

A Call to Action: Ethics Committee Roundtable Recommendations for Addressing Burnout and Moral Distress in Oncology

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Oncologist well-being is critical to initiating and maintaining the physician-patient relationship, yet many oncologists suffer from symptoms of burnout. Burnout has been linked to poor physical and mental health, as well as increased medical errors, patient dissatisfaction, and workforce attrition. In this Call to Action article, we discuss causes of and interventions for burnout and moral distress in oncology, highlight existing interventions, and provide recommendations for addressing burnout and improving well-being at the individual and organizational levels to deliver ethical, quality cancer care.

JCO Oncol Pract 16:191-199. © 2020 by American Society of Clinical Oncology

INTRODUCTION: THE ETHICAL IMPERATIVE: ATTEND TO ONCOLOGIST BURNOUT TO PROMOTE WELL-BEING

Burnout and the related occupation-associated stress issues of moral distress and compassion fatigue occur frequently among oncology clinicians, stemming from the significant cognitive, emotional, and administrative demands related to delivering highly complex cancer care.¹⁻⁴ Unaddressed burnout may affect oncology clinicians' physical and mental health, their capacity to make optimal treatment recommendations, and the quality of the clinician-patient relationship.³ Burnout is also associated with increased turnover, reduced work hours or absenteeism, and early retirement from clinical practice. These organizational changes carry economic costs to individual practices and the larger health care system, while contributing to shortages of practicing oncologists.^{1,5,6} High levels of oncologist burnout suggest the health care system is failing to provide healthy workplace environments that support clinician well-being and facilitate high-quality cancer care.^{7,8} Therefore, the cancer community has an ethical imperative to develop and support organizational, system-wide, and individual interventions to directly address burnout in clinical oncology.^{7,9,10}

The ASCO Ethics Committee convened the Burnout and Moral Distress in Oncology Roundtable in May 2019. The goal was to explore ethical considerations related to burnout and moral distress in oncology practice, identify factors that require further attention, and make recommendations for action. Meeting participants

included clinicians, bioethicists, researchers, administrators, and other individuals with expertise or a dedicated interest in clinician burnout. After the meeting, a panel of experts met to summarize roundtable discussions and develop an action plan. This article summarizes these discussions and recommendations for addressing burnout in oncology clinicians and physicians in training. Although the authors recognize that all members of the oncology team are at risk for burnout,^{3,4,11,12} a wider discussion is beyond the scope of this article.

THE PROBLEM

Burnout in Health Care Professionals

WHO defines burnout as an occupation-related clinical syndrome resulting from chronic, unresolved, occupation-related stress.¹³ It is characterized by physical and/or emotional exhaustion, cynicism and/or depersonalization, and inefficacy or low sense of professional accomplishment.¹³ Burnout is more common in physicians than other US workers and is estimated to affect 50% of physicians at some point in their career.^{5,14,15} Symptoms arise when a mismatch between occupational demands and available resources causes physical, psychological, and emotional stress.⁸ Risk factors include both occupation-related factors (eg, high patient loads, increased administrative responsibilities, use of electronic medical records (EMRs), lack of social support) and individual factors (eg, female sex, younger age, or single, unmarried/nonpartnered

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Accepted on February 25, 2020 and published at ascopubs.org/journal/op on March 30, 2020; DOI <https://doi.org/10.1200/JOP.19.00806>

status).³ Initial symptoms of physician burnout tend to develop slowly and in stages,¹⁶ culminating in the final burnout syndrome.^{3,4} Symptoms may initially appear in medical school, increase in intensity over time during residency or fellowship training,^{4,10,17-20} and persist for prolonged periods. They may resolve when clinicians develop new coping strategies, workplace stressors are reduced, or working conditions improve or after a job change.^{3,10} However, when clinicians attempt to “tough it out” or ignore stress, burnout symptoms become chronic.³

