Commission on Cancer
Cancer Liaison Physicians Meeting
October 17, 2023
CoC Cancer Liaison Physicians Meeting

Quyen Chu, MD, FACS
Chair
Committee on Cancer Liaison

Maria Castaldi, MD, FACS
Vice-Chair
Committee on Cancer Liaison
Webinar Logistics

• All participants are muted during the webinar

• Questions – including technical issues you may be experiencing – should be submitted through the question pane

• Questions will be answered as time permits; additional questions and answers will be posted on the website

• Please complete the post-webinar evaluation you will receive via email
2023 CLP Outstanding Performance Award Winners

Steven Curley, MD, FACS
Northeast Texas Cancer and Research Institute
Tyler, TX

Janet K. Ihde, MD, FACS
Comprehensive Cancer Center at Desert Regional Medical Center
Palm Springs, CA

Adam Lackey, MD
Jersey City Medical Center
Jersey City, NJ
2023 CLP Outstanding Performance Award Winners

M. Ellen Mahoney, MD, FACS
Providence St. Joseph Eureka
Eureka, CA

Marc Mandel, MD, FACS
Overlook Medical Center
Summit, NJ

Andrew D. Nish, MD
Iowa Methodist Medical Center (UnityPoint Health- John Stoddard Cancer Center)
Des Moines, IA
2023 CLP Outstanding Performance Award Winners

Jaspreet Singh, DO
Premier Medical Group
Newburgh, NY

Mark Sundermeyer, MD
CMH/OHSU Knight Cancer Collaborative
Astoria, OR

Lori Vanyo, MD, FACS
Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center
Pomona, CA

Kenneth C. Wang
Baltimore VA Medical Center
Baltimore, MD
CoC Update

- Annual CLP Survey Closes October 31
- CoC Fall Meetings
  - October 22, Boston MA
- 2024 ACS Cancer Conference
  - February 22-24, Austin TX
CoC Operative Standards Updates

CSSP Education Committee
Chair: Mediget Teshome, MD MPH FACS
Vice-Chair: Timothy Vreeland, MD FACS
Presenter: Anthony Villano, MD, FACS

CoC Cancer Liaison Physicians Meeting
10.17.2023
## The CoC Operative Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Disease Site</th>
<th>Procedure</th>
<th>Documentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>Breast</td>
<td>Sentinel node biopsy</td>
<td>Operative report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>Breast</td>
<td>Axillary dissection</td>
<td>Operative report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>Melanoma</td>
<td>Wide local excision</td>
<td>Operative report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>Colon</td>
<td>Colectomy (any)</td>
<td>Operative report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>Rectum</td>
<td>Mid/low resection (TME)</td>
<td>Pathology report (CAP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>Lung</td>
<td>Lung resection (any)</td>
<td>Pathology report (CAP)</td>
</tr>
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</table>
## Compliance levels for 5.3-5.8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visit Year</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Materials Assessed</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2023</strong></td>
<td>5.3-5.6</td>
<td>Implementation plan for Standards 5.3-5.6</td>
<td>Plan documented in 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>7 rectal pathology reports from 2021-2022</td>
<td>80% compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>7 lung pathology reports from 2021-2022</td>
<td>80% compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2024</strong></td>
<td>5.3-5.6</td>
<td>Implementation plan for Standards 5.3-5.6 7 operative reports, per standard, from 2023</td>
<td>70% compliance</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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</table>
Opportunities for Improvement and Lessons Learned from Prior Site Visits Standards 5.7 and 5.8
Opportunities for Improvement Identified During Site Visits

Standard 5.7 (Total Mesorectal Excision)

• Facilities not using most recent version of CAP report (missing TME completeness)
• Incomplete excision of the mesorectum
• Location and evaluation of mesorectum missing
• Pathology reports did not address the intactness of mesorectum
Opportunities for Improvement Identified During Site Visits

Standard 5.8 (Pulmonary Resection)

