

# Initial Assessment of the National Cancer Plan

2024 Report to the President

February 20, 2024

## **Brief Overview**

Three-member panel established by the National Cancer Act of 1971.

"Monitor the development and execution of the activities of the National Cancer Program and shall report directly to the President."

Identifies high-priority topics for which actionable recommendations can be made.



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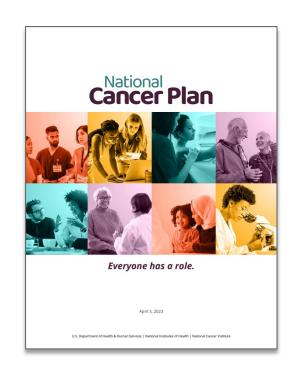


**Dr. Carol Brown** *Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center* 



## **National Cancer Plan**

- Released in April 2023.
- Long-term initiative to meet the goals of President Biden's Cancer Moonshot.
- Designed to facilitate collaboration, communication, outreach, and partnerships not only in the cancer research and care community, but across all sectors of society to make faster progress in ending cancer as we know it.



nationalcancerplan.cancer.gov

#### **Prevent Cancer**

All people and society adopt proven strategies that reduce the risk of cancer

## **Deliver Optimal Care**

The health care system delivers to all people evidence-based, patient-centered care that prioritizes prevention, reduces cancer morbidity and mortality, and improves the lives of cancer survivors, including people living with cancer

#### **Detect Cancers Early**

Cancers are detected and treated at early stages, enabling more effective treatment and reducing morbidity and mortality

#### **Engage Every Person**

Every person with cancer or at risk for cancer has an opportunity to participate in research or otherwise contribute to the collective knowledge base, and barriers to their participation are eliminated

#### **Develop Effective Treatments**

Effective treatment, with minimal side effects, is accessible to all people with all cancers, including those with rare cancers, metastatic cancers, and treatment-resistant disease

#### **Maximize Data Utility**

Secure sharing of privacy-protected health data is standard practice throughout research, and researchers share and use available data to achieve rapid progress against cancer

#### **Eliminate Inequities**

Disparities in cancer risk factors, incidence, treatment side effects, and mortality are eliminated through equitable access to prevention, screening, treatment, and survivorship care

#### **Optimize the Workforce**

The cancer care and research workforce is diverse, reflects the communities served, and meets the needs of all people with cancer and those at risk for cancer, ensuring they live longer and healthier lives



## First Step - Stakeholder Meeting



























## National Cancer Plan Initial Assessment

#### **Goals**

- Review activities addressing the goals outlined in the National Cancer Plan.
- Identify challenges and opportunities to accelerate progress against cancer.
- Foster collaborations among stakeholders to achieve common goals.

#### First Step

- Learn about programs, activities, and achievements relevant to the National Cancer Plan through:
  - Stakeholder Meeting, September 2023
  - Submissions via email and social media



National Cancer Plan Stakeholder Meeting participants on September 7, 2023



## **Report Priority Areas**

Increase Investment in Biomedical Research

Ensure Access to High-Quality Insurance Coverage for All Build a Sustainable, Robust, and Diverse Workforce

Promote Dynamic and Sustainable Community Engagement

Prioritize Data Sharing and Integration to Accelerate Research



## **Invest in Biomedical Research**

## Increase public and private investments in biomedical research

- The public and private sectors play complementary roles to translate biological knowledge to better outcomes for patients.
- Public investment in cancer research is not keeping pace to expedite progress as much as possible.
- The private sector continues to benefit from government-funded research.



## **High-Quality Insurance Coverage**

## **Expand Medicaid programs across all 10 states**

- Increase equitable access to cancer care through adequate coverage for cancer prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship.
- There are still gaps in cancer care outcomes among underinsured and uninsured individuals.
- Lack of health insurance or inadequate coverage undermines timely access to high-quality cancer care.



# **Build a Sustainable, Robust, and Diverse Workforce**

## Collaborative public and private investments to recruit, train, support, and retain a robust and diverse workforce

- Public and academic sectors are leading efforts to train and support the oncology workforce but are not benefiting from its investments.
- Private sectors reaping from NIH/NCI training programs should financially support training efforts.
- Cancer care and research is undermined by national/local provider shortages and lack of workforce diversity.



# Build a Sustainable, Robust, and Diverse Workforce, cont.

# **Enact laws to permanently allow Medicare coverage for telehealth services**

- Maintain policies that facilitate telehealth services to promote the delivery of high-quality cancer care.
- Optimize opportunities for telehealth across state lines to extend the reach of the oncology workforce.
- Strategies are needed to ensure that oncology care teams reach all individuals, no matter where they live.



## **Promote Community Engagement**

# Establish policies and sustainable funding to incentivize and support community engagement

- Engagement of patients and communities is essential to achieving the goal of more equitable cancer care and cancer control.
- Facilitates alignment of cancer research and clinical care to community priorities.
- Patient engagement in healthcare and research is inextricably linked to trust.



## Prioritize Data Sharing and Integration

#### Public and private stakeholders should:

- Accelerate efforts to improve and incentivize interoperability, data standardization, and data sharing platform development and use.
- Optimize the usability and availability of data.
- Make results from all cancer clinical trial publicly available.
- Insufficient levels of interoperability and digital maturity across healthcare systems.
- Inconsistent sharing of clinical trial results, particularly among pharmaceutical companies.



## **Next Steps**

- Assess progress and identify opportunities to more <u>effectively and</u> <u>efficiently</u> achieve the goals of the Plan.
  - Engage with National Cancer Program stakeholders through public meetings.
  - Encourage & monitor public submissions and discussions around the Plan via social media and email.
- Developing our report to the President on challenges and potential solutions leveraging technology to enhance patient navigation
  - Based on fall 2023 meeting series, <u>Reducing Cancer Care Inequities:</u> <u>Leveraging Technology to Enhance Patient Navigation</u>