Burnout in Oncology

In a recent survey of ASCO member medical oncologists, 45% of respondents reported experiencing emotional exhaustion and/or depersonalization related to burnout, signs that previous studies indicate may persist.^{7,21-23} Oncology clinician burnout arises from a combination of individual factors and organizational, systems-level factors. Some of these are prevalent across all medical specialties, whereas others are specific to oncology³ (Table 1). The evolving medical landscape and changing practice demands have significantly affected how care is delivered, documented, and reimbursed, contributing to clinician stress across practice areas.^{8,10} For example, a recent study examining workplace characteristics associated with burnout found that hours worked per week, number of hours spent seeing patients per week, and high patient load were all associated with burnout in oncologists.² Similarly, the time required for using EMRs takes time away from patient care and is associated with high levels of burnout.²⁴ Other administrative responsibilities associated with finding affordable treatment options, matching patients with clinical trials, and negotiating with insurance and pharmacy benefit managers have

increased, with physicians spending an average of 2 hours on administrative duties for every hour of patient care.^{25,26} High staff turnover, the departure of key physicians and staff, and unfilled vacancies also increase workload and contribute to work-related stress.²

The practice of oncology also has unique occupational challenges. Patients with cancer may be in a psychological or medical crisis at every point across the cancer trajectory from diagnosis to end of life, and continuous exposure to life-threatening illness, limited treatment options, and treatment failure make clinicians particularly vulnerable to psychological distress and burnout.^{12,27} Growing numbers of long-term survivors of cancer and older patients with chronic health conditions pose unique treatment challenges,^{28,29} and oncologists are often in ethically challenging situations related to differences in patient, family, and colleague values and preferences in end-of-life care. These may include requests for nonbeneficial treatment or refusal of potentially beneficial interventions.³⁰ Finally, a sense of personal failure and grief upon the death of a patient are key drivers of burnout in oncology clinicians.³⁰

CONSEQUENCES OF ONCOLOGIST BURNOUT

Personal and Professional Consequences of Burnout

Burnout may have profound effects on both personal health and professional performance. Chronic burnout is associated with physical health conditions (eg, cardiovascular disease, chronic fatigue, cognitive dysfunction, insomnia, GI issues) and mental health issues (eg, depression, anxiety, substance dependence, suicide).^{2,5,10,31-33} Personal life disruptions (eg, marital conflict, family disruption, or divorce) are also common.^{2,5,10} The connection between workload or productivity and personal consequences is multifaceted. For example, long workdays and heavy administrative load have been found to contribute to significant work-home conflicts, resulting in issues balancing professional and family roles,^{3,10} whereas the connection between burnout and suicide, as well as burnout and cardiovascular disease, may explain why burnout is associated with shortened life expectancy.³⁴

Although burnout is not classified as a psychological condition, it shares symptomology with several psychiatric disorders⁴ and is often accompanied by overlapping syndromes, such as moral distress and compassion fatigue.^{3,4} Moral distress, a type of work stress that frequently occurs with burnout, is defined as psychological pain or anguish in response to situations where health care professionals are unable to act in accordance with their moral values as a result of real or perceived constraints.³⁵⁻³⁹ Life and death decision making and perceived futility of treatment have been identified as common ethical challenges leading to moral distress.¹² Prolonged, continuous, and intense patient contact may also lead to compassion fatigue, which is

TABLE 1. Recognized Organizational Factors Associated With Burnout in Oncology

Recognized Organizational Factors Associated With Burnout
Increased time in direct patient care
Exposure to suffering and death
High occupational demands
Lack of control and flexibility over daily tasks
Increased administrative responsibilities
Use of electronic medical record systems
Oncology-related clerical burden
Changing health care system
Limited decision making
Increased workload as a result of high staff turnover
Inability to achieve optimal work-life balance
Risk of malpractice
Unclear job expectations from leadership
Lack of peer support
Lack of intrinsic reward
Loss of altruism

characterized by tension and preoccupation with the individual or cumulative trauma of one's patients. Compassion fatigue manifests in three major domains (hyperarousal, avoidance, and re-experiencing) that parallel symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorders.^{9,40,41} Depression and moral distress have been described as both precursors to and consequences of burnout.⁴ Some research suggests that moral distress should be identified as an ethical root cause of clinician burnout.¹⁰ However, these are generally identified as unique—albeit related—entities.