- Failure of surgeons to remove/identify required nodal stations
- Inadequate number of nodes from required stations (either no nodes removed, or fewer stations than required for mediastinal and/or hilar nodes)
- Stations not listed in pulmonary resection synoptic pathology reports
- Nodes grouped rather than named by site
- Information included not in synoptic format
- Nodes from mediastinoscopy were not documented in same pathology report as the curative resection
Lessons Learned

Strategies for achieving compliance with Standards 5.7 and 5.8

• Performing internal audits in preparation for the site visit
• Education, awareness, communication with surgeons/pathologists (share CSSP resources, STS webinar, etc.)
• Ensure thoracic and colorectal representation at tumor board
• Use most recent versions of CAP reports
• Create an internal review process to track reports
• Provide a checklist and pre-labeled specimen cups in OR to use and remind surgeons of the need for mediastinal sampling and TME completeness as necessary
Survey Results
2022 CTR/CPA Survey on Implementation of CoC Operative Standards: Overview

• Survey of registrars and administrators at cancer programs designed to:
  • Provide insight on the awareness of the CoC Operative Standards
  • Understand the experiences of registrars and administrators with the implementation of the CoC Operative Standards
  • Understand engagement with other stakeholders (CLPs, IT staff, etc.) for implementation

• Survey open 10/6/22-10/21/22
2022 CTR/CPA Survey on Implementation of CoC Operative Standards: Results

- 305 Respondents
- 44% of respondents were part of a hospital network
- 50% of respondents indicated that their CLP is a surgeon
- 55% of respondents identified as CTRs and 30% as cancer program administrators
- 65% of respondents were due for a site visit in 2023 or 2024
- Programs visited in 2022 felt prepared with the surgical standards
  - More programs (38%) felt the need to act to improve Standard 5.8 (both documentation and technical aspects), which may correlate with 5.8 survey deficiencies
- 82% of respondents were involved in the implementation of SORs at their facility
2022 CTR/CPA Survey on Implementation of CoC Operative Standards: Summary

• About 30% of programs were still working on an implementation plan at the time of the survey (fall 2022)
• 23% of respondents indicated either no engagement or unknown engagement of the IT team at their facility
• About 70% of CLPs were engaged with implementation of the standards
2022 CTR/CPA Survey on implementation of CoC Operative Standards: Conclusions

• Access to implementation resources and physician champions are helpful
• Cancer registrars and cancer program administrators are highly involved in implementation of required synoptic elements in operative reports
Resources and Events
Recently Released Resources

Resources to help CoC programs prepare for site visits:
• Editorial on CoC Operative Standards 5.3 and 5.4
• Editorial on CoC Operative Standard 5.5
• Video on CoC Operative Standard 5.5: Requirements & Best Practices
• Video on CoC Operative Standard 5.6: Requirements & Best Practices
• CoC Standard 5.7 flyer and CoC Standard 5.8 flyer detail the technical and compliance requirements.
Operative Standards Toolkit

All resources can be found on the Operative Standards Toolkit, organized by topic

This toolkit includes resources to assist with the implementation of the six Commission on Cancer (CoC) Operative Standards in the Optimal Resources for Cancer Care (2020 Standards). Standards S.3 through S.8. Resources are organized by category or standard. CoC-accredited programs should share these resources with their staff to increase awareness and understanding of these accreditation standards. Please send any questions to cssp@facs.org.
Technical Standards for Breast Cancer Surgery Webinar 9/12/23

Technical Standards for Breast Cancer Surgery: Utilizing Operative Standards in a Changing Clinical Landscape

• Broadcasted on September 12, 2023

• The webinar discussed evidence-based operative standards for the performance of partial mastectomy, total mastectomy, axillary lymphadenectomy, and sentinel lymphadenectomy as outlined in the *Operative Standards for Cancer Surgery (OSCS) Volume 1*. The speakers reviewed the rationale supporting these recommendations. The discussion included insights into the clinical management of breast cancer and applicable controversies.

