

Please save the dates and watch for additional information coming soon regarding these upcoming events:

CLP Virtual Meeting: Tuesday, October 17, 4:30 to 5:30 pm CT

Don't miss the next national CLP meeting, where we'll review the latest updates from the CoC, including important news and information relevant to your role as your Cancer Program's CLP. Registration is required for this meeting: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6222489677244655448>

CoC Meetings: Sunday, October 22, Boston, MA

These meetings, held in conjunction with the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress 2023 in Boston, MA, are scheduled for the afternoon of October 22. Events will include:

- CoC VIP Luncheon (CLPs and State Chairs are invited to attend)
- CoC Plenary Session
- CoC Reception

ACS Cancer Programs Conference: February 22-24, 2024, Austin TX

ACS Cancer Programs is excited to announce the continuation of a [multi-day educational conference](#) catering to a wide range of specialties.

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

ACS Launches New Quality Campaign

The American College of Surgeons (ACS) has launched the Power of Quality campaign—a national, multiyear campaign aimed at improving patient care by expanding the reach of ACS Quality Programs to more hospitals nationwide. These evidence-based programs improve patient outcomes, streamline hospital processes, and lower costs. Working closely with hospitals and surgeons, the ACS will also promote policy frameworks and incentives that keep quality at the forefront of patient care. [Read more.](#)

CoC Hosts Spring Meeting

The CoC hosted its Annual Spring Meeting in Chicago in May. Members received updates on the ACS Quality Campaign, National Cancer Database (NCDB), surgical standards, ACS Cancer Research Program evaluation of CoC standards, and CoC structural and committee changes. The morning breakout session discussions focused on the value of CoC accreditation to patients and the public, healthcare providers, hospital administrators, and payors and regulators. In the afternoon, members learned about ACS efforts to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion, and again broke into small groups to discuss strategies for increasing equitable access to cancer care in all communities.

Dr. Mullett Joins Cancer Moonshot Forum

CoC Chair **Timothy W. Mullett, MD, MBA, FACS**, recently participated in a [forum](#) hosted by the White House focused on expanding equitable access to smoking cessation programs. The event was part of

President Biden's [Cancer Moonshot](#) initiative, which includes efforts to reduce the burden of preventable cancers, including tobacco-related cancers.

ACS Cancer Programs has launched a series of national QI initiatives to address smoking status and cessation. The 2022 [Just ASK](#) QI project and clinical study focused on leveraging existing resources, by asking all newly diagnosed cancer patients about their smoking status. The 2023 [Beyond ASK](#) QI project is seeking to build the capacity of participating programs to offer cessation assistance to newly diagnosed cancer patients.

CoC Announces Standards Updates

The CoC has released an updated version of its accreditation standards, [Optimal Resources for Cancer Care \(2020 Standards\)](#). The updated standards and the [change log](#) documenting the revisions are now available on the CoC website.

Pediatric Program Standards

The Pediatric Cancer Program (PCP) standards have been updated to add guidance and clarifications. Updates apply to both standalone PCPs, and programs adding a secondary pediatric accreditation category to an existing CoC accreditation.

Standard 5.1: College of American Pathologists Synoptic Reporting

The internal audit requirement for Standard 5.1 has been updated to clarify that each calendar year the internal audit must evaluate a minimum of 20 total surgical resection cases. The selected cases must include at least three different disease sites. Programs must meet compliance with the revised standard beginning January 1, 2024.

As previously announced, Standard 5.1 is not being evaluated for compliance during site visits conducted in 2023 or 2024. Starting in 2025, all future site visits will only evaluate compliance with Standard 5.1 for calendar year 2024 and beyond.

Standard 4.2: Oncology Nursing Credentials

Effective immediately, per diem nurses who work less than 832 hours each calendar year are not required to demonstrate compliance with Standard 4.2. Per diem nurses who work 832 hours or more each calendar year must meet the standard as written. This information has been included in an updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, located in the CoC Standards Resource Library, available through the [ACS Quality Portal](#).

For more information on the CoC standards, *Optimal Resources for Cancer Care (2020 Standards)*, please visit the [CoC website](#). Questions regarding the 2020 accreditation standards should be submitted through the [CAnswer Forum](#).

CoC Seeks Site Reviewers Specializing in Pediatric Cancer Care

The CoC is seeking physicians specializing in pediatric cancer care to join its accreditation site reviewer team. A new offering from the CoC allows CoC-accredited programs to add a designation focused on their pediatric cancer programs. Additionally, standards were updated for standalone Pediatric Cancer Programs. To better focus on the unique aspects of caring for pediatric patients with cancer, the CoC is

seeking dedicated physicians specializing in pediatric care to perform these site visits.

Qualified candidates for the CoC must be actively practicing physicians who specialize in cancer care and are employed or affiliated with a CoC-accredited program. Once you have reviewed the [minimum qualifications to be a CoC Site Reviewer](#) and you feel that you meet the criteria, please complete and submit the [application](#). Contact CoC@facs.org if you have any questions or would like to learn more about becoming a site reviewer.

American Cancer Society Updates and Resources

- **[“I Love You Get Screened” campaign](#)**: This multi-channel campaign is designed to increase cancer screening awareness for those overdue, encouraging them to speak with their doctors and learn more about their cancer screening recommendations. We encourage you to share with patients, through social media and internally with teams to promote screening.
- **[Second Annual National Lung Cancer Screening Day](#)**: 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.
- **[ACS CARES™ App launch](#)**: 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. Patients and caregivers can download the app for customized guidance, information and resources along with 24/7 support from ACS staff or find a virtual support system from trained community volunteers.