

**American Society of Hematology  
Carrier Advisory Committee Meeting  
October 26, 2020**



**Virtual Annual Meeting  
Zoom Teleconference  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EDT**



# American Society of Hematology

Helping hematologists conquer blood diseases worldwide

## Hematology Carrier Advisory Committee Virtual Meeting Agenda

October 26, 2020

10:00am	Welcome & Introductions <i>Steven Allen, MD, Jamile Shammo, MD</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Speaker List <a href="#">3</a></li><li>• ASH Staff <a href="#">5</a></li><li>• CMD List and Jurisdiction Map <a href="#">6</a></li></ul>
10:15am	Medicare Coverage for Next Generation Sequencing <i>Gabriel Bien-Willner, MD, PhD, FCAP</i>
11:00am	Allogeneic Hematopoietic Cell Transplant in Lymphoma – Access for Medicare Beneficiaries <i>Dianna Howard, MD</i>
11:45am	ASH Updates <i>Katherine Stark, Leslie Brady</i>
11:50am	Closing Remarks <i>Dr. Allen, Dr. Shammo</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CMS Resources <a href="#">9</a></li><li>• ASH Practice Resources and Guidelines <a href="#">10</a></li></ul>
12:00pm	Adjourn

## Speaker Information

### **Gabriel Bien-Willner, MD, PhD, FCAP**

Gabriel Alejandro Bien-Willner, M.D., Ph.D., is the Medical Director of the MolDX program at Palmetto GBA, which seeks to understand the molecular testing landscape to implement payer controls, coverage, and to set policy. He is a leader in the Precision Medicine space and practices as a board-certified Anatomic Pathologist and Molecular Genetic Pathologist. Dr. Bien-Willner received his M.D. and Ph.D. from Baylor College of Medicine, with a doctorate in Human Molecular Genetics. His clinical training and academic tenure were at Washington University in St. Louis. Throughout his career, he has been active in research, development and advancement of molecular diagnostic services, specifically next-generation sequencing. His experience spans both academia and industry. He has worked closely with clinicians to develop clear clinical diagnostic and treatment pathways directing Precision Medicine programs for community cancer centers.

### **Dianna Howard, MD**

Diana Howard, MD, has been the director of a BMT program for 15 years, first at the University of Ky, and now at Wake Forest. Both programs provide care to a swath of the Appalachian region and a subset of patients for whom barriers to access either because of co-morbidities, distance, or delay in referral remain a challenge. Dr. Howard has a special interest in AYA population as she is trained in both pediatric and internal medicine. When Dr. Howard joined Wake Forest, her priorities included improving data management and quality reporting to CIBMTR; transitioning autologous transplant care to outpatient; starting a transplant survivorship program; and, positioning Wake as a center of excellence with insurers so patients would have access to transplant without having to travel. BMT programs are evaluated on volume and outcomes - accomplishing both at the same time is an imperative with greater challenges in modest sized transplant programs. Dr. Howard has been involved in efforts focused on expanding regional access for patients who need transplant. Her team was awarded an ASHP Best Practice Award in 2017 for our Autologous SCT outpatient program, recognizing our inclusion of clinical practice pharmacists. Consistent with her interest in patient access to health care, she has participated in advocacy campaigns with LLS, ACP, ASH and ASTCT. Dr. Howard completed the ASH Advocacy Leadership Institute and serves on ASH Committee of Government Affairs. Sr. Howard also serves on ASTCT Outcomes Committee, as faculty for the inaugural ASTCT Leadership Course, Co-Chair the ASTCT Leadership course for 2020, Chair ASTCT Government Relations Committee, and, represent ASTCT on ASH Committee on Practice and ACP Council of Subspecialists, where she have co-chaired a health policy subcommittee. Through this level of committee engagement Dr. Howard has been able to work with colleagues to advocate for access to transplant and cell therapy - advancing health policy that impacts patient barriers. At Wake Forest she has worked with the government policy office to respond to the call for comments to CMS on issues important to our transplant program and led a regional effort to influence insurer policy with regard to transplant reimbursement practices.

