ASCOC’s Top Ten List for MACRA Implementation in 2017

1. Pick Your Pace in 2017. Test the program and submit a minimum amount of data to avoid a 2019 penalty; OR report some data for at least 90 days; OR report full data for at least 90 days. If you do not report at all, you will receive a 4% penalty in 2019.

2. Test the program. If you choose to test the program in 2017, report more than the minimum required number of measures to improve your chances of successful reporting. And use the end of 2017 – July to December – to practice full reporting for 2018.

3. Explore the quality measures on the Quality Payment Program (QPP) website. Identify which measures best fit your practice. Many of the measures in the General Oncology Measure Set are included in ASCO’s Quality Oncology Practice Initiative (QOPI®) program.

4. Check that your electronic health record (EHR) is certified by the Office of the National Coordinator. It must meet the 2015 certification standards by 2018; for 2017, you may use an EHR certified to either 2014 or 2015 standards. And remember that you must perform a security analysis to pass the Advancing Care Information (ACI) requirements in 2017.

5. Review the Improvement Activities on the QPP website. See which activities best fit your practice. QOPI participation and QOPI certification activities will prepare you to meet these requirements.

6. Obtain your Quality and Resource Use Reports (QRUR). While cost is not included in the scoring in 2017, it is being measured and will be reported in the QRUR. It will be included in the scoring beginning in 2018 so be prepared.

7. Ensure data accuracy. Review your QRUR and ensure that the data is correct. It is also important to review the National Provider Identifier (NPI) for each provider in your practice and ensure they are accurate with the correct specialty, address, and group affiliation.

8. Consider using a qualified clinical data registry (QCDR) to extract and submit your quality data. The QOPI Reporting Registry, currently in development, will be your one-stop shop for quality reporting and attestation for ACI and Improvement Activities.

9. Evaluate your payer relationships and begin discussions with commercial payers about value-based reimbursement and alternative payment models. Identify your top two or three commercial payers and initiate discussions with them about value-based care. Introduce them to ASCO’s Patient-Centered Oncology Payment (PCOP) model – we are happy to help.

10. Prepare your practice and staff for value-based care. Does your staff understand the changes that are coming? Is your practice culturally prepared for the shift to value-based payment models? Are you employing elements of an oncology medical home including pathway utilization and ER and hospitalization avoidance? ASCO COME HOME provides consulting services to help practices transform for new reporting and payment models.

Avail yourself of ASCO resources. Check ASCO’s website, www.asco.org/macra, regularly for news, resources and tools for your practice. Contact macra@asco.org with questions.