

# Empowering Oncology Pharmacy Technicians: The Impact of the Oncology Pharmacy Technician Community

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## Mission & Vision

**Our Mission is to strengthen and empower oncology pharmacy technicians in their increasingly vital role as part of the medically integrated team by providing leadership and professional development opportunities to ensure better outcomes for cancer patients.**

**Our vision is that each patient receives the maximum benefit from their cancer treatment by cultivating a community focused on advancing the role of the oncology pharmacy technician through professional development & innovation.**

## Background

- ✓ **Vital Role in Patient Care**
  - ✓ Oncology pharmacy technicians are essential in financial navigation and ensuring patient access to life-saving therapies.
  - ✓ Within Medically Integrated Pharmacies (MIP), they help streamline medication dispensing, assist with prior authorizations, and support treatment adherence.
- ✓ **Support for the Healthcare Team**
  - ✓ They provide critical assistance to pharmacists, clinicians, and patients, ensuring smooth coordination of oncology treatments.
- ✓ **Lack of Professional Development Opportunities**
  - ✓ Historically, oncology pharmacy technicians have had limited access to specialized education, networking, and career advancement resources.
- ✓ **Establishment of the Oncology Pharmacy Technician Community (OPTC)**
  - ✓ OPTC was created to bridge this gap, offering professional development, collaboration, and specialized oncology education.
  - ✓ It fosters career growth, empowerment, and a strong support network for oncology pharmacy technicians.

## Objectives

- ✓ Highlight the impact of a dedicated community for oncology pharmacy technicians
- ✓ Emphasize the role of pharmacy technicians within Medically Integrated Pharmacies and their contributions to patient care
- ✓ Provide resources for professional growth, certification, and continuing education
- ✓ Enhance pharmacy technician engagement in patient care, collaboration, and advocacy



