JNCCN Reaches 10

This year marks the 10th volume of JNCCN – The Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, and that milestone warrants both acknowledgement and reflection. JNCCN was originally created to highlight the NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines) that are the core of the NCCN mission. The journal began as a quarterly publication in 2003, and moved to bi-monthly and now monthly publication. Each month, JNCCN is received by about 23,000 oncologists, hematologists, and other cancer care providers. JNCCN.org, the journal Web site, was redesigned in 2010 and provides an active conduit to all the material in the print journal as well as additional information.

JNCCN has also proved successful in our first 10 years. Since 2005, JNCCN has been indexed through the National Library of Medicine’s PubMed service, making its content accessible to medical providers and others around the world. For the past several years, JNCCN has also consistently ranked among the top 10 most highly read oncology-focused journals, according to national independent surveys.

In a modern digital era, with instant access to online articles and weekly electronic tables of contents, one might—and rightly—ask the purpose of a monthly publication. JNCCN’s success underscores the importance of not only readily accessible guidelines, but the added enrichment of thoughtful critiques and in-depth reviews, which make the Guidelines a living, breathing resource. In addition, JNCCN continues to expand content, with original papers that focus on quality-based care, interesting commentary on the nature of oncology practice, and innovations in the clinic that can help practitioners. It is probably a rhetorical stretch to say this, but I view JNCCN as the “Talmud” that accompanies the NCCN Guidelines. Through JNCCN, one enters into the discussion of what to do with cancer patients.

As this issue’s cover shows, part of our 10th year includes freshening the look of JNCCN. In this and upcoming issues, we will also be changing some of our features. We hope to make the journal even more timely and valuable to readers by diversifying the content in each issue and tapping into the expertise of the NCCN Member Institutions with case series and other clinical insights. We hope to publish more clinical practice data from the NCCN databases, which are accumulating troves of interesting information.

Entering our 10th volume also gives me a chance to thank the team that contributes so much to JNCCN, including Kimberly Callan, the director of our editorial staff, and staff members Kerrin Green, Genevieve Emberger Hartzman, and Lacey Meyer; our partner and publisher, Harborside Press; and finally, you, our readers. You are whom we consider with each issue, and you motivate us to create an exciting, interesting, and rewarding journal each month.

The ideas and viewpoints expressed in this editorial are those of the author and do not necessarily represent any policy, position, or program of NCCN.