

## Top 10 Lists

David Letterman may have started a trend with his top 10 lists. By the end of each year, we see many such lists, including the top 10 books and movies, best and worst dressed celebrities, and greatest inventions. On many Web sites, you see most popular articles. The Oncology Nursing Society's journals have now joined others in this activity—but with a twist. Rose Mary Carroll-Johnson, MN, RN, editor of the *Oncology Nursing Forum*, described the process we followed to arrive at our top 10 (actually 11) list for 2010 in her January 2011 editorial. She also reflected on the meaning behind the selections. Articles were included based on more than just the number of times they were accessed online; they were also judged according to relevance, significance, and overall appeal in promoting excellence in oncology nursing and quality cancer care. She commented that those selected articles “speak to the day-to-day work of oncology nursing” (Carroll-Johnson, 2011, p. 8). See Table 1 for our list and see what you think.

This was the first time we compiled a top 10 list, but we think it can be more than just the articles you may have missed. It can provide a way to think about what is going on in your professional world. We straddle two worlds—nursing and cancer care. Therefore, we would also like to present key events of the past year as a way to reflect on your current work as well as how it may change as a result of those events. For example, although long overdue healthcare reform may not be affecting our daily professional lives yet, it will eventually. We will hear more about comparative effectiveness research so we can make better informed decisions about practices to implement or discontinue. If you have not been using electronic health records (EHRs) yet, you will be. The learning curve can be steep and frustrating, yet it holds promise in making the care we deliver

better in the long run. Are you involved in the development and implementation of EHR in your practice? Although

the changes that will come with these reform efforts may not be clear to us on a day-to-day level, we need to prepare

**Table 1. Top 10 *Oncology Nursing Forum (ONF)* and *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing (CJON)* Articles Published From June 2009–May 2010**

| RANK | ARTICLE TITLE   | AUTHOR(S)   | $\bar{X}$ |
|------|---|---|-----------|
| 1    | <b>November 2009 ONF:</b> American Society of Clinical Oncology/Oncology Nursing Society Chemotherapy Administration Safety Standards <sup>a</sup>                      | Joseph O. Jacobson, Martha Polovich, Kristen K. McNiff, Kristine B. LeFebvre, Charmaine Cummings, Michele Galimoto, Katherine R. Bonelli, and Michele R. McCorkle | 9.43      |
| 2    | <b>July 2009 ONF:</b> Clinical Challenges: Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Related to the Cancer Experience  | Nancy Jo Bush   | 8.71      |
| 3    | <b>December 2009 CJON:</b> Putting Evidence Into Practice: What Are the Pharmacologic Interventions for Nociceptive and Neuropathic Cancer Pain in Adults? <sup>a</sup> | Lisa Aiello-Laws, Janice Reynolds, Nancy Deizer, Mary Peterson, Suzanne Ameringer, and Marie Bakitas  | 8.56      |
| 3    | <b>December 2009 CJON:</b> Cognitive Effects of Cancer Treatment: “Chemo Brain” Explained   | Katrina Evens and Valerie S. Eschiti  | 8.56      |
| 4    | <b>December 2009 CJON:</b> Maximizing Exercise in Breast Cancer Survivors   | Barbara Windom Adkins   | 8.33      |
| 5    | <b>July 2009 ONF:</b> Oncology Nurses' Perceptions of Obstacles and Supportive Behaviors at the End of Life   | Renea L. Beckstrand, Josie Moore, Lynn Callister, and A. Elaine Bond  | 7.86      |
| 6    | <b>August 2009 CJON:</b> Vesicant Chemotherapy Extravasation Antidotes and Treatments   | Lisa Schulmeister   | 7.71      |
| 7    | <b>May 2010 ONF:</b> Oncology Nursing Society Position: Nurses' Responsibility to Patients Requesting Assistance in Hastening Death                                     | Oncology Nursing Society Board of Directors   | 7.67      |
| 8    | <b>December 2009 CJON:</b> Life After Pediatric Cancer: Easing the Transition to the Adult Primary Care Provider <sup>a</sup> (online exclusive)                        | Michelle Kolb   | 7.56      |
| 9    | <b>March 2010 ONF:</b> Fatigue, Pain, and Functional Status During Outpatient Chemotherapy (online exclusive)   | Mary Lou Siefert  | 7.44      |
| 10   | <b>September 2009 ONF:</b> 2009 Mara Mogensen Flaherty Lectureship: Sexuality and Cancer: The Final Frontier for Nurses (online exclusive)                              | Mary K. Hughes  | 7.29      |

<sup>a</sup> Open access article (i.e., available freely to all)

Note. Articles were rated on a scale of 1–10, with 1 being the least and 10 being the most relevant and significant and having the most overall appeal to promote excellence in cancer nursing and quality cancer care.

for them by being open to new ways of working. We can be bystanders or active participants in these changes. What role do you want to play?

Nurses are the largest segment of the healthcare workforce. A report from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Initiative on the Future of Nursing (Institute of

Medicine, 2010) was released that affirms our role in improving health care. Have you heard about it? The key messages include the following.

- Nurses should practice to the full extent of their education and training.
  - Nurses should achieve higher levels of education and training through an improved education system that promotes seamless academic progression.
  - Nurses should be full partners with physicians and other healthcare professionals in redesigning health care in the United States.
  - Effective workforce planning and policy making require better data collection and information infrastructure.
- Think about each of these and what they mean for your professional life. In-

terest in these topics most likely will be renewed in your work place. What role do you want to play?

The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) publishes an annual report on the progress against cancer based on established processes for culling enormous numbers of reports presented at meetings and published that are noteworthy for their impact on cancer care. Six new agents (cabazitaxel, sipuleucel-T, romidepsin, ofatumumab, pazopanib, and pralatrexate) and five new indications



Courtesy of Brian Strickland

for approved agents (nilotinib, erlotinib, rituximab, lapatinib, and rasburicase) were approved in 2010 by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. In addition, the report highlights advances for different types of cancer as well as issues such as health disparities, quality of life, and quality of cancer care (Kris et al., 2010). You may want to read the complete report as your patients may ask you about it.

Someone once said that a specialist is someone who knows more and more about less and less until they know every-

thing about nothing. I often find myself overwhelmed trying to keep abreast of areas in nursing, cancer care, and cancer nursing—I have almost given up on becoming a specialist! We hope this review will help you see what is going on in your day-to-day work and think about your practice within this context. Tell us what you think of our top 10 list and what you would you like to see next year (CJONEditor@ons.org).

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**References**

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