• The course can be taken on the [ACS Learning Management System](https://www.facs.org) for retroactive CME
ACS Clinical Congress: Ask the Experts Session

• Dr. Timothy Vreeland, MD, FACS will be hosting an *Ask the Experts* session at Clinical Congress 2023
• 11:30am-12:30pm ET
• Please note that this session includes a registration fee since lunch is served
• Register [here](#)
Standard 5.8 Quality Improvement Project

• Coming in 2024

• The Standard 5.8 QI project will support CoC programs struggling to achieve compliance with Standard 5.8 using the CSSP Operative Standards Toolkit resources
Thank you, CoC & Cancer Liaison Physicians!

Questions?

cssp@facs.org

Quick Links:
Operative Standards Toolkit
CoC 2020 Operative Standards
CAnswer Forum
Vision: End cancer as we know it, for everyone.

Mission: Improve the lives of people with cancer and their families through advocacy, research, and patient support, to ensure everyone has an opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer.
Elizabeth Holtsclaw
Elizabeth.Holtsclaw@cancer.org
Director, Payor and National Partnerships

Suncerria Tillis
Suncerria.Tillis@cancer.org
Sr. Director, Payor and National Partnerships
We provide expert-level, patient-centric assistance to solve important problems across the cancer continuum for:
Person-centered support across the cancer continuum

The American Cancer Society: Patient Support Pillar

Cross-continuum work:
- Health equity
- Global health
- Caregivers

Prevention
Early Detection
Treatment Support
Research Support
Palliative care & symptom management
Survivorship
End-of-life care and bereavement
Every journey. Every step. Every day.

Partnering with 200 health systems and health plans nationwide to increase cancer screening and HPV vaccination.

Information, resources, and support through ACS CARES navigation program.

More than $6M investment focused on advancing high-quality cancer care through capacity building and support of oncology patient navigation.

Advocating for high-quality, affordable health care for everyone, including closing the Medicaid coverage gap, through our American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network®.

Collaboration with community partners and health systems to identify and address disparities in prevention, screening, diagnosing, and treating cancer.

Free rides to treatment through our Road To Recovery® program and transportation grants.

24/7 access to answers and hope via cancer.org and our free helpline at 1-800-227-2345.

Free nights of lodging for people with cancer and their caregivers traveling for treatment.

Online Cancer Survivors Network®: a supportive online community for nearly one million people affected by cancer type.

Educating and advocating for healthy lifestyles and environments, including promotion of regular screening, and trusted source of screening recommendations for health care professionals.

Peer-to-peer support from breast cancer survivors through our Reach To Recovery® support program.

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The American Cancer Society: Patient Support Pillar

What no other organization could do

1.48 million Lives touched (-cancer.org)

141,539 Recipients of patient programs/services

24,000 Hope Lodge guests

41,000 Rides to treatment

220,000 NCIC callers/chats

1.29 million CSN participants

1,471 partner organizations engaged in ACS initiatives

Total lives touched in 2022: 50.8 million
ACS and CoC Collaboration

- Content shared during CLP calls, through CLP emails and digital newsletters
- State chair pairing with ACS state-based staff
- To come—further clarification on ACS engagement with CoC facilities
I Love You Get Screened

Regular cancer screening can save your life.
Screening tests can detect cancer before it starts or catch cancer early, when it may be easier to treat. Many tests are available for free or covered by insurance.

Learn more at cancer.org/getscreened

I Love You Get Screened

Love is an action. Get screened.
Make cancer screening a regular part of your life. Screening tests are used before a person has any symptoms to help find cancer early, when it may be easier to treat.

Print, social media, digital and information on our website

https://www.cancer.org/cancer/screening/get-screened.html regular
Second Annual National Lung Cancer Screening Day ("National LCS Day")
on Saturday, November 11, 2023
https://nlcrt.org/lung-cancer-screening-day

Please Join Us

The American Cancer Society National Lung Cancer Roundtable (ACS NLCRT), American College of Radiology (ACR), and Radiology Health Equity Coalition (RHEC) have partnered once again for the second annual National Lung Cancer Screening Day ("National LCS Day") on Saturday, November 11, 2023. As part of Lung Cancer Awareness Month and in partnership with the ACR and the RHEC, we are promoting this lifesaving event to screen more individuals and raise awareness about lung cancer screening. The President's Cancer Panel recommends lung cancer screening as the single most effective strategy for reducing mortality from the disease and closing the gap to improve health equity and access. To achieve this goal, the President's Cancer Panel has charged individuals, health systems, and communities with communicating and promoting lung cancer screening.

