

Patient Advocacy Advisory Board Minutes
November 7, 2017
Conference call

Attending: Stephen Schwartz (Chair); Rosemary Ciotti; Mehdi Djekidel, MD (Outreach Co-Chair); Josh Mailman; Dorothy McGrath; Tricha Shivas (WomenHeart); Theresa Wickerham; Virginia Pappas, CAE; Saima Hedrick, MPH; Wayne Powell; Teresa Ellmer

1. Welcome and Call to Order

S. Schwartz called the meeting to order. Quorum was established mid-conference call. The minutes from the September 27, 2017 meeting were approved.

2. Update on Outpatient Imaging Policy

- W. Powell and J. Mailman discussed how Anthem is no longer going to pay for elective outpatient imaging procedures in their private plan regarding PET CT and MRI. Hospitals usually charge more than standing facilities, so saving costs could be a motivating factor for Anthem regarding the policy change. Patients are being redirected from outpatient hospitals and facilities to stand-alone imaging centers which may be inconvenient for patients. This may encourage patients to skip out on necessary procedures all together.
- The group discussed the possibility of a delay in care as images may bounce between multiple facilities and extend the amount of time images are scheduled.
- PAAB members are encouraged to send examples of patient challenges to wpowell@snmmi.org as ACR is looking to use this information to build cases. SNMMI will create a separate letter based on ACR's actions as they are leading this initiative.
- J. Mailman created a survey for his community to provide feedback on their challenges. This link is available to members to use as an example for getting data from their communities. Members are also encouraged to direct interested parties to his link. SNMMI will ask ACR to provide data on the number of facilities this policy will affect as well as relevant information to the PAAB.
- W. Powell noted that this will be a state/state issue as most insurance companies are regulated at the state level.

3. Patient Advocacy Booth

- There will be a non-profit professionals pavilion at the Annual Meeting. PAAB members, along with other nonprofit groups that collaborate with SNMMI, are able to use the booths in the pavilion. There are currently five booths available, however SNMMI is able to provide more booths depending on interest. Interested members need to fill out the application form (snmmi.org/am) and email Catherine Lamb at clamb@snmmi.org to secure their booth space by the end of the year. PAAB members' attendance helps promote education day sponsorships. These booths are complimentary for PAAB members.
- S. Hedrick will send out the link to the application.
- A. Robinson will report back to the Outreach Committee on PAAB's participation in this event.

4. Lymphoma Research Foundation

- S. Hedrick and G. Esposito met with the Lymphoma Research Foundation at their October event. The symposium consisted of three days filled with networking opportunities and exhibits. LRF is patient centered and saw about 400 attendees.
- S. Hedrick and G. Esposito met with the Executive Director and Director of Policy where they presented on SNMMI's Outreach strategy. LRF is interested in aligning in the following areas:
 - Webinar on Radiation Safety (what's associated with getting tests done)
 - Help with getting and disseminating information on PET-CT
- LRF will send a formal proposal.

4. Patient Education Day

- The 2018 Patient Education Day will be held in Philadelphia with three rooms available for the breakout sessions. Josh Mailman (NorCal CarciNET Community) and the Lymphoma Research Foundation are covering two of the sessions. Rosemary Ciotti will connect with FORCE and Tricha Shivas will speak with WomenHeart about the event and their possible involvements. SNMMI covers all costs, and members are responsible for providing session input and promotion to the community.
- Feedback from last year's morning general sessions were positive, however there were inappropriate audiences in the more disease focused afternoon sessions. The PAAB decided to repeat the general sessions from previous years and noted that the Clinical Trials session received outstanding feedback and could be repurposed for future sessions.

5. Patient Friendly AUCs

- The Outreach Committee decided that the patient friendly AUCs were not a priority, and that there's time to develop the AUCs. S. Hedrick reminded the group of the joint collaboration between LRF and SNMMI, and recommended that members consider having their organizations align with SNMMI on a collaboration.

6. Other Business

- V. Pappas informed the group that S. Hedrick has resigned from SNMMI and Friday, November 10th is her last day. SNMMI is currently recruiting to fill her position. If members are interested in recommending someone, contact V. Pappas and she will share the job description. V. Pappas, A. Robinson and L. Budzinski will be working together until a replacement is found.
- If there are any questions regarding PAAB, contact S. Schwartz and V. Pappas.

The meeting adjourned 1:04pm

ACTION ITEMS

- ***Update on Outpatient Imaging Policy-*** PAAB members are encouraged to send examples of patient challenges to wpowell@snmmi.org as ACR is looking to use this information to build cases.
- ***Update on Outpatient Imaging Policy*** The survey will also be linked on SNMMI's patient website. SNMMI will ask ACR to provide data on the number of facilities this policy will affect as well as relevant information to the PAAB.



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- ***Patient Advocacy Booth-*** Interested members need to fill out the application form (snmmi.org/am) and email Catherine Lamb at clamb@snmmi.org to secure their booth space by the end of the year.
- ***Patient Advocacy Booth-*** S. Hedrick will send out the link to the application.
- ***Patient Advocacy Booth-*** A. Robinson will report back to the Outreach Committee on PAAB's participation in this event.
- ***Lymphoma Research Foundation-*** LRF will send a formal proposal.
- ***Patient Education Day-*** Rosemary Ciotti will connect with FORCE about participating in the sessions. Tricha Shivas will speak with WomenHeart about the event and their possible involvement.