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# NCODA Accreditation

## An Unmet Need For Medically Integrated Pharmacies



### Background

Since 2016, *Going Beyond the First Fill* has been NCODA's credo and the primary focus of its Mission to create a patient-centered, safe, high-quality, comprehensive program to meet the needs of the oncology community. For more than seven years, NCODA has addressed the growing need for medically integrated pharmacies to enhance care of cancer patients receiving oral and IV therapy by improving operations at the pharmacy level.

On January 3, 2022, NCODA launched the Center of Excellence (CoE) Medically Integrated Pharmacy (MIP) Accreditation Program based on compliance with The *Patient-Centered Standards for Medically Integrated Dispensing: ASCO/NCODA Standards*. This accreditation supports *Going Beyond the First Fill* and is the preferred accreditation for Prime Therapeutics' IntegratedRx® Oncology Program. This program streamlines the treatment pathway for members who are fighting cancer so they can now receive their oral oncolytic and companion medications in the clinical setting, either directly from their oncologist's clinic or affiliated hospital pharmacy.

### Methods

- Standards based on the *Patient-Centered Standards for Medically Integrated Dispensing: ASCO/NCODA Standards* and Foundational Elements of the Medically Integrated Dispensing Program were developed and approved by the Accreditation Working Group and Executive Accreditation Council.
- An accreditation workbook including information such as the accreditation process, standards, criteria and guidance was created to assist practices going through the accreditation process.
- Accreditation was piloted at Minnesota Oncology in Minneapolis, MN.
- An accreditation system was purchased and customized to allow practices to upload documents as evidence of compliance during the self-study portion of the accreditation process.
- Accreditation launched on January 3, 2022.
- Minnesota Oncology received first NCODA CoE MIP Accreditation at 2022 Spring Forum.

### Discussion

The NCODA Center of Excellence Medically Integrated Pharmacy Accreditation Program is the First and Only Accreditation Program designed specifically for medically integrated pharmacies dispensing oral oncolytics.

The program includes patient-centered standards without the presence of administrative burdens. Standards focus on elimination of clinical fragmentation through seamless coordination with the patient's healthcare team, clinical pathway and care plan protocol.

The accreditation was designed to achieve the Quadruple Aim of better outcomes, improved patient care, lower costs and improved clinician experience.

### Conclusion

The NCODA Center of Excellence Medically Integrated Pharmacy Accreditation Program helps support *Going Beyond the First Fill* by providing a best practice framework for dispensing oral oncolytics.

The accreditation is designed to provide positive outcomes such as:

- Reduced waste through improved cost avoidance
- Improved patient adherence
- Faster medication fill times

The NCODA Center of Excellence Medically Integrated Pharmacy Accreditation Program creates "WINS" for all stakeholders!

### Accreditation Standards Overview

- Patient Relationships
- Patient Evaluation and Education
- Adherence and Persistence
- Safety
- Refilling of Prescriptions
- Documentation
- Benefits Investigation
- Medication Disposal
- Patient Satisfaction
- Mission Statement
- Organization Management
- Business Plan
- Operational Elements
- Communication Plan
- Continuous Quality Improvement
- Electronic Systems Infrastructure
- Handling of Medications
- Adverse Drug Reactions

### Five Steps of the Accreditation Process

## Accreditation Process



\*Accreditation takes ~ 8-12 months

For more information and to get started, scan QR Code or email [Elizabeth.Bell@NCODA.org](mailto:Elizabeth.Bell@NCODA.org).