## Co-Chair Information

### **Steve Allen, MD**

Dr. Steven L. Allen is the System Head of Benign Hematology and the Associate Chief of Hematology at Northwell Health Cancer Institute and Professor of Medicine at the Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. Dr. Allen received his medical degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and completed his internal medicine internship, residency, and hematology/medical oncology fellowship at the New York Hospital– Cornell. Dr. Allen is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and the author or co-author of nearly 150 original research papers and reviews.

Dr. Allen has been an active member of the American Society of Hematology since 1985. He has served as a member of or liaison to the Committees on Practice, Educational Affairs, Government Affairs, Quality, and Program. He was Chair of the Committee on Practice from 2012-2015. He has been a member of the Executive Committee since 2012 and Councillor in Practice since 2016. Dr. Allen has also served on several ASH search committees and on subcommittees or task forces dealing with journal clinical content, practitioner needs, small meetings oversight,

maintenance of certification, and reimbursement. Together with his colleagues on the Task Force on Quality Measures, he received the Outstanding Service Award from ASH in 2006. He is also a recipient of the ASH Champion of Advocacy Award.

Dr. Allen is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Empire State Hematology Oncology Society where he serves as Secretary, the Committee on Interspecialty of the Medical Society of the State of New York, and the Medicare Carrier Advisory Committee as the downstate New York hematology and oncology representative. Dr. Allen is also a member of the Executive Board and immediate past President of the North Shore University Hospital Medical Staff Society and a member of the hospital's Medical Board.

Dr. Allen's clinical research is focused on new drug development and correlative clinico - pathologic studies in hematologic malignancies. He is involved in teaching medical students, residents, and fellows. Dr. Allen maintains an active clinical practice focused on both benign and malignant hematology.

### **Jamile M. Shammo, MD, FASCP, FACP**

Jamile M. Shammo, MD, FASCP, FACP, is Professor of medicine and Pathology, Section of Hematology and Stem Cell Transplantation, Division of Hematology/Oncology, at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois, where she has been practicing since 2000. In her current position, she spearheads the MDS/MPN/Bone Marrow Failure Program. As resident education faculty leader, principal investigator of clinical trials in her area of expertise, and as chair of the protocol review and monitoring committee at Rush Cancer Institute; she is heavily involved in education, research and administrative activities in the division of Hematology/Oncology.

Dr. Shammo earned her medical degree from Aleppo Medical School in Syria, after which she completed residencies in Anatomic, and clinical Pathology, as well as Internal Medicine at McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University, in Evanston, Illinois. She then completed a 3-year fellowship in the Division of Hematology/Oncology at University of Chicago.

Dr. Shammo is board certified in anatomic and clinical pathology as well as hematology. She is a fellow of both, the American Society of Clinical Pathologists and American College of Physicians. She received the Department of Medicine Excellence in Service and Teaching Award from Rush University Medical Center in 2003, was a finalist in the Department of medicine positive environment learning award in 2014 and was chosen to receive the MDS foundation 'Nobility in Science Award' in 2019.

She is also a national coordinator for the PNH registry in the US.

She founded the Chicago MDS/ MPN group in 2011 to facilitate scientific exchange among academic medical centers in Chicago and has chaired multiple city-wide meetings. She has developed and chaired multiple online CME activities pertaining to MDS, MPN as well as PNH. She has designed and conducted several investigator-initiated trials in her area of expertise. She has authored, and contributed to over 100 publications; including abstracts, posters, original papers and book chapters. She served as a reviewer for several medical journals including *Journal of Clinical Oncology and Blood*. As an invited speaker, Dr. Shammo lectured at national and international meetings and conferences.