In addition to personal consequences, chronic burnout often has deleterious effects on occupational skills (eg, problem solving and decision making) that may jeopardize patient care.⁴²⁻⁴⁴ Research demonstrates a relationship between physician burnout and self-reported medical errors,^{10,12,42,45,46} suboptimal care,^{47,48} decreased productivity,^{5,49} low professionalism, and unethical behavior.⁵⁰ Not surprisingly, these negative effects are associated with poor treatment outcomes and lower patient satisfaction^{10,42} and affect the relationships between physicians and patients, families, and other oncology professionals.⁵¹ Although an eroded sense of purpose is a risk factor, burnout itself may undermine the clinician's sense of purpose, identity, and altruism, which may further undermine care.^{6,10} Recent evidence reveals that professional burnout is associated with self-reported unprofessional behaviors and less cost-conscious attitudes among physicians.⁴⁸ Similarly, cynicism, loss of engagement, and decreased professional satisfaction strongly influence trainees' decisions to choose oncology and clinicians' decisions to change employment or retire.^{20,52,53}

Organizational and System-Wide Consequences

The effects of burnout on the oncologist-patient relationship and the lost revenue associated with decreased productivity and compromised care are costly to the health care system.^{5,6} Lowered quality of care, staff shortages, decreased patient satisfaction, and safety concerns quickly diminish the reputation of practices and organizations, causing lost business and threats to long-term viability.⁵ Burnout-associated absenteeism and decreased workload productivity result in lower revenues^{6,7} and create institutional problems with recruitment and retention of staff.² The loss of oncologists through early retirement is also a concern for the oncology community, which projects a shortage of oncologists in the coming years.⁵⁴⁻⁶⁰ Physician burnout costs the US health care system an estimated \$4.6 billion a year as a result of reduced clinical hours and physician turnover.¹⁰

BURNOUT INTERVENTIONS

Interventions for burnout have been categorized as organizational, systems-level interventions that target the workplace and individual interventions focused on the clinician.^{21,61} Research comparing the effectiveness of individual versus organizational interventions suggests that institutional interventions are more effective than individual

approaches alone,²¹ but both approaches may be needed to support clinicians, change institutional culture, and reduce workplace stressors.

Organizational, Systematic Interventions

Institutional, system-level interventions aim to reduce or eliminate environmental stressors and promote healthy workplace environments.^{62,63} A range of individual studies, systematic analyses, and meta-analyses have demonstrated the efficacy of organizational efforts to reduce burnout^{5,21,61,62} (Table 2). Some environmental interventions are designed to reduce stress by streamlining work flow and reducing administrative burden.^{5,62} For example, the University of Colorado APEX system teamwork model incorporated medical assistants to decrease administrative burdens on clinicians^{6,64} and found that burnout decreased from 53% to 13%, efficiency and productivity increased, and patient waiting times decreased. Other strategies focus on changing practice culture and ethics^{3,4,12,65,66} and fostering community and engagement with colleagues.^{4,12,40,67-69} Organizational interventions include stand-alone programs addressing specific institutional areas as well as programs designed to address multiple institutional levels or to work in tandem with individual interventions.^{3,4,9,10,38,70} For example, the open access American Medical Association (AMA) STEPS Forward Program module⁷¹ recommends the following nine strategies: engagement of leadership; acknowledgment and routine longitudinal burnout assessment; creation of infrastructure for implementation of individual and system-level interventions; workflow efficiency; reduction in administrative burdens; support for health of the workforce; strengthening of local leadership; tracking organizational costs of burnout; and routine assessment of interventions to promote organizational health and employee well-being.^{62,63}

Individual Interventions

In addition to organizational interventions, interventions targeting individual clinicians have been empirically studied.^{7,12,43} These interventions provide resources to help clinicians recognize, minimize, or manage burnout symptoms; alleviate distress; and/or promote resilience and improve well-being.³ Individual interventions include education, cognitive-behavioral therapy, social support and work-life integration, mindfulness-based stress reduction, communication skills training, health promotion, and promoting activism to change the work environment. For example, cognitive-behavioral interventions help clinicians recognize stress levels and deploy coping strategies.^{3,4} Skill-based interventions such as improving communication skills and reducing stress during difficult patient conversations have also been described.^{67,72} Self-compassion has been identified as a mechanism to improve clinician well-being.⁷³