Sign Up Here to Support Lung Cancer Screening Day

Locate a Lung Cancer Screening Facility Near You
Providing Virtual Services When and Where You Need Them

The American Cancer Society's online programs ensure you can access information and resources anytime, from anywhere. To learn more, scan the QR codes below.

A Personalized Support System
If you or someone you love has been diagnosed with cancer, deciding what's next can be overwhelming. The American Cancer Society can help through ACS CARES™ (Community Access to Resources, Education, and Support), a new patient navigation support program that connects people with quality curated information and one-on-one support.

To learn more, download the ACS CARES™ app from Google Play or the App Store.

Get Peer Support Online
The Cancer Survivors Network® (CSN) is an online community for cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers. CSN is available 24/7 for members who support one another, share their personal experiences, and offer practical tips for dealing with the side effects of cancer and its treatment.

Visit csn.cancer.org to learn more.

You Don’t Have to Face Breast Cancer Alone
Through the Reach To Recovery® website and mobile app, people facing breast cancer can be matched with a trained volunteer who has experienced a similar type of breast cancer, stage, and treatment. Connect one-on-one with your volunteer through online chat or a phone call at a time that is convenient for you.

Visit reach.cancer.org or download the ACS Reach app on Google Play or the App Store.

Stay Connected
Caring Bridge®, an American Cancer Society partner, is a free online tool that helps people dealing with illnesses like cancer stay in touch with their friends, family members, and support network by creating their own personal page where they share their journey and health updates.

Visit caringbridge.org to learn more.

Love Your Look, Every Day
Everyone’s cancer journey is different, but everyone affected by cancer deserves to feel good about the way they look. That’s why the “It’s Our Right to Look Good” program makes hard-to-find items like wigs, hats, and mastectomy bras easy to order from the comfort of your home.

To learn more and order products, visit itcdirect.org, or call 1-800-850-9445.

cancer.org | 1.800.227.2345

Resources
Quick Guide to American Cancer Society Resources

The American Cancer Society (ACS) offers support in your community and online at every step of your cancer journey. Below are just some of the resources we provide. Visit cancer.org or call us at 1-800-227-2345 for more information.

24/7 CANCER HELPLINE

The American Cancer Society helpline provides 24/7 support by connecting you with trained cancer information specialists who can provide guidance and help find answers through phone, video calls, and online live chat.

- **Cancer Information Specialists:** Our trained staff are available to provide guidance and help find answers through phone, video calls, and online live chat. Assistance in English, Spanish, and 290 other languages via translation service.
- **Nurse Support:** Oncology and pediatric oncology nurses are available to assist with more medically complex questions.
- **Health Insurance Assistance Services:** Cancer care specialists can help with questions about your options and rights relating to health insurance and coverage.

CANCER.ORG

Our website is a highly trusted source of accurate, evidence-based cancer information for people facing cancer, their families, and their caregivers.

Survivorship, Diagnosing, and After Treatment

Support and treatment tools, survival stories, and hope.

Understanding Your Diagnosis

Tools to help answer questions about cancer and making treatment decisions.

ACS Programs and Services

Provides information about resources available to patients and caregivers.

Caregivers and Family

Information to help caregivers care for patients and themselves throughout the cancer journey.

Road to Recovery – Free Rides to Treatment for Cancer Patients

One of the biggest roadblocks for people needing cancer treatment can be the lack of transportation. That’s why the American Cancer Society Road to Recovery® program provides free rides to treatment through volunteer drivers.

- Trained volunteer drivers donate their time to help people with cancer get to the treatments they need.
- Transportation is provided based on volunteer availability and capacity.

