

Please save the dates and register for these upcoming events:

- [CLP Virtual Meeting: Wednesday, September 10, 4:30 to 5:30 pm CT](#)
- [State Chair/CLP Accreditation Office Hour on Operative Standards: September 25, 4:30 to 5:30 pm CT](#)
- [CoC Plenary Session: Saturday, October 4, 1:30 to 5:30 pm CT, Chicago, IL](#)

The following are a few recent updates that I hope you'll find useful in your role as the CLP for your program.

#### **CoC Releases New Smoking Cessation Standard**

Based on the success of its Just Ask and Beyond Ask quality improvement projects, the Commission on Cancer (CoC) has developed [Standard 5.9: Smoking Cessation for Patients with Cancer](#). An updated version of the CoC accreditation standards, [Optimal Resources for Cancer Care \(2020 Standards\)](#), will be released this fall and will include Standard 5.9.

Additional resources regarding Standard 5.9 are available:

- The Standards Resource Library, accessible via the Resources page in QPort, includes a Frequently Asked Questions document, an implementation packet, and an Electronic Health Records guidance video.
- On October 28 at 3:00 pm CT, the CoC will host the webinar [CoC: Smoking Cessation Standard](#). Presenters will review the evidence for the standard and provide an overview of compliance requirements.

Questions on Standard 5.9 should be submitted to the [CAnswer Forum](#).

#### **Revisions Announced for Standard 4.2: Oncology Nursing Credentials**

Beginning January 1, 2026, the revised version of CoC [Standard 4.2: Oncology Nursing Credentials](#), will feature streamlined documentation and compliance requirements. Cancer programs must demonstrate compliance with the revised standard by assessing oncology nursing continuing education and competency for all nurses providing direct oncology care.

#### **Updated Requirements for Annual Report to Cancer Committee**

The CoC is providing clarification regarding requirements for annual reports that must be presented to the cancer committee and documented in the meeting minutes. [Read more](#).

#### **Alternative Pathway for Standard 9.1 Compliance**

The CoC and National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers, recognizing that accredited programs are struggling to accrue required percentages of patients to participate in clinical research, are offering an alternative pathway for Standard 9.1: Clinical Research Accrual compliance for activity from 2025 through 2028. [Read more](#).

#### **NCDB Update**

- The National Cancer Database (NCDB) has added one new primary site for Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary (HPB) cancer and five new quality measures. Three of these quality measures relate to the new HPB primary site, one is for the primary site of breast, and one is for head and neck.
- The CoC has retired the quality measure for patients undergoing breast-conserving surgery without adjuvant chemo or immunotherapy for stage I-III breast cancer.

- The CoC has released the quality performance benchmarks for the four quality measures that must be reviewed with a program's cancer committee as part of Standard 7.1 compliance, starting with calendar year 2025.
- Details are available on the [CoC website](#).

### **QI Coaching Calls**

Join a small group of accredited programs and quality improvement (QI) experts for upcoming QI coaching calls. These sessions feature feedback on current initiatives, ideas for future projects, and a review of tools available to your program. Registration will be limited to approximately 20 people at a time, and if a session fills up your name will be kept on the list for future calls. Please complete [this survey](#) and you will be sent a registration link. You can also email questions or QI project ideas ahead of time to [cancerqi@facs.org](mailto:cancerqi@facs.org).

### **Resources for CoC-Pediatric Specialty Accreditation**

The CoC offers resources on the [Quality Portal](#) Resources page to assist programs planning to pursue CoC-Pediatric Specialty Accreditation, including frequently asked questions, guidelines, and site visit instructions. A CoC-accredited site is eligible for this status if it provides care to children and adolescents under the age of 18 and offers a full range of diagnostic and therapeutic services for pediatric patients either onsite or by referral. Please contact [coc@facs.org](mailto:coc@facs.org) if you would like to discuss the eligibility of your program.

### **2025 ACS Cancer Conference and Workshop Recordings**

Recordings from the [2025 ACS Cancer Conference: Harnessing the Power of Collaboration](#) and the [National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers](#) and [National Accreditation Program for Rectal Cancer](#) workshops in Phoenix, Arizona, are now available. If you prepaid for the recordings, you have been enrolled in the course for which you prepaid. If you were unable to attend the workshops, register now and earn Continuing Education credits. For questions regarding the workshops and conference, contact [CancerProgramsEvents@facs.org](mailto:CancerProgramsEvents@facs.org).