Literature on the effectiveness of individual interventions is growing, but studies specific to oncologists remain limited. Most examine the effects of a single treatment modality on

TABLE 2. Efficacy of Tested Organizational Efforts and Solutions to Reduce Burnout

Efficacy of Organizational Efforts
Environmental interventions reduce stress by streamlining work flow and reducing administrative burden (eg, University of Colorado APEX system teamwork)
Alter practice culture and ethics
Foster community engagement with colleagues
Implementation of stand-alone programs addressing specific institutional issues
Programs designed to address multiple institutional levels
Programs designed to address multiple institutional levels to work in tandem with individual interventions (eg, open access American Medical Association STEPS Forward Program module)

one or more symptoms of burnout or well-being, and the results are varied. For example, 2 studies indicate that mindfulness training can influence burnout, empathy, and well-being,³ whereas the results of a randomized controlled trial showed limited impacts of communication skills training on stress and burnout.⁷⁴ However, the communication training involved a single session and targeted a predetermined communication challenge, which may have limited the impact on stress and burnout. Providing skills training that targets oncologists' self-determined communication challenges and offering longitudinal booster sessions to reinforce skills have the potential to bolster the impact of training. A recent meta-analysis that combined physician-directed interventions reported small but significant reductions in burnout across interventions,^{21,61} suggesting that individuals can receive similar benefits from a variety of approaches¹⁰ and that interventions delivered concurrently may increase efficacy. Although burnout interventions are not equivalent to those directed at job satisfaction or quality of life, research suggests that reducing burnout may improve quality of life and job satisfaction.¹⁰ For example, a recent randomized clinical trial investigating an individualized coaching intervention targeting well-being and distress found significant reductions in emotional exhaustion and burnout and improvements in overall quality of life and resilience.^{6,65} In summary, research suggests that a spectrum of interventions addressing different dimensions of burnout can successfully reduce or eliminate burnout symptoms and improve quality of life in health care professionals.^{9,21} However, because research findings are limited and inconsistent, further investigation in oncology settings is warranted.

Medical and Professional Organization Initiatives

Professional medical associations have also developed programs and initiatives to reduce physician burnout and promote wellness.¹⁰ Working groups within the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) have created a knowledge hub, a series of discussion papers, and a conceptual model⁷⁵ and have assembled an action collaborative of > 60 organizations committed to reversing

burnout.⁷⁶ The AMA has produced multiple studies, hosted conferences, and conducted institutional assessments of burnout levels and the links between burnout and stressors such as EMR usability (eg, EHRSeeWhatWeMean.org).⁷⁷ For example, AMA STEPS Forward Program offers specific practice improvement strategies to increase workflow efficiency, promote team-based care, decrease administrative burden, and increase clinician wellness and personal resilience.⁷¹ Similarly, the American College of Physicians has created a task force and extensive practice resources promoting physician wellness and professional satisfaction.⁷⁸ The American Medical Women's Association has introduced multiple interorganizational efforts and resources to address burnout in women physicians and advocate for well-being during residency. The Society of Gynecologic Oncology has created a Wellness Task Force, an evidence-based review, and a wellness curriculum targeted at fellows and early career oncologists.⁷⁹⁻⁸¹