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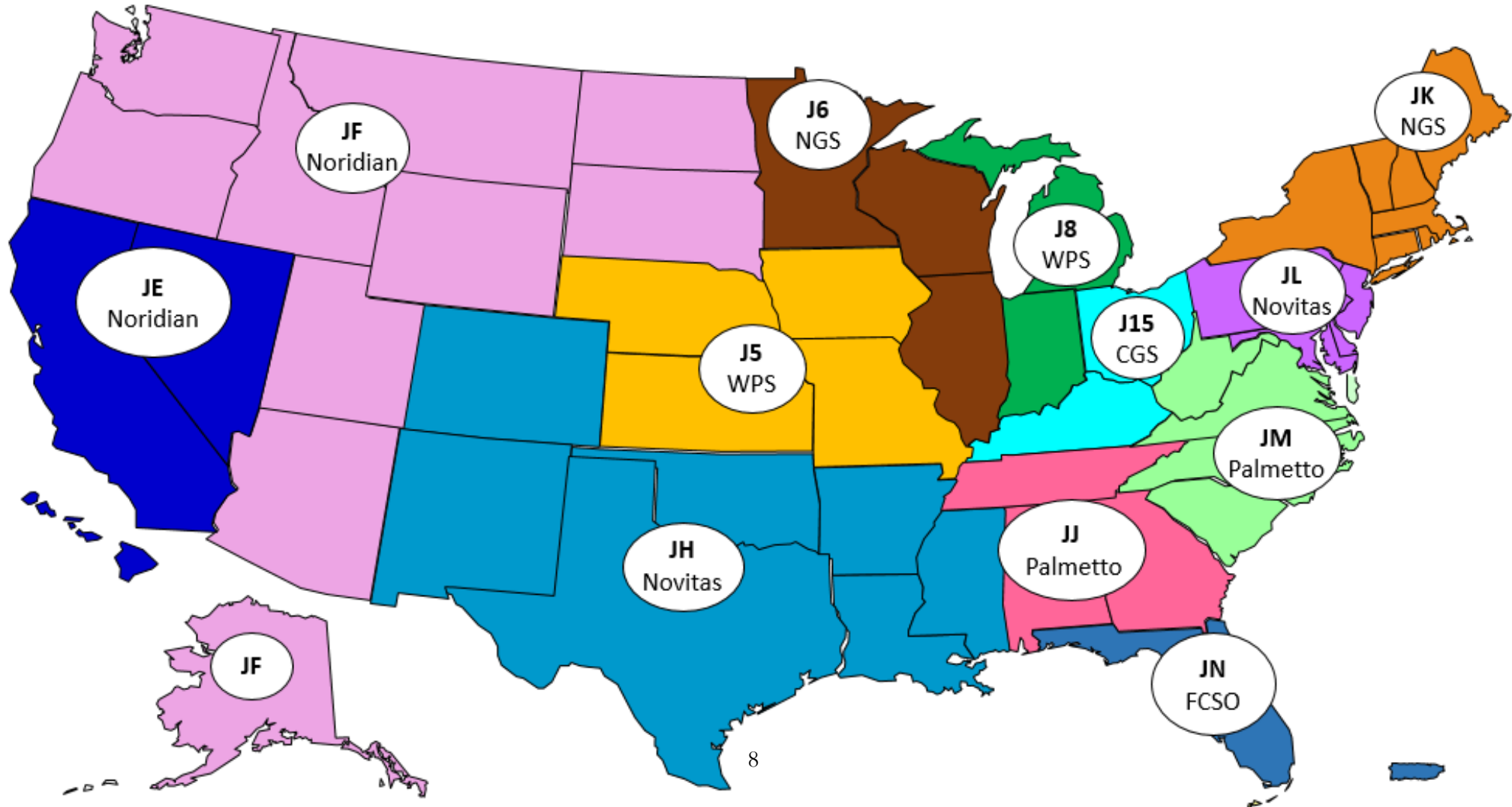
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# A/B MAC Jurisdictions as of June 2019





## CMS Resources

- [Medicare's Program Integrity Manual, Chapter 13](#) (*Revised 2/12/19: outlines the local coverage determinations the Carrier Advisory Committee (CAC) and contractor responsibilities surrounding CACs*)
- [General Information on CMS' Contracting Reform](#)
- [Medicare Administrative Contractors \(MAC\) Regions and Updates](#)
- [Map of Current Jurisdictions](#)
- [Map of Consolidated Regions](#) (*what CMS is moving toward*)
- [Durable Medical Equipment MACs](#)
- [Medicare Coverage](#)
- [Medicare Coverage Centers](#)
- [Patients over Paperwork: 9<sup>th</sup> Issue - Modernization Update: Local Coverage Determination \(LCD\)](#)



## American Society of Hematology Practice-Related Resources

ASH offers a wide range of practice-related resources on its [website](#). Below, please find a list of resources that may be of interest to you.

