Tracking the value within the medically integrated pharmacy: Utilizing the NCODA cost avoidance and waste tracker

National Community Oncology Dispensing Association, Inc.

**Background**

- Quality care within oral oncology dispensing through medically integrated pharmacies (MIP) create proactive interventions which can be significantly impactful but often go unmeasured. MIPs strive to function within OCM by improving quality of care and reducing costs through cost avoidance.

- The National Community Oncology Dispensing Association (NCODA) sought to measure cost avoidance within an MIP versus the waste produced by specialty/mail order pharmacies. NCODA created a web-tool known as the Cost Avoidance/Waste Tracker that was made available to the NCODA oncology membership to assist in quantifying this form of positive intervention, improved patient convenience and satisfaction.

**Methods**

- This is a cost analysis of medication costs from voluntary data entries provided by NCODA member practices across the United States from 2016-2019. Monetary outcomes were calculated using the NCODA Cost Avoidance/Waste Tracker tool which utilizes average wholesale price (AWP).

- A total of 900+ eligible data entries were included for analysis. Cost Avoidance was defined as interventions that are made, before a drug is dispensed to the patient, that preclude an unnecessary prescription from being filled and dispensed. Waste was defined as drugs that have been processed or prescriptions filled and then for any reason, the drug is not used by the patient.

**Results**

- The results display a significant impact that MIDs have in cost avoidance interventions vs. the waste produced from other forms of oncology distribution and warrants further study to uncover the financial influence and positive change that MIDs can bring to the oncology marketplace.

**Discussion**

- Results as of October 2019 place total cost avoidance at over $4.6 million and over $5.9 million in total reported waste caused by specialty/mail order pharmacy.

- There have been 40+ different NCODA member practices across the United States submitting data.

- The approximated average amount of cost avoidance was $10,090 per cost avoidance event recorded and $13,570 per event recorded for waste produced from specialty/mail order distribution.

**Conclusion**

The results display a significant impact that MIDs have in cost avoidance interventions vs. the waste produced from other forms of oncology distribution and warrants further study to uncover the financial influence and positive change that MIDs can bring to the oncology marketplace.

For more information email contact@ncoda.org