ASCO Burnout Initiatives to Date

ASCO has addressed burnout in the clinical oncology community by providing resources that support professional development, quality improvement, and education for physicians and practices. These resources align with goals from the strategic plan by offering member services to "redefine the needs of ASCO's members and key constituents" and "deliver better support for the modern oncology professional."⁸² ASCO's educational offerings include formal presentations, interactive sessions, and facilitated group discussions at the annual meetings, thematic meetings, and symposia. For example, ASCO's 2015 Supportive Care Symposium incorporated Death Cafes, which are informal, group-directed discussions about death,⁸³ and a comprehensive review of burnout in oncology was presented at the ASCO annual meeting in 2016 and published as an ASCO Educational Book.³ ASCO's professional development programming piloted a resilience skills training program for hematology/oncology fellows,⁸⁴ and online resources offer clinicians tools to relieve burnout.⁸⁵ More recently, ASCO has begun addressing workplace factors by providing resources to practices. For example, ASCO launched the Quality Training Program (QTP) in the summer of 2019. This innovative program is designed to assist teams from oncology practices address the factors leading to clinician burnout.⁸⁶ Other publications and presentations include the Care Delivery Report,⁸⁷ *Journal of Clinical Oncology* Report,²⁰ ASCO Perspective,⁸⁸ blog posts,⁸⁹ and surveys.²²

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Mobilizing Resources and Research to Maximize Oncologist Well-Being

Although oncology clinician burnout has been widely discussed and resources and education for professionals and practices have increased, the global prevalence of burnout

in oncology clinicians has increased over the past decade, and more resources are needed to promote clinician health and well-being and optimal clinical environments.¹⁴ It is vital that the organization use specific efforts to address burnout in oncology including recognizing the importance of oncology physician well-being to achieving its mission; assessing burnout routinely; proactively engaging organizational leaders and physicians in collaborative action planning; optimizing the clinical practice environment and institutional culture; and providing well-being resources (Table 3). Improvement can only occur if effective interventions are implemented over the short term because culture takes time to change. Therefore, the ASCO Ethics Committee Roundtable Burnout Experts believe it is critical to provide cancer leaders, administrators, and organizations with substantial guidance and recommendations based on empirical evidence noted in this work on critical collaborative actions they must take to address burnout in both the immediate short term and the long term. These recommendations for action are summarized in Table 4 and include priority action items that ASCO may be particularly well suited to address, additional collaborative opportunities for ASCO to partner with other organizations (eg, medical professional societies, independent oncology community practices, and academic cancer centers), and strategies to promote oncologist engagement and well-being within the oncology organization (community practice or cancer center) to strengthen burnout and resilience efforts independently within independent institutions.

To help prioritize recommendations, identify unmet needs, foster existing efforts, and expand opportunities to partner with other organizations, the roundtable urges ASCO to create a dedicated Task Force on Burnout, Well-Being, and Professional Satisfaction. Task force membership could combine ASCO volunteers with burnout experts from across medicine and include program administrators and fellowship directors. This task force could consider adopting NASEM recommendations for medical professional societies, such as advocacy with state licensing bodies to reduce the professional impact of seeking mental health treatment.⁸ The following recommendations highlight areas where a task force could work within ASCO and with medical societies and cancer organizations (oncology community practices and academic cancer centers) to direct and combine resources. These recommendations

are based on a small number of studies from single institutions, and thus, information sharing across institutions is essential to refine these efforts further. In summary, the final recommendations for action (Table 4) are as follows.

Recommendation 1: Broaden Clinician Education Resources

Although ASCO and other medical organizations have increased educational offerings in recent years, roundtable participants recommended expanding oncology-specific resources for practicing clinicians and developing new resources for oncology fellows and early-career clinicians to help prevent burnout. The following subrecommendations outline suggested strategies:

Recommendation 1a: To solidify its commitment to member well-being and practice health, ASCO should continue to integrate burnout, professional satisfaction, and well-being into the educational curriculum (eg, educational sessions, workshops, training sessions) at ASCO annual and thematic meetings and expand webinar and online resources.

Recommendation 1b: ASCO could use existing leadership and educational programs (eg, Leadership Development Program and Education Scholars Program) and other venues to promote discussion between clinicians, practice administrators, and educators on topics related to burnout and the moral issues faced by oncologists.

Recommendation 1c: ASCO could create a set of burnout-related resources for physicians in training. These could include a toolkit for developing professional skills (eg, patient communication, ethical decision making, combating moral distress and compassion fatigue) and a best practices or physician wellness checklist to help job applicants evaluate organizational stressors (eg, staffing ratios, EMR requirements, documentation support) and workplace wellness in potential employers.

