

NOSN

NATIONAL ONCOLOGY STATE NETWORK

STATE LEGISLATURE TEAM TELECONFERENCE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2018

6:30am Hawaii/ 8:30am Alaska/ 9:30am Pacific/ 10:30am Mountain/11:30pm Central/ 12:30pm Eastern
Phone # 866-423-8755 and enter Passcode 858324# (*Officers add 7#*)

Present: Warren Fong, M.D.(*Chair*); Nichole East; Diane Gerards-Benage; Mariana Lamb; George Malouly, Celgene; Chuck Miller, M.D.; Nicette Short, NGR; Sedrick Spencer, Celgene; and Tammy Thiel.

Absent: Wendy Alfaro; Jose Gonzalez; Dawn Holcombe; Maria Sipala; Amy Supraner; and Carol Teal-Christner.

MINUTES

I.

State Cancer Caucus:

A. **California** –is formalizing (*Nicette*)

Nicette reported that she has reached out to stakeholders and confirmed American Cancer Society, Cancer Action Network, Children’s Hospital, Susan G. Komen, Leukemia and Lymphoma Societies are all on board. She will next be reaching out to the California Cancer Consortium (UC’s in CA).

Action:

Nicette will work with the NOSN Office to schedule a meeting in October with all stakeholders to introduce everyone, establish goals and set structure for education and collegiality. She will then proceed with coordinating the Breakfast Caucus in January 2019, with all Stakeholders and Legislators.

B. **Florida** – is interested (*Amy/Maria*)

C. **Hawaii** – is interested (*Dr. Miller*)

Dr. Miller reported that the Board of Directors agreed to hire a part-time Lobbyist as well as look for other organizations that would be interested in joining. The Hawaii legislative session begins in January 2019.

D. **Illinois** – (*Diane*)

Diane reported that Illinois is moving forward and has scheduled the first event for September 20th entitled “Future of Cancer Care Tour & Discussion”, which will be held at the University of Chicago.

E. **Utah** – is formalizing (*Carol*)

Carol was unable to join the call but provided the following update via email... “*Utah is waiting to take action until after the election, since so many seats are being replaced.*”

F. **Tennessee** - is formalizing (?)

G. **Colorado, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Washington, DC** have existing Caucuses.

II. State Legislation:

A. Oral Parity Legislation -

Celgene is continuing to work on Oral Chemotherapy Parity in Alabama, Idaho, Michigan, South Carolina, and Tennessee. George will be reaching out to the NOSN Partners in each of those states.

- Alabama – Roberta Sorensen
- Idaho – Carol Teal-Christner
- Michigan – Peggy Barton, RN
- South Carolina – Dr. Patel
- Tennessee - ?

Status:

Sedrick reported that the only state Celgene is now targeting is Idaho. Celgene is setting up meetings with insurers before the session begins in January. He mentioned that insurer dislikes both oral parity and the cap, however, with the cap they have a little more negotiating power. So we might see more of the caps in the future. He foresees a “cooling-off period” for 1-2 years and then it will be revisited.

B. Opioid legislation -

1. **California** – Nicette reported that there are currently 10-12 bills this year. She is working on educating legislators and hoping to carve out exemptions for cancer patients.
2. **Illinois** - has a blanket exemption for Oncology.

Action:

This is certainly a hot topic nationally. Celgene had provided a list of Opioid Legislation by State. Nichole will distribute to the entire Team.

III. Old Business:

At the Annual NOSN Meeting, creation of a Legislation Took Kit was discussed. However, ASCO is already working on this. Dr. Miller stated that he is on the ASCO Government Relations Committee and will mention NOSN on the next call to see how we can work together.

Status:

Dr. Miller reported that the next Government Relations Committee Meeting is scheduled for September 26th and he will have more information after that meeting.

IV. Next Teleconference:

September 26, 2018 at 6:30am Hawaii/ 8:30am Alaska/ 9:30am Pacific/ 10:30am Mountain/11:30am Central/ 12:30pm Eastern.

Action:

Since, September 26th conflicts with the ASCO Advocacy Meeting, the next Teleconference has been moved to **Wednesday, October 3rd** at 6:30am Hawaii/ 8:30am Alaska/ 9:30am Pacific/ 10:30am Mountain/11:30pm Central/ 12:30pm Eastern.

The monthly NOSN Partner call immediately follows at 7am Hawaii/ 9am Alaska/ 10am Pacific/ 11am Mountain/12pm Central/ 1pm Eastern.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00AM-PST.