### Resources for Clinicians

- [COVID-19 Resources](#) for Hematologists – In an effort to serve its members, ASH is maintaining this webpage as a medium to exchange information to assist hematologists in navigating the COVID-19 public health crisis.
  - COVID-19 Policy Resources – These resources, including practice webinars and reimbursement fact sheets, are intended to help navigate the complex and fast-changing COVID-19 policy landscape.
- [ASH Practice Partnership](#) - The ASH Practice Partnership (APP) is a group within the Society that was formed to better represent the interests of practicing hematologists. The APP is comprised of practicing hematologists from across the nation; participants must be board-certified in hematology and active members of ASH. Ideal candidates should be interested in malignant and nonmalignant hematology.
- [Drug Resources](#) - This page provides links to patient assistance programs and sample letters of appeal for high-cost drugs, links to REMS resources, an up-to-date list of hematologic drug shortages, resources for physicians dealing with shortages, and links to ASH/FDA webinars featuring an unbiased discussion of newly approved drugs and their uses.
- [Consult a Colleague](#) - A member service designed to help facilitate the exchange of information between hematologists and their peers.
- [ASH Choosing Wisely List](#) - Evidence-based recommendations about the necessity and potential harm of certain practices developed as part of Choosing Wisely®, an initiative of the ABIM Foundation.
- [ASH Clinical Guidelines, ASH Pocket Guides, and Hematology Quality Metrics](#) - Access guidelines on the management and treatment of Acute Leukemia, Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura, Antithrombotic Drug Dosing and Management, Heparin-Induced Thrombocytopenia (HIT), Immune Thrombocytopenia (ITP), von Willebrand Disease, Sickle Cell Disease, Red Blood Cell Transfusion, and Thrombocytopenia in Pregnancy Access the full guidelines, along with other tools and resources, including pocket guides, apps, teaching slides, webinars, and podcasts.
- [Well-Being and Resilience](#) - Well-being is a critical factor in the strength of the workforce, and the Society is committed to helping hematologists address the myriad factors impacting well-being through interventions such as openly addressing burnout in live meetings and in publications, advocating on behalf of hematologists to streamline administrative work, and sharing approaches to building resilience among hematologists.

### Advocacy Resources

ASH's [Advocacy Center](#) houses all of the Society's policy positions, advocacy efforts, and campaigns. Hematologists and their patients can follow the latest national [policy news](#) and directly influence their representatives through [ASH Action Alerts](#). The Center also displays ASH's official [policy statements](#) along with [Testimony and Correspondence](#) related to federal regulation and private insurance developments.

- ASH's online [advocacy toolkit](#) provides members with the information and guidance necessary to communicate with elected officials in support of hematology. The toolkit clearly and concisely explains how members can undertake a number of actions to support ASH's advocacy efforts.

### Clinical ASH Publications

- [Practice Update](#) - The Practice Update is the society's bimonthly e-newsletter reporting on breaking news and activities of interest to the practice community.
- [ASH Clinical News](#) - ASH Clinical News is a magazine for ASH members and non-members alike – offering news and views for the broader hematology/oncology community.

- [The Hematologist: ASH News and Reports](#) - An award-winning, bimonthly publication that updates readers about important developments in the field of hematology and highlights what ASH is doing for its members.

### Meeting [Information](#) for Clinicians

- [ASH Annual Meeting and Exposition](#) – Virtual Experience from December 5-8, 2020. The Society’s Annual Meeting and Exposition is designed to provide hematologists from around the world a forum for discussing critical issues in the field. Abstracts presented at the meeting also contain the latest and most exciting developments in hematology research.
- [Highlights of ASH](#) - This meeting is designed to provide the highlights of the top presentations from ASH’s annual meeting.

### Other ASH Activities and Resources

- [The ASH Academy](#) – The ASH Academy provides hematologists with easy-to-use options for knowledge testing (for both MOC and CME purposes), completing practice improvement modules, as well as evaluating ASH meetings you attend and claiming CME credit for participating. The sixth edition of the ASH Self-Assessment Program (ASH-SAP) is also available on the ASH Academy.
- [FDA](#) – ASH partners with the Food and Drug Administration to alert members on new approved hematologic therapies.
- [AMA](#) – ASH is an involved member in the American Medical Association’s (AMA) activities such as the AMA House of Delegates (HOD), AMA Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Committee, and RVS Update Committee (RUC).
- [Committee on Practice](#) - The Committee on Practice is concerned with all issues affecting the practice of hematology. The Committee communicates with other organizations that have programs and policies that affect hematology practice. With appropriate review and approval by the Executive Committee, the Committee on Practice responds to practice-related issues by formulating positions on pending federal legislation, regulatory issues, and private insurance developments. The Committee also responds to matters of importance at the regional, state, and local levels, and to Society member requests.