Recommendation 2: Establish Physician Well-Being and Burnout as Important Quality Metrics for Oncology Practices

An important part of addressing burnout at the cancer organization and individual institutional level is using validated and standardized measures to assess and report on employee well-being and burnout.⁸ The following subrecommendations address the deficiencies in available resources for organizational leaders and administrators^{43,83} and propose steps to address these deficiencies:

Recommendation 2a: ASCO could create or support the creation of a specific pathway for administrative leaders on how to promote resilience and well-being and reduce burnout. The proposed Task Force on Burnout could work with other ASCO committees to

TABLE 3. Proposed Organizational Interventions to Address Burnout in Oncology
Proposed Organizational Changes

Recognize the importance of oncology physician well-being to achieving its mission
Assess burnout
Proactively engage organizational leaders and physicians in collaborative action planning
Optimize the clinical practice environment and institutional culture and provide well-being resources

TABLE 4. Recommendations for Action for Addressing Burnout in Oncology

Recommendation	Priority Action Items for ASCO	Collaborative Opportunities for ASCO	Strategies to Promote Oncologist Engagement and Well-Being Within the Cancer Organization (community practice or academic center)
1. Broaden clinical education resources	Burnout-specific education at ASCO meetings (eg, workshops, one on one, educational sessions) QOPI certification program LDP collaboration to train high-level physician leaders in senior executive communication (eg, chief executive officer) Burnout-focused practice model targeting future oncology workforce: early career Communication training: a communication skills piece, communication training course, or webinar Streamline ASCO continuing medical education reporting	Quality Training Program collaboration with individual cancer centers AMA STEPS Forward Module development specific to oncologists and their teams Highlight practical tools for practice efficiency currently available	Create oncology practice prevention program targeting early career oncologists Provide education to staff on burnout in oncology (eg, lunch and learn) Empower health care/oncology administration with education on burnout
2. Establish clinician well-being and burnout as important quality metrics for oncology practices	ASCO best practices recognition program (eg, gold, silver, bronze) Guideline or quality measure	Cancer organization–tailored burnout inventory Deploy improvement stream toward physician well-being Develop practice questions as add-on to MBI	Routine assessment of clinician burnout within cancer center and organization using validated burnout measures (eg, Mini-Z, MBI, Mayo Clinic Well-Being Index) Evaluate objective EHR metrics Team documentation Employee retention/turnover (eg, use a salary calculator)
3. Promote evidence development	Support future empirical descriptive and interventional burnout research Participate in burnout research Advocate for funding (NIH, private foundations) to offer funding mechanism targeting oncology burnout	Support cancer researchers interested in informing structural and individual interventions	Design/implement quality improvement projects Participate in multidisciplinary research endeavors

Abbreviations: AMA, American Medical Association; EHR, electronic health record; LDP, leadership development program; MBI, Maslach Burnout Inventory; NIH, National Institutes of Health; QOPI, Quality Oncology Practice Initiative.

create specific criteria or guidelines for designing and managing a positive practice environment.

Recommendation 2b: ASCO could expand successful programs such as the QTP Collaboration (eg, QTP-hosted session on burnout) and publish results in formats that can be accessed by other practices. To widen their impact, these programs could be expanded for practice managers, delivered in other formats (eg, online modules or distance presentations), or published to reach a broader audience.

Recommendation 2c: ASCO could offer a Best Practices Recognition Program similar to the AMA Joy in Medicine Recognition Program to recognize exemplary institutions and practice environments⁶³ and highlight awardees as “bright spots” or “inspiring stories” on the ASCO Web site (see AMA STEPS Forward Program for examples). The proposed ASCO

Task Force on Burnout, Well-Being, and Professional Satisfaction could be tasked with developing criteria and metrics.

