



Medimmune, Inc.

OA Renews Contract for Ethyol® with MedImmune, Inc.

Oncology Associates is pleased to announce that it has renewed its agreement for Ethyol® with MedImmune Oncology, Inc. The new agreement will begin **January 1, 2005**.

Ethyol® (amifostine) is a selective cytoprotective agent used to reduce toxicities associated with certain cancer chemotherapy and radiotherapy. Specifically, Ethyol® is an intravenous organic thiophosphate cytoprotective agent indicated for the reduction of cumulative renal toxicity associated with repeated administration of cisplatin in patients with advanced ovarian cancer or non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). Ethyol® is also indicated to reduce the incidence of moderate to severe xerostomia (chronic dry mouth) in patients undergoing post-operative radiation treatment for head and neck cancer, where the radiation port includes a substantial portion of the parotid glands.

Shaun Meehan, National Account Manager for MedImmune says, "This is a great opportunity for MedImmune Oncology and Oncology Associates to work together and offer members additional educational programs for Ethyol and supportive care. We look forward to continuing our long lasting relationship with OA."

For more information on MedImmune Oncology and Ethyol®, visit www.medimmune.com. If your practice is interested in joining the MedImmune Oncology agreement for Ethyol®, contact Oncology Associates at **888-732-7352**.

Product	Strength/Size	Selling Unit	NDC #
Ethyol® (amifostine)	500 mg/10 mL vial	1 box of 3 vials	58178-017-03

New GlaxoSmithKline Agreement

Oncology Associates' new agreement with GlaxoSmithKline will run from **January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005**. Products on contract include: Hycamtin, Navelbine and Zofran Injection in 20 ml vials and 32 mg premixed bags.

Zofran rebate checks for Q3, 2004 were released November 15, 2004. Rebates for Q4, 2004 will be released mid-February, 2005.

To discuss any questions about the GlaxoSmithKline agreement or rebates, please contact your local GlaxoSmithKline representative or call OA at **888-732-7352**.

Product	Package Size	NDC#	Strength
Hycamtin (topotecan HCl)	4 mg single-use vial	00007-4201-01	4 mg/5 ml
Navelbine Injection (vinorelbine tartrate)	10 mg single-use vial	00173-0656-01	10 mg/1 ml
Zofran (ondansetron HCl)	32 mg injection Premixed	00173-0461-00	32 mg/50 ml
Zofran (ondansetron HCl)	40 ml MDV	00173-0442-00	2 mg/mL 20 ml

IN OTHER ETHYOL NEWS...

Reimbursement Rate for Ethyol® Increased

CMS has mandated that all Medicare Carriers adjust the reimbursement rate for Ethyol® (amifostine) to **\$422.21 per vial**, effective **April 1, 2004, through December 31, 2004**.

This change must be implemented by each carrier by **December 6, 2004**, which gives carriers 30 days to implement the change. The notice remains retroactive to **April 1, 2004** and any claim from this date through **December 31, 2004** should be paid at the higher rate. Physicians have a full year from the date of service to submit for the correct amount.

CMS will issue a provider education article that will provide instructions to physician offices on how to handle (past and present) claims. Change request forms are available on CMS's website at www.cms.gov. Search for, "Change Request 3552."

Please Note

Medicare Carriers will not automatically pay the difference on past claims. You will need to bring these claims to the attention of the carriers. This adjustment is for 2004 only. Oncology Associates will notify you when 2005 rates become available.

For more information about the MedImmune agreement for Ethyol®, please contact Oncology Associates at **888-732-7352**.