PERSONAL HEALTH MANAGER

It can be tough to keep track of all the information you receive about your diagnosis and treatment. But receiving it in an organized way helps you feel less overwhelmed and more prepared to talk with your doctor. The ACS Personal Health Manager app allows you to easily save, share, and track personal information, and supports patients and caregivers.

Breast Cancer Support

If you or a loved one has breast cancer, you may want to connect with someone who knows what you’re facing—someone who has “been there.” The American Cancer Society Reach to Recovery® program connects people facing breast cancer with trained volunteers who are breast cancer survivors. Our volunteers provide one-on-one support to help women facing breast cancer cope with diagnosis, treatment, side effects, finding ways to talk with friends and family, and more. The program is available in English and Spanish.

Cancer Survivors Network

Our Cancer Survivors Network (CSN) is a free online community where survivors and caregivers share their stories, ask questions, and get support from each other. With a chat room and more than 40 discussion boards, CSN allows you to connect with others who have a similar cancer experience. You can send private messages to other members, build your own support network, post blogs, and more.

Caregiver Support

Our ACS Caregiver Resource Guide provides information for people who are caring for someone with cancer. It can help you better understand what you’re living through, develop skills for coping and caring, learn how to care for yourself as a caregiver, and take steps to help protect your health and well-being.

Hair loss and Mastectomy Products

Cancer and cancer treatment can have profound effects, including some that can alter a patient’s appearance. The American Cancer Society’s “It’s Your Journey, Your Appearance” program helps women with appearance-related side effects by offering them a variety of affordable wigs, hats, and scarves as well as a full range of mastectomy products that can be purchased from the privacy of your home.
ACS CARES (Community Access to Resources, Education, and Support) equips those facing cancer with curated content, programs, and services to fit their specific cancer journey.

**Customized Guidance**
Download the app and get personalized information and resources that update as you age, your situation changes or new information becomes available.

**Access to Information**
24/7 access to receive over-the-phone support from trained American Cancer Society (ACS) staff.

**Support System**
Virtual support from trained ACS community volunteers and in person support from clinic volunteers.

https://www.cancer.org/support-programs-and-services/acscares.html
Thank You
CoC Site Visit Preparation and Best Practices

Erin Reuter
Accreditation Senior Manager, ACS Cancer Programs

CoC Site Reviewer Panel
• Peter Hopewood, MD, FACS
• Maureen Killackey, MD, FACS
• David Mullins, MD, FACS
• Kevin O’Donnell, MD, FACS
2024 Compliance Updates

Erin Reuter
Senior Manager, Accreditation
New Standards In Effect for PCP, INCP/NCIN Categories

• New requirements were to be implemented January 1, 2023

• Detailed in the Specifications by Category section of the Optimal Resources for Cancer Care (2020 Standards)
Standard 3.2: Evaluation & Treatment Services

Starting January 1, 2024

• Must be able to demonstrate accreditation for anatomic pathology

• Ex: CAP, A2LA, ACHC, Joint Commission, COLA
Standard 4.2: Oncology Nursing Credentials

• Submit the template outlining nursing credentials/education

• If you aren’t compliant with the standard—create an action plan and get it documented in your cancer committee minutes ASAP
Standard 5.1: CAP Synoptic Reporting

Starting January 1, 2024

- 2023 activity will not be reviewed for 5.1
- Standard 5.1 will not be reviewed at 2024 Site Visits
- Site Reviewer will no longer review pathology reports for compliance with CAP protocols (but still reviewing path reports for 5.7-5.8)

New Requirements:

- Must perform an internal audit each year
- 20 path reports from at least 3 different cancer sites
- If 90% of reports don’t meet CAP requirements (elements/synoptic format)—action plan required
Standard 5.5 Updates

Wide Local Excision for Cutaneous Melanoma

• Only applies to the first wide local excision performed with curative intent after diagnostic excisional biopsy

• Repeat wide local excisions being performed for involved/close margins are outside the scope of standard

• Does not apply to Mohs technique
Standard 7.1: Quality Measures

• 2023 activity not reviewed at future site visits

• 2024 activity TBD.

