”

In addition to original research, JCO CCI will publish reviews, editorials, and commentaries, reporting on biomedical informatics studies relevant to cancer treatment, care delivery, outcomes, and prevention. The publication also seeks papers that advance the development, interpretation, and clinical application of cancer informatics research. The first issue of the journal is scheduled to be published later this year.

[1] https://www.amia.org/biomedical-informatics-core-competencies

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 ground-breaking research and programs that make a tangible difference in the lives of people with cancer. For ASCO information and resources, visit www.asco.org. Patient-oriented cancer information is available at www.cancer.net.

About the JCO Clinical Cancer Informatics

The JCO Clinical Cancer Informatics (JCO CCI) is a publication of the American Society of Clinical Oncology. JCO CCI is a peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary journal publishing clinically actionable research and important new clinical hypotheses based on biomedical informatics methods and processes applied to cancer-related electronic health record, registry, clinical trial, and omics data and information. JCO CCI is editorially independent from Journal of Clinical Oncology (JCO).