



ACS NNRT Fall 2024 Update: Partnering for Progress in Patient Navigation

OCTOBER 2024

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ACS NNRT 2024 Annual Meeting 'Innovative Persistence!'



Andi Dwyer, ACS NNRT Chair stated, "I am so proud and excited what the patient navigation community has accomplished, and I know the NNRT is a bit part of the success. Being able to continue the great work together and delve into how do we keep up the momentum and sustainability was amazing. The energy was palpable."

More than 130 patient navigation experts, advocates, and thought leaders from across the US recently convened in Washington, DC for the ACS National Navigation Roundtable (ACS NNRT) Annual Meeting, ***"Building on Momentum, Propelling Patient Navigation Forward Through Innovative Persistence"***

It was the first time in five years the group came together in-person to learn, collaborate, and build momentum to propel patient navigation forward. Between September 18-20, attendees shared ideas and strategies for achieving ACS NNRT's 5-year AIM (2021-2026): supporting the creation of a sustainable model for oncology patient navigation to achieve health equity across the cancer continuum.

During the meeting, presenters covered a wide range of topics, including:

- Preparing for and utilization of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Principal Illness Navigations Codes,
- Current and future implications of the Oncology Navigation Professional Standards of Practice,
- Building a business case for the sustainability of patient navigation,
- Updates on the patient navigation policy landscape.

*Annabella Aspiras, Assistant Director for Engagement on the White House Cancer Moonshot presented the meeting's Keynote: **The Importance of Patient Navigation**. She highlighted the importance of patient navigation in cancer care and the Biden-Harris administration's efforts to expand access to these services*

Attendees also celebrated ACS Senior Vice President, Patient Support Strategy & Operations, Jennifer Greenwald's tenure as the roundtable's ACS Chair, and welcomed her successor, ACS Senior Vice President, Cancer Treatment & Support, Shanthi Sivendran, MD, MSCR, MBA.

If you were not able to attend, no problem! Select meeting materials have been made available on the [ACS NNRT Website](#).

"The energy and excitement across all 3 days of the NNRT meeting was palpable! We have come so far in supporting the profession of oncology navigation with the work of many organizations and individuals represented at our face to face annual meeting. We need to keep this momentum going and it was clear that the everyone was committed to the ongoing efforts to address sustainability through a wide range of activities – policy, standards and training, role delineation,

Access Meeting Resources Here

Thank YOU Jennifer Greenwald, MPH, ACS Senior Vice President, Patient Support Strategy & Operations!

Ms. Greenwald has been the ACS NNRT Tri Chair since 2017. Her contributions have been many, shepherding the roundtable through the pandemic, the development of its Vision and 5 year Aim, the publication of the Cancer Supplement, adoption of the PNSAT, launch of the updated Website, joint meeting with the ACS Patient Navigation Capacity Building Initiative Grantees and Annual Meeting 2024. Thank you Jen for your continued support and encouragement.



Welcome ACS Senior Vice President for Cancer Care Support, Dr. Shanthi Sivendran!

Dr. Sivendran, provides strategic direction, thought leadership, and subject matter expertise across a variety of initiatives that improve cancer care delivery support to patients and caregivers. She leads the American Cancer Society's Patient Support pillar's global cancer treatment and navigation support work. She is focused on patient-centered communication, cancer care delivery innovation, and supportive and palliative care. Dr. Sivendran continues to keep a small oncology practice dedicated to melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancer patients. She is active in advancing oncology care nationally and serves on a variety of initiatives at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). She lives in Lititz, PA, with her husband and three young children. They enjoy hiking and traveling in their spare time.

Policy in Action: Preparing for and Utilizing PIN Codes & Implementation of Organizational Policy



October 24th, 2024
2:30-3:45 PM ET

**REGISTER for
10/24/2024 Webinar
HERE**

Join us for Session 1 of the 2024 Call to Action Webinar Series: *"Policy in Action: Preparing for and Utilizing PIN Codes & Implementing Organizational Policy."* In 2024, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) introduced reimbursement codes to support principal illness navigation. This session will focus on practical strategies for engaging administrators, providers, and patients to effectively implement and utilize these new codes.

Webinar Presenters:

- Tracy Battaglia, MD, MPH - Yale, Facilitator
- Danielle Brown, MBA, BSN, RN, OCN, CN-BN - Florida Cancer Specialists
- Jeanne Silva, MSN, RN-BC - RWJ Barnabas

Call To Action Webinar, Session 2: *"Workflow Integration and Sustainability: Implementation within Existing Systems and Technology"*. This session will provide key insights on leveraging the PNSAT for

seamless integration into current workflows. It will feature exemplary cases of workflow integration in colorectal cancer (CRC) screenings and highlight best practices for patient navigation (PN) engagement.

Webinar Presenters:

- **Andrea (Andi) Dwyer, BS** – University of Colorado Cancer Center, Chair – ACS NNRT
- **Tracie Lewis, MS** – University of South Carolina
- **Joanna (Jo) Henning, MPH** University of Colorado Cancer Center,

**Workflow Integration and Sustainability:
Implementation within Existing Systems
and Technologies**



**October 28, 2024
3:00 – 4:15 PM ET**

**REGISTER for
10/28/2024 Webinar
HERE**

The **ACS NNRT Public Awareness and Communications Task Group** has introduced this section in the newsletter to clarify essential patient navigation terminology for professional use. Please review this section in each issue and start incorporating these terms into your patient navigation program.



Professional Oncology Navigation Task Force ~ PONT

The Professional Oncology Navigation Task Force (**PONT**) developed a set of **Oncology Navigation Standards of Professional Practice** to provide standardized guidelines for professional navigation practice.

2024 Call for Nominations ACS NNRT Steering Committee



What is VOICES of Black Women?
VOICES of Black Women is a long-term study run by the American Cancer Society that aims to enroll at least 100,000 Black women in the US during the next few years. The goal of this study is to better understand health conditions like cancer and how to improve overall health among Black women.

Women – underscoring our commitment to better understand how this demographic is impacted by cancer disparities.

VOICES of Black Women

See archived ACS NNRT newsletters [HERE](#)

Visit ACS NNRT's [website](#)

NNRT staff:

Director, Kristina Thomson, kristina.thomson@cancer.org

Program Manager, Michelle Chappell, michelle.chappell@cancer.org

The ACS NNRT is one of the **American Cancer Society's six mission-critical national roundtables**. Learn about the national roundtable model and how these six organizations are uniting organizations in collaborative partnerships to advance their shared visions to give all people a fair and just opportunity to prevent and survive cancer.



Address:

3380 Chastain Meadows Pkwy NW Suite
200, Kennesaw, GA 30144
Phone: 800-227-2345



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ACS National Navigation Roundtable | 3380 Chastain Meadows Pkwy NW Suite 200 | Kennesaw, GA 30144 US

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