• Update with details will be provided in Cancer Program News before the end of the calendar year
Upcoming National QI Projects

It is anticipated two projects will be announced soon!
2024 Site Visits

REVIEW THE INSTRUCTIONS CLOSELY

Linked in Resources section of the Quality Portal

Commission on Cancer
2024 Site Visit Instructions and Sample Agenda

Table of Contents

Operational Components
Program Responsibilities
Site Reviewer Responsibilities
Medical Record Review Process
Completion of CoC Templates
Sample Agenda
Operative Standards Review at 2024 Site Visits

Standards 5.3-5.6 being reviewed during site visits for the first time

- Programs provide list of all eligible patients that fit within the scope of standard

- The following patients who underwent the following procedures in 2023 must be included in the list:
  - Nodal staging operations for breast cancer of epithelial origin
  - Axillary lymph node dissections for breast cancer of epithelial origin
  - Wide local excision of primary cutaneous melanoma lesions, excluding mucosal, ocular, and subungual melanomas
  - Resections for colon adenocarcinoma

- The following patients who underwent the following procedures in 2021, 2022, and 2023 must be included in the list:
  - Radical, anatomic operations for rectal adenocarcinoma, excluding in-situ lesions and primary resection specimens with no residual cancer
  - Primary pulmonary resections for non-small cell lung cancer, small cell lung cancer, and carcinoid tumors of the lung
  - For INCPs and NCINs, the list must contain cases for each facility and include the individual facility name and FIN.
Operative Standards Review at 2024 Site Visits

Standards 5.3-5.6 being reviewed during site visits for the first time

• Site Reviewer will select 7 cases for each standard
  • If a selected patient does not meet scope of standard—TELL THE REVIEWER
  • Whoever is preparing the records may need assistance with determining whether the patient meets the scope of standard
# Cancer Committee Template

**Facility Name:**

**CoC FIN or Company ID:**

**Completed By:**

**Years of Accreditation Cycle:**

**Purpose:** Completion of this tab of the template is required and will assist Site Reviewers and CoC staff to confirm and review discussion of standards. 

**Instructions:**
1. Enter the date of each cancer committee meeting for each year of the accreditation cycle at the top of each column.
2. For each meeting, indicate when each standard listed was discussed and/or if a report was presented. (Legend: D - discussed with cancer committee, R - annual report presented to cancer committee, B - both) Grayed out standards are not required to be discussed or have a report presented.
3. Add additional columns for each year as needed.
4. Complete and upload this template, cancer committee minutes and all related reports to the PRQ prior to site review.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standards</th>
<th>Cancer Committee meeting discussion date (mm/dd/yy)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chapter 1: Institutional Administrative Commitment</strong></td>
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<td>Std 1.1: Administrative Commitment</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Chapter 2: Program Scope and Governance</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Std 2.1: Cancer Committee</td>
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<td>Std 2.2: Cancer Liaison Physician</td>
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<td>Std 2.3: Cancer Committee Meetings</td>
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<td>Std 2.4: Cancer Committee Attendance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Std 2.5: Multidisciplinary Cancer Case Conferences</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Shape the Future of Quality Cancer Care

Become a CoC site reviewer!

• Learn and share best practices
• Promote high-quality care throughout the country
• Encourage continual improvement
• Witness the benefits of community outreach and improvement programs

• CME available for training
• For more information, contact Jacob Schamber at the ACS
  • jschamber@facs.org
• Or visit our “Become a CoC Site Reviewer” webpage
CoC Site Visit Preparation and Best Practices

Erin Reuter
Accreditation Senior Manager, ACS Cancer Programs

CoC Site Reviewer Panel
• Peter Hopewood, MD, FACS
• Maureen Killackey, MD, FACS
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Questions?
Thank you!

Follow Us on Social Media

facs.org/quality-programs/cancer-programs/  ACS Cancer Programs  @AmColSurgCancer