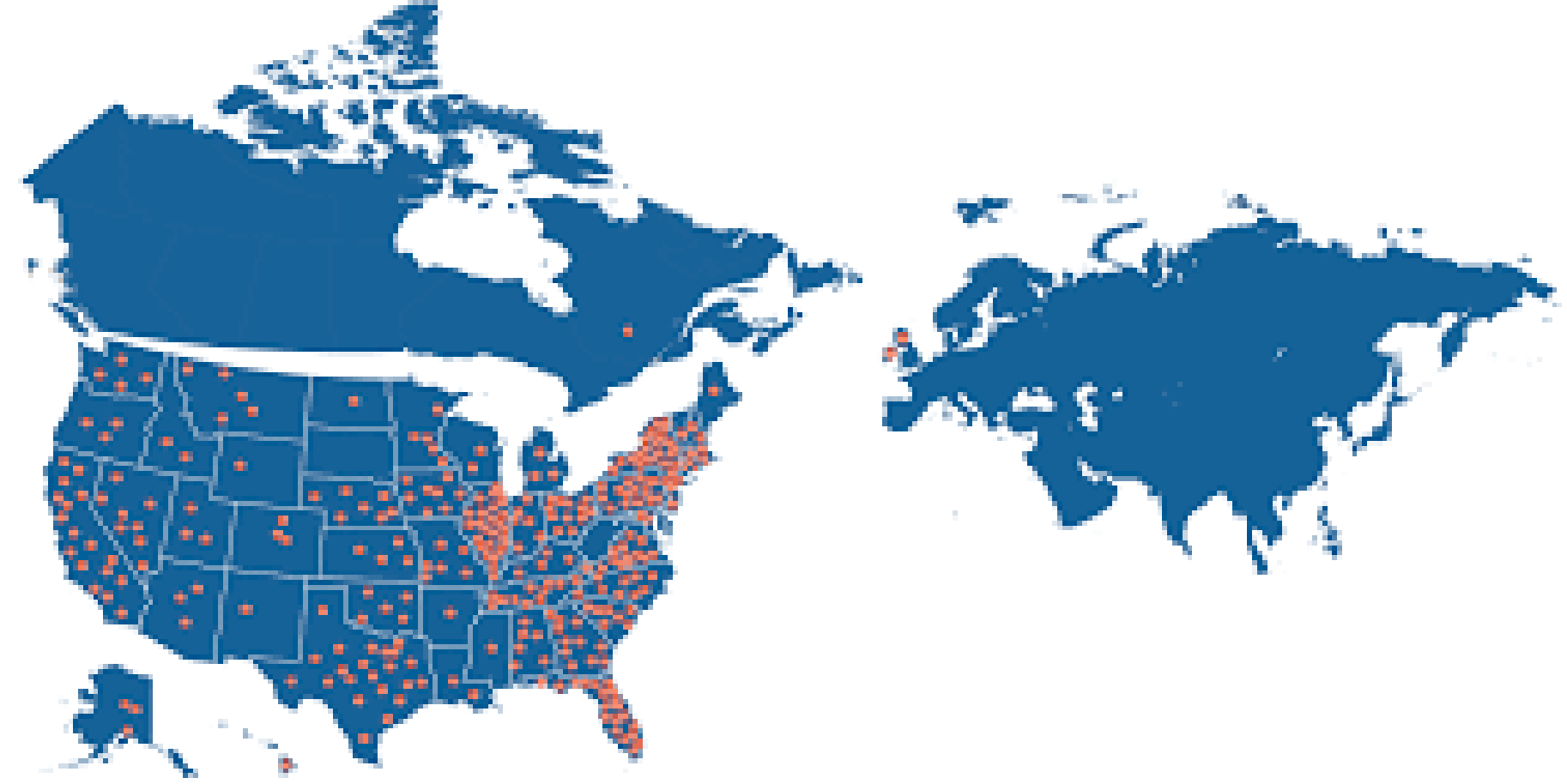
## Methods

- ✓ **Monthly virtual webinars**
  - ✓ Sponsored webinars
  - ✓ Technician in Focus
  - ✓ Journal clubs
- ✓ **Digital newsletter**
  - ✓ Featuring four key focus areas:
    1. Policy & Advocacy
    2. Practice Advancement & Best Practices
    3. Education & Professional Development
    4. Community & Member Engagement
- ✓ **NCODA Connect**
  - ✓ Oncology Pharmacy Technician Community
  - ✓ Discussion Board
- ✓ **Oncology Pharmacy Technician Certification**
  - ✓ Establish a sustainable and innovative certification pathway for oncology pharmacy technicians
- ✓ **Advancing Excellence Through Continuing Education**
  - ✓ A continuing education series focused on topics specifically relevant to oncology pharmacy technicians, tailored to meet our needs.



## Get Involved

- For more information on the Oncology Pharmacy Technician Community, please contact:
  - Taryn Newsome, CPhT, Associate Manager of OPTA, Taryn.Newsome@ncoda.org
- To register for our complimentary membership, visit our website at <https://www.ncoda.org/register/>
- Also, you can scan the QR code below to join our growing community!



## Results & Impact

- ✓ **Growth and Recognition**
  - ✓ Since its launch, the Oncology Pharmacy Technician Community (OPTC) has become a key resource for oncology pharmacy technicians.
  - ✓ It has enhanced professional visibility and strengthened the role of technicians in oncology care.
- ✓ **Improved Patient Care Outcomes**
  - ✓ A well-trained, well-connected technician workforce contributes to better patient support and treatment adherence.
  - ✓ Technicians play a critical role in ensuring timely medication access and financial navigation for oncology patients.
- ✓ **Impact within Medically Integrated Pharmacies (MIPs)**
  - ✓ More efficient medication access processes streamline patient treatment.
  - ✓ Improved adherence through technician-led patient support programs.
  - ✓ Stronger coordination between healthcare providers and patients, enhancing overall oncology care.