



Convening leading members of New York's oncology community to discuss precision medicine and identify possible policy solutions to four key barriers to improve patient outcomes.



PARTICIPANTS: COMMUNITY THOUGHT LEADERS

14 attendees, including multiple cancer advocacy organizations, oncologists, pathologists, legislators, researchers, patient advocates, payor and biotechnology experts, and science officers and done in partnership with The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network of New York.



CLINICAL

BARRIER: Precision medicines are quickly being approved, challenging health professionals and patients to stay abreast of new treatments and testing requirements to improve treatment decisions.

POLICY SOLUTION:

- > Set standards for continuing medical education
- > Centralize journal articles within organizations so professionals are up to date on the latest science
- > Improve health education quality and access for at-risk populations and those in rural areas
- > Standardize testing and procedures for treating different tumor scenarios to better streamline personalized care decisions
- > Address a general shortage of patient navigators and genetic counselors to better support health literacy



REIMBURSEMENT

BARRIER: High standards for demonstrating clinical and economic utility post coverage challenges for novel diagnostics and implementing consistent coverage and payment for testing.

POLICY SOLUTION:

- > Educate payors on the value of approving recommended screens, tests and treatments
- > Streamline reimbursement for full multiple gene testing and remove lifetime limits
- > Strengthen ties between industry and payors when it comes to sharing clinical data to help substantiate reimbursement
- > Encourage payors to authorize next-generation sequencing that ultimately improves treatment outcomes
- > Enlist navigators to support clinicians and patients when it comes to issues of authorization and reimbursement



HCP COLLABORATION

BARRIER: Key decisions regarding sequencing often don't involve the entire treatment team. Not involving the entire treatment team can hinder uptake of novel technologies.

POLICY SOLUTION:

- > Encourage the creation of diagnostic management teams to foster stronger collaboration between clinicians and pathologists
- > Implement "patient tissue navigators" to run point between oncologists and pathologists
- > Provide pathologists with appropriate staff to handle test orders so they can focus more on lab work
- > Develop an electronic request system to help ensure test orders are received and properly documented
- > Centralize EMRs so clinicians across institutions have historical knowledge of patients' history



REGULATORY

BARRIER: Regulatory requirements often place significant burdens on physicians to receive approval to order testing for patients and protracts the timeline to availability.

POLICY SOLUTