

# The Oncology Drug Shortage

American Society of Clinical  
Oncology

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September 26, 2011

# Disclosure

- No conflicts to disclose

# Impact on Patients

- Treatment delays
- Substitution of less desirable treatment
- Increased cost
- Increased emotional stress during an already frightening situation
- Some patients scramble to find their own drugs

# Impact on Practices

- Daily struggle to identify sources of needed drugs
- Significant resources diverted to search for drugs
- Increased costs

# Impact on Clinical Trials

- Over 150 NCI-sponsored trials include drugs that are currently in shortage
- According to the Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups, approximately half of all active cooperative group cancer clinical trials have at least one drug on the shortages list
- We have heard from at least one NCI Cooperative Group that patient accrual in 60% of trials has been delayed due to drug shortages

# Impact on Clinical Trials (2)

- Reliability of results
- Treatment advances stalled

# Conclusion

- Frustration increasing every day
- Significant, unacceptable effect on patients and their care
- We need to fix this...now