



# MSCO News

September 2019



*Massachusetts  
Society of Clinical  
Oncologists*

*Dedicated to  
improving cancer  
care and treatment*

## MSCO's Poster Competition

November 14, 2019

MSCO invites fellows and residents to submit abstracts for its poster competition on Thursday, November 14. More prospectus detailing submission guidelines please click [HERE](#). Submissions are due Thursday, October 17th, 2019 and can be submitted via MSCO's website.

 Massachusetts Society of  
Clinical Oncologists

**Call for Abstracts**  
SUBMIT BY OCTOBER 17, 2019  
*Clinical Vignette and Research Competition*

First place: \$500  
Second place: \$250



Visit us online at  
[www.mass-oncologists.org](http://www.mass-oncologists.org)  
for more information

# President's Corner

Michael Constantine, MD

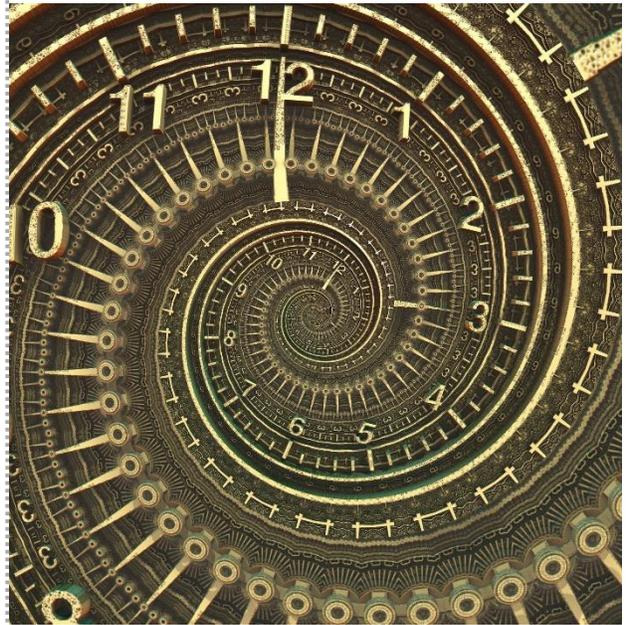
If I could just have more....

Let's begin with a riddle,  
Number 9 from 'The Hobbit':  
"This thing all things devour;  
Birds, beasts, trees, flowers;  
Gnaws iron, bites steel;  
Grinds hard stones to meal;  
Slays king, ruins town, and  
beats high mountain down."

The answer to the riddle is  
"TIME".

In my corner of the room  
looking out...

[CLICK HERE TO READ  
THE PRESIDENT'S  
CORNER.](#)



## - Colleague to Colleague -

### **MSCO @ ASCO's Advocacy Summit**

MSCO's Vice-President, Dr. Kala Seetharaman, and MSCO's Executive Director, Nathan Strunk, join with leaders throughout the country to meet with MA representatives and their staff to advocate for policies regarding clinical trial access, prior authorization, and drug pricing.



### **MSCO Annual Meeting**

MSCO is looking forward to Dr. Priscilla Brastianos, MD presenting "Shifting Paradigms in Primary and Metastatic Brain Tumors" at its Annual Meeting on Thursday, November 14th at the Newton Marriott. Members can register for free. Members can also invite a colleague for free. Learn more and register [HERE](#).

### **Join MSCO for FREE!**

Encourage your colleagues to Join! Membership is free. If 100% of all the oncologists in your practice become MSCO members, the practice will be highlighted on MSCO's website, its newsletter, and formally recognized at MSCO's Annual Meeting. It is easy to join [online](#) or email [nstrunk@mms.org](mailto:nstrunk@mms.org).

## **MSCO encourages legislators to co-sponsor the Clinical Treatment Act**

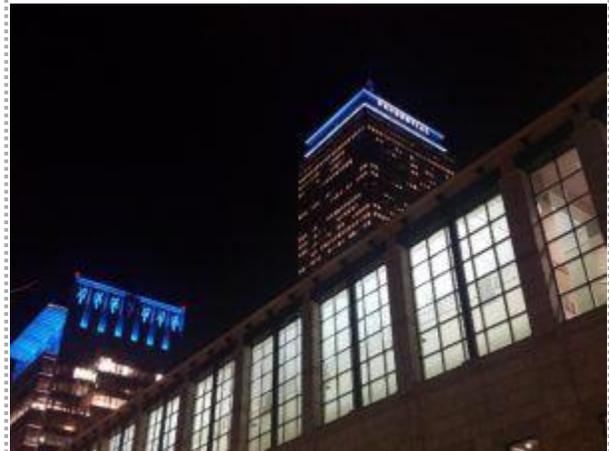
MSCO encourages congresswomen and men to co-sponsor H.R. 913, which would guarantee coverage of the routine costs of clinical trial participation for Medicaid enrollees with a life-threatening condition. [Learn more.](#)

## **MSCO supports Prior Authorization Bill**

MSCO joins more than 370 state patient, physician, health care professional, and other health care stakeholder organizations to endorse prior authorization legislation. [Read letter.](#)

## **Recognizing September as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month**

MSCO joins Ovations for the Cure and Tesaro's Our Way Forward Ovarian Cancer Education Program in lighting the Prudential Center Tower Teal in honor of ovarian cancer patients and their families. Learn more [here.](#)



## **AML Acute Myeloid Leukemia Medical Symposium**

October 4, 2019

Hosted by the Boston Society  
the Symposium features speakers presenting the latest research in AML. [Learn more](#)

**Now CONNECT with MSCO on LinkedIn.**

For weekly updates about MSCO and the latest in oncology and cancer care in Massachusetts, you can now connect with MSCO on Facebook and LinkedIn.



**Head & Neck Cancer Symposium**

October 11, 2019

Hosted by BU and DFCI.

Abstracts due by Sept. 6th.

Click [HERE](#) for details.

## - FDA Approvals & Updates -

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration granted accelerated approval to **pembrolizumab (Keytruda; Merck)** plus **lenvatinib (Lenvima; Eisai)** for the treatment of patients with advanced endometrial carcinoma that is not microsatellite instability high (MSI-H) or mismatch repair deficient (dMMR) and who have disease progression following prior systemic therapy but are not candidates for curative surgery or radiation. [Read full press release.](#)

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved **daratumumab (Darzalex; Janssen)** for adult patients with multiple myeloma in combination with bortezomib, thalidomide, and dexamethasone in newly diagnosed patients who are eligible for autologous stem cell transplant (ASCT). [Read full press release.](#)

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved **apalutamide (Erleada; Janssen)** for patients with metastatic castration-sensitive prostate cancer (mCSPC). Apalutamide was initially approved in 2018 for patients with non-metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer. [Read full press release.](#)

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration granted accelerated approval to **entrectinib (Rozlytrek; Genentech)** for adults and pediatric patients 12 years of age and older with solid tumors that have a neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase (NTRK) gene fusion without a known acquired resistance mutation, are metastatic or where surgical resection is likely to result in severe morbidity, and have progressed following treatment or have no satisfactory standard therapy. [Read full press release.](#)