ACRO Achievements 2020

ACRO’s mission is to support Radiation Oncology professionals by providing opportunities for career development and practice improvement to enhance patient care.

In 2020, ACRO launched a new strategic plan that focused on:

- Representing our specialty in Washington D.C.
- Education & networking tailored to our specialty.
- Growing ACRO membership.
- Building a robust accreditation program.

REPRESENTING OUR SPECIALTY IN WASHINGTON D.C.

- **Advance Payment Models:**
  - ✓ Successfully advocated for a delay of Radiation Therapy-APM until Jan. 1, 2022
  - ✓ Conducted and published an analysis of RT-APM Final Rule for members.
  - ✓ Held September webinar on RT-APM.
- **Physician Fee Schedule:**
  - ✓ Conducted analysis on Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule.
  - ✓ Successfully achieved relief for the proposed cuts to Radiation Oncology due to the new Evaluation and Management code changes and conversion factor (CF) cuts.
- **Hospital Outpatient PPS Proposed Rule:**
  - ✓ Conducted analysis on Hospital Outpatient with PPS Proposed Rule.
- **Physician Supervision—Conducted a call to CMS to ask for:**
  - ✓ Reinstatement of direct supervision in the OPD setting with limited exceptions for general supervision.
  - ✓ Supervision parity between OPD and office.
- **ACRO Insights—Drafted ACRO Insights articles on:**
  - ✓ Role of Medicare Administrative Contractors.
  - ✓ Billing Differences of Treatment Modalities for Skin Cancer Diagnosis.
  - ✓ The Role of Nonphysician Practitioners in Radiation Oncology.
- **Prior Authorization/BCBS:**
  - ✓ Sent letters to select BCBS companies in various states raising concerns with prior authorization for radiation therapy.
  - ✓ Held July conference call with Anthem to discuss prior authorization concerns.
- **COVID-19:**
  - ✓ Conducted GREC member survey to provide input on new CMS codes for COVID-19 pandemic billing.
- **AMA Letters:**
  - ✓ Signed various AMA letters in support of physician relief relative to COVID-19 pandemic.
  - ✓ Signed AMA letter objecting to conversion factor cuts in the 2021 PFS Proposed Rule.
- **Launched an active ACRO PAC effort.**
**EDUCATION & NETWORKING**
**TARGETED TO OUR SPECIALTY**

- Held a national meeting in Florida with 15 SAMS credits/22 CME credits and 378 paid attendees featuring clinical content specific to our specialty and networking opportunities for our members.
- Hosted webinars throughout 2020 on the following topics:
  - Integrating Social Media into Practice.
  - TTF for Mesothelioma.
  - Business Development in Radiation Oncology.
  - Personal Finances.
  - Financial Toxicity and Cancer Treatment in America.
  - What is a Global Radiation Oncologist? Incorporating Global Health into a Radiation Oncology Career.
  - Applying to Radiation Oncology.
  - Financial Literacy.
  - Financial Toxicity.
- Facilitated networking and relationships between residents-attendings, medical students-residents and medical students-attendings with 36 mentor-mentee pairs (up from 18 in 2019).
- Worked to move the 2021 Annual Meeting to a virtual platform.

**GROWING**
**ACRO MEMBERSHIP**

- 1,352 ACRO members.

**Dues Paying Members**

**Non-dues Paying Members**

- Fellows
- Regular
- New Practitioners
- Federal
- Early Career
- Retired
- Associates
- Residents
- Students
The ACRO Accreditation Program maintains high-quality standards and remains a highly regarded and competitive accrediting program with 232 practices nationally either accredited or in the process of accreditation.

ACRO Accreditation Program began offering both a 3- and 4-year accreditation cycle.

The Manual for ACRO Accreditation contains the most up-to-date standards for the accreditation program. The Manual was updated and published in February 2020 and includes updated standards, new software information, and new pricing information. An annual update is planned for July 2021.

The program will soon launch a collaboration to offer an additional “distinction in radiosurgery” as part of ACRO Accreditation.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, ACRO Accreditation recognized the essential need to continue to offer radiation therapy with the highest quality standards for the care of cancer patients, shifting the program to offer virtual site visits for the both the physics and administrative reviews bringing the entire process on-line.

CONGRATULATIONS ON A GREAT YEAR!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING YOU IN 2021.

THANK YOU!