Recommendation 2d: ASCO could support the creation and testing of quality measures of burnout, resilience, and positive or negative workplace environment for inclusion in its quality measurements programs (Quality Oncology Practice Initiative [QOPI] or QOPI Certification Program). Because measures of workplace environment are not currently included as process or outcomes measures, there is a need to develop and pilot measures. The proposed task force could partner with ASCO experts, practice administrators, and other stakeholders in quality measurement to develop these measures. The AMA has published steps for organizations that could provide structure and could be linked to ASCO initiatives.^{5,62}

Recommendation 3: Promote Research

Research on burnout in oncology remains limited and largely descriptive, and more studies are needed to clarify the causes of burnout; the relationships between burnout, moral distress, and compassion fatigue; and the effects of individual versus organizational interventions on reducing oncologist burnout and improving well-being. Workshop suggestions for future research are listed in the following subrecommendations.

Recommendation 3a: ASCO could collaborate with other cancer organizations and institutions to investigate how institutional stressors differ by setting and career experience. These descriptive data could be published in an existing annual ASCO report or other ASCO publications and used for further hypothesis-driven research (see recommendation 3b)

Recommendation 3b: ASCO and the cancer community should support descriptive and hypothesis-driven research to expand understanding of oncologist burnout, moral distress, and intervention outcomes. Descriptive studies are needed to understand risk

factors, including common moral dilemmas faced by oncologists. Hypothesis-driven studies are needed to test associations between risk factors, interventions (structural and individual), and outcomes (eg, practice health, clinician well-being). Research studies could use qualitative and quantitative methods and data from retrospective (existing data repositories) and prospective designs.

CONCLUSION

As the previous discussion makes clear, burnout compromises clinician health and well-being, patient safety and quality of care, the economic strength of practices and institutions, and the future oncology workforce. Because the effects are so widespread, individual physicians, oncology practices and health care employers, professional societies such as ASCO, and other stakeholders (eg, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, state medical boards, payers, regulators, and electronic health record vendors) all share responsibility for addressing the problem.^{5,6,8}

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AUTHORS' DISCLOSURES OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

Disclosures provided by the authors and data availability statement (if applicable) are available with this article at DOI <https://doi.org/10.1200/JOP.19.00806>.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Conception and design: All authors
Administrative support: Molly M. McGinnis
Provision of study materials: All authors
Collection and assembly of data: All authors
Data analysis and interpretation: All authors
Manuscript writing: All authors
Final approval of manuscript: All authors
Accountable for all aspects of the work: All authors

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors participated in and/or contributed to the ASCO Ethics Committee Roundtable: Burnout and Moral Distress at the 2019 ASCO annual meeting. Some authors are members of the ASCO Ethics Committee and acknowledge the support and feedback of committee members to this article. The authors would also like to acknowledge the contributions of the following participants who were not authors on this paper, but shared their knowledge and expertise at the Roundtable: Thomas LeBlanc, MD, MA; Piyush Srivastava, MD; Walter Birch, MBA; John Cox, DO; Susana Banerjee, MA, MBBS, PhD; Kurt Demel, MD, MBA; Stephen Grubbs, MD.

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AUTHORS' DISCLOSURES OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**A Call to Action: Ethics Committee Roundtable Recommendations for Addressing Burnout and Moral Distress in Oncology**

The following represents disclosure information provided by authors of this manuscript. All relationships are considered compensated unless otherwise noted. Relationships are self-held unless noted. I = Immediate Family Member, Inst = My Institution. Relationships may not relate to the subject matter of this manuscript. For more information about ASCO's conflict of interest policy, please refer to www.asco.org/rwc or ascopubs.org/jop/site/ffc/journal-policies.html.

Open Payments is a public database containing information reported by companies about payments made to US-licensed physicians ([Open Payments](#)).

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Research Funding: Pharmacyclics (Inst), GlaxoSmithKline (Inst), Genentech (Inst), Celgene (Inst), Hospira (Inst), Cephalon (Inst), Polyphenon E International (Inst)

Patents, Royalties, Other Intellectual Property: Dr Shanafelt is co-inventor of the Physician Well-Being Index, Medical Student Well-Being Index, Nurse Well-Being Index, Well-Being Index, and the Participatory Management Leadership Index. Mayo Clinic holds the copyright to these instruments and has licensed them for use outside of Mayo Clinic. Dr. Shanafelt receives a portion of any royalties paid to Mayo Clinic.

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Research Funding: Cambia Health Foundation
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No other potential conflicts of interest were reported.