

CANCER CARE PLANNING AND COMMUNICATIONS ACT (CCPCA)

Congressman Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA), a cancer survivor, and Congressman Buddy Carter (R-GA) introduced H.R. 4414, the Cancer Care Planning and Communications Act, or CCPCA, bipartisan legislation to establish a Medicare service for cancer care planning.

Cancer care planning has been identified as an element of quality cancer care for all Americans. The National Academy of Medicine, medical professional societies, and cancer patients have embraced the idea that all patients should receive a treatment plan from the cancer care team.

- **Benefit to patients:** Provides information patients need to make treatment decisions, coordinates their care, and effectively transition from active treatment to survivorship.
- **Benefit to providers:** Helps ensure the patient is receiving the right care at the right time, care is coordinated, and resources are used effectively.
- **Benefit to the health care system:** Ensures appropriate and effective use of cancer care resources and encourages delivery of high-quality, coordinated care.

HOW WOULD H.R. 4414 ENCOURAGE CANCER CARE PLANNING?

The legislation would establish a new Medicare service for cancer care planning. A plan can be developed and shared with the Medicare beneficiary at several points in the cancer care continuum, including:

- **At the time of diagnosis,** for the purposes of planning initial active treatment;
- **When there is any substantial change in the condition of the individual,** recurrence of disease, changes in the individual's treatment preferences, or significant revision of the elements of curative care or symptom management for the individual; and
- **At the completion of primary treatment for cancer** — when the plan may serve as a follow-up survivorship care plan.

WHY IS A NEW MEDICARE SERVICE NECESSARY?

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has placed a high value on care planning and coordination for all Medicare beneficiaries by establishing the transitional care management service and the complex chronic care management service. The Oncology Care Model (OCM) was launched by CMS in 2016 and included a requirement for cancer care planning.

The OCM ended in June 2022, and the proposed successor model, the Enhancing Oncology Model (EOM), also includes cancer care planning. Medicare beneficiaries treated in one of the participating practices have access to a treatment plan, but not necessarily a survivorship care plan. ALL Medicare beneficiaries should have access to this service, not just the ones who receive their care in practices that participate in one of these models.

IMPORTANCE OF SURVIVORSHIP CARE

The number and age of cancer survivors are growing.

A new report released by the American Cancer Society (ACS) showed the following survivorship statistics:

- **2022:** More than 18 million Americans are cancer survivors, two-thirds of whom are age 65+, with substantial racial disparities in treatment and survival.
- **2022:** 69% of survivors have lived 5+ years since their diagnosis; 47% of survivors have lived 10+ years since their diagnosis; and 18% of survivors have lived 20+ years since their diagnosis.
- **2032:** The number of cancer survivors is projected to increase by 24.4%, to 22.5 million.
- **2040:** There will be an estimated 26 million cancer survivors, with 73% age 65+, and only 8% under age 50.

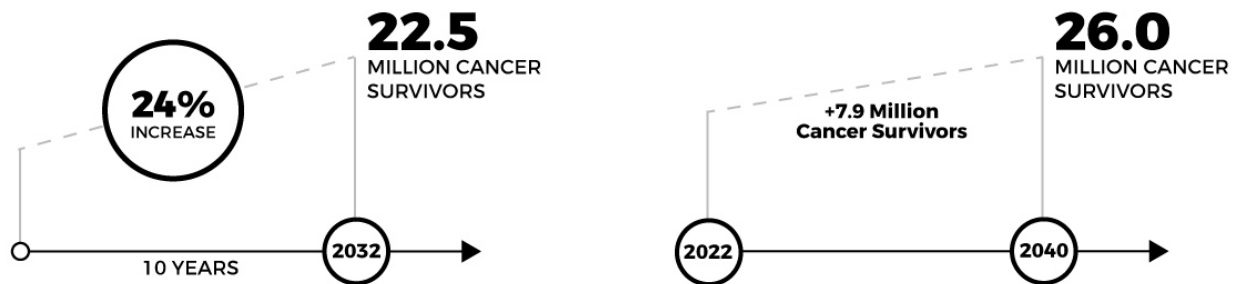


Image Credits: National Cancer Institute, Office of Cancer Survivorship

NEED FOR SURVIVORSHIP CARE

More than 18 million cancer survivors in the U.S. live with long-term physical and emotional side effects from their cancer treatment.

- A key recommendation from the 2005 IOM report, “Lost in Translation,” was that cancer survivors should receive an individualized survivorship care plan (SCP) upon completion of treatment.
- Seventeen years later, survivorship care plans and comprehensive survivorship programs are still evolving.
- In the NCCS 2020 State of Cancer Survivorship Survey, only 17% of cancer survivors nationally reported receiving a survivorship care plan.

For more information, or to support this cancer care planning legislation, please contact:

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- Carl Roberts in Congressman DeSaulnier’s office at Carl.Roberts@mail.house.gov, or
- Jack Ganter in Congressman Carter’s office at Jack.Ganter@mail.house.gov.

About NCCS

NCCS’s mission is to advocate for quality cancer care for all people touched by cancer. Founded by and for cancer survivors in 1986, NCCS created the widely accepted definition of survivorship and defines someone as a cancer survivor from the time of diagnosis and for the balance of life. NCCS represents the millions of Americans who share a common experience—the survivorship experience—living with, through, and beyond a cancer diagnosis.