

# 2022 ASCO Annual Meeting: Takeaways for the Advanced Practitioner

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Welcome to our special issue on highlights from the 2022 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting. Taking place from June 3 to 7, 2022, oncology professionals from around the world convened in Chicago to discuss the latest in cancer research. The more than 2,800 abstracts presented at the meeting and 2,400 additional abstracts published online addressed critical issues and questions in oncology, such as new treatment options for patients, disparities among patients with cancer, and innovations in care delivery.

Of note, Shanu Modi, MD, of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, presented the findings of the DESTINY-Breast04 study on trastuzumab deruxtecan for patients with metastatic HER2-low breast cancer, which received a standing ovation. The striking results of a Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center study showed that all 12 patients (100%) in the study with mismatch repair deficient locally advanced rectal adenocarcinoma achieved a complete clinical response to single-agent dostarlimab, an anti-PD-1 monoclonal antibody, at 6 months of follow-

up. The DETERMINATION trial informed providers of the important considerations to be made in selecting treatment options in the newly diagnosed, transplant-eligible setting for multiple myeloma, showing that autologous stem cell transplant early in the course of treatment leads to a benefit in progression-free survival but not overall survival.

This issue of JADPRO covers these abstracts and more from the advanced practitioner's perspective. How do the results from these studies affect our practice? How do we educate our patients on these findings? The commentators for this issue consider these implications and provide their clinical pearls on working within a multidisciplinary team to provide high-quality care for patients with cancer and their families.

## ADVANCING EQUITABLE CANCER CARE

The theme of this year's ASCO meeting was *Advancing Equitable Cancer Care Through Innovation*. Everett E. Vokes, MD, FASCO, 2021-2022 ASCO president, reflected on this theme during his Presidential Address. He spoke about how it signifies the need to discover fresh so-

lutions and rethink access and clinical trial eligibility to improve care for all patients with cancer. While innovations in cancer research have transformed treatment and patient care, progress has been uneven, and disparities remain in providing the best prevention services, detection, and treatment. “We should be just as innovative about the ways we serve our patients as we are about developing new therapies,” Dr. Vokes said.

As the meeting’s keynote speaker, André Ilbawi, MD, of the World Health Organization, highlighted pressing issues in global cancer care, including inequitable access to cancer care services that have been compounded by the effects

of the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time, Dr. Ilbawi said the unique conditions have provided an opportunity for innovations in the technological, organizational, and social spheres to create better systems and combat inequality.

In this issue, commentators focus on abstracts describing the experiences of racial and ethnic minorities, including Black patient participation in metastatic breast cancer clinical trials, real-world outcomes of axicabtagene ciloleucel for large B-cell lymphoma, and racial and socioeconomic disparities in telemedicine use among US patients.

I hope you find the coverage in this issue to be of value for you and your patients. ●