Challenges in Oncology Today

- Rapidly changing knowledge base-25 new drugs or indications/yr
- New classes of drugs with new benefits and toxicities
- "Fake News"--many sources of information much of which is not based in science
- Challenges in "old treatments"--opioid crisis, transition from infusional drugs to oral drugs with insurance complexities
- The hazard of "success" in transforming many incurable diseases into chronic illnesses
- Managing expectations in the world of social media
- The increasing burden on the families of patients battling cancer
The ASCO State/Regional Affiliate Program goals:

- Strengthen the local organizations
- Improve policies and procedures
- Enhance educational activities
- Provide support for their members
- Assist in membership recruitment, etc.
ASCO and NNECOS Share Three Goals

Goal 1: Quality and Access to care

Goal 2: Sustainable Practice

Goal 3: Promote Federally Funded Oncology Research
ASCO State Advocacy Issues in 2019

- **Opioid Therapy**
  - Anticipate continued high volume of opioid prescribing bills

- **Medicaid Waivers**
  - ASCO weighing in on Section 1115 waivers regarding work requirements and coverage lockouts

- **Pharmacy Benefit Managers**
  - ASCO monitoring and responding to increase in PBM related legislation and its role in oncology care

- **Oral Chemotherapy Parity**
  - Active involvement in Michigan, North Carolina, Tennessee and Idaho campaigns. Seven states remain without laws
Additional Issues to Watch

ASCO is continuing to track other important legislation in the states including:

- Tobacco Control and Cessation
- Fertility preservation
- Clinical Pathways
- Safe Handling of Hazardous Drugs
- Prior Authorization
- Step Therapy
- Short-Term Health Plans
What’s Happening in ME, VT, and NH?

- Tobacco Purchase Age to 21
  - VT: H.27 in Health and Human Services Committee
  - NH: SB 248 in Commerce Committee
- Fertility Preservation
  - NH: SB 279 in Commerce Committee
  - VT: H. 253 in Committee on Health Care
- Pharmacy Benefit Managers
  - NH: HB 671 on PBM business practice, licensure, and transparency
- Medicaid Section 1115 Waivers with Work Requirements
  - NH: Approved work requirements in November 2018
  - ME: Approved work requirements in December 2018
- Opioid Therapy
  - ME: LD 500 to extend limitation on prescribing opioids for chronic pain
  - NH: HB 638 requiring providers to provide opioid disclosure form to patients
How ASCO Monitors State Legislation

- Track bills by issue using tracking software
- Identify bills we **support, oppose, find important** to monitor, or want to amend
- Allows ASCO staff to follow real-time legislation updates
- Reach out to partner with State Affiliates
Partnering NNECOS and ASCO

- Identify any topics/issues affecting you as an oncology professional
- Stay on top of what’s happening at your local state house
- Reach out! ASCO partners directly with you as members through your SAC executive director
  - Director of Federal and State Legislative Affairs Jennifer.Brunelle@asco.org
  - Specialist, State Advocacy Allison.Rollins@asco.org
  - Administrator, State Advocacy Katherine.Flannigan@asco.org
- NNECOS and ASCO can provide the following
  - Legislative analysis
  - Comment letters
  - Testimony
  - State ACT Network Alerts: https://asco.quorum.us/action_center/
  - Policymaker (Governor, Medicaid Director) meetings
  - Tweets, media statements, op-eds
State Advocacy Tools & Resources

- State Advocacy ASCO.org page
  - State legislative session calendar
  - State by state cancer fact sheets
- Toolkits available on wide variety of state issues that may include:
  - Policy statements and briefs
  - FAQ’s or model legislation
- ACT Network Website
  - See legislation ASCO tracks in your state at ASCO.org/ACTNetwork
  - Make your voice heard and quickly send messages to your state legislators
NNECOS and You!

- NNECOS welcomes involvement from all participants
- This meeting and the annual meeting rely on input from many disciplines and new volunteers are needed, welcome and encouraged!
- This is a great opportunity to meet colleagues from the region
- The planning committees NEED multidisciplinary input
- If interested, please talk to or email any Board Member or Lori Aubrey at laubrey@nnecos.org
- Thanks for participating!