medical and radiation oncology and diagnostic imaging with positron emission and computed tomography as well as a sophisticated electronic medical record. We are a founding member of Cancer Clinics of Excellence, an organization with the mission of unifying community oncologists around the strategy of a compliant network practicing the highest quality of evidence-based medicine with the ability to offer value-based cancer care delivery to payers and employers.

All across the country, solo and small-group medical oncology practices are shifting to hospital-affiliated models or merging with larger groups; older physicians are simply retiring. How long the hospital/medical oncology model will work is anybody’s guess. If (or when) the favorable 340B drug acquisition pricing for hospitals drastically changes, smaller institutions will be disincentivized from continuing to provide cancer care. The business model of my new practice is to diversify and incorporate multiple service lines under one roof and network with our neighbors—no longer considered competitors—so as to gain economy of scale. Will we survive? I really do not know. I certainly hope so. We are all doing our best to make it so. To my dear friends who remain in solo practice, I say God bless you. Your hearts and passion are in the right place. I wish you the best, and I bid you farewell.

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Author’s Disclosures of Potential Conflicts of Interest
The author indicated no potential conflicts of interest.

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ASCO’s EHR Social Networking Site

ASCO has developed a social networking site, where oncologists and their practice staff can connect and share information about the use of electronic health records (EHRs) in oncology practices. This Web site also serves as a platform for oncologists and EHR vendors to discuss the advancements, usability, and challenges that emerge in using EHRs in oncology offices. Become a member today!

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