If you have any questions on this list or any of the programs, please contact Katherine Stark, Policy and Practice Specialist at [kstark@hematology.org](mailto:kstark@hematology.org).

## ASH Clinical Practice Guidelines

### Venous Thromboembolism

- VTE: Treatment of Pediatric VTE (Published Nov 27 2018) [American Society of Hematology 2018 Guidelines for management of venous thromboembolism: treatment of pediatric venous thromboembolism](#)
- VTE: VTE in the Context of Pregnancy (Published Nov 27 2018) [American Society of Hematology 2018 guidelines for management of venous thromboembolism: venous thromboembolism in the context of pregnancy](#)
- VTE: Prophylaxis for Hospitalized and Non-hospitalized Medical Patients (Published Nov 27 2018) [American Society of Hematology 2018 guidelines for management of venous thromboembolism: prophylaxis for hospitalized and nonhospitalized medical patients](#)
- VTE: Optimal Management of Anticoagulation Therapy (Published Nov 27 2018) [American Society of Hematology 2018 guidelines for management of venous thromboembolism: optimal management of anticoagulation therapy](#)
- VTE: Heparin-induced Thrombocytopenia (Published Nov 27 2018) [American Society of Hematology 2018 guidelines for management of venous thromboembolism: heparin-induced thrombocytopenia](#)
- VTE: Diagnosis of VTE (Published Nov 27 2018) [American Society of Hematology 2018 guidelines for management of venous thromboembolism: diagnosis of venous thromboembolism](#)
- VTE: Prevention of VTE in Surgical Hospitalized Patients (Published Dec 3 2019) [American Society of Hematology 2019 guidelines for management of venous thromboembolism: prevention of venous thromboembolism in surgical hospitalized patients](#)
- VTE: Treatment of DVT and PE [American Society of Hematology 2020 guidelines for management of venous thromboembolism: treatment of deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism](#)
- VTE: Anticoagulation in COVID-19 (Released to public Oct 8 2020, to be submitted to Blood Advances in a few weeks) [Use of Anticoagulation in Patients with COVID-19](#)

### Sickle Cell Disease

- SCD: Cardiopulmonary and Kidney Disease (Published Dec 3 2019) [American Society of Hematology 2019 guidelines for sickle cell disease: cardiopulmonary and kidney disease](#)
- SCD: Transfusion Support (Published Jan 27 2020) [American Society of Hematology 2020 guidelines for sickle cell disease: transfusion support](#)
- SCD: Cerebrovascular Disease (Published Apr 16 2020) [American Society of Hematology 2020 guidelines for sickle cell disease: prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cerebrovascular disease in children and adults](#)
- SCD: Management of Acute and Chronic Pain (Published Jun 19 2020) [American Society of Hematology 2020 guidelines for sickle cell disease: management of acute and chronic pain](#)

### Immune Thromboembolism

- ITP (Published Dec 3 2019) [American Society of Hematology 2019 guidelines for immune thrombocytopenia](#)

### Acute Myeloid Leukemia

- AML: Treatment in Older Adults (Published Aug 6 2020) [American Society of Hematology 2020 guidelines for treating newly diagnosed acute myeloid leukemia in older adults](#)

Learn More!

[A user guide to the American Society of Hematology clinical practice guidelines](#)

Coming Soon, in 2020:

- VWD: Diagnosis, anticipated publication before the annual meeting
- VWD: Management, anticipated publication before the annual meeting
- VTE: Cancer-associated thrombosis, anticipated publication before the annual meeting

Expected 2021:

- VTE: Thrombophilia
- SCD: Stem Cell Transplant
- Ongoing, “living” updates to the Anticoagulation in COVID-19 Patients guideline