

CANCER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

**A PATIENT-CENTERED FORUM OF NATIONAL ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS
ADDRESSING PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES IN CANCER**

STATEMENT OF CANCER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL ENDORISING RADIATION ONCOLOGY CASE RATE VALUE-BASED PAYMENT PROGRAM ACT OF 2024

June 28, 2024

The undersigned organizations representing cancer patients, researchers, health care professionals, and caregivers endorse the bipartisan Radiation Oncology Case Rate (ROCR) Value-Based Payment Program Act of 2024 (S. 4330; HR 8404). We urge Senators and Representatives to cosponsor this important cancer care initiative, and we recommend prompt enactment and implementation.

We support the movement toward a cancer care system that reimburses for quality and value of care rather than paying per treatment, and ROCR makes an important step in that direction. The ROCR Act will enhance access to care provided according to evidence-based clinical guidelines by modernizing the radiation oncology payment system.

The time for action on the ROCR Act is now, because for years Medicare payments for radiation oncology services have been cut. These cuts have posed challenges to access to care, as they have occurred at the same time that technology and skilled personnel costs have increased. The ROCR Act will stabilize payment and by doing so address potential access issues.

The ROCR Act has additional advantages over the current payment system. The legislation will save Medicare more than \$200 million over the first ten years of the new system. The ROCR Act also provides radiation oncology centers funds to support patients who face transportation barriers that might impede their access to radiation oncology services.

The cancer care system should be a patient-centered system of care, and the ROCR Act is a patient-centered initiative.

Cancer Leadership Council

Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators

Association for Clinical Oncology

Association of Oncology Social Work

CancerCare

Cancer Support Community

LUNGevity Foundation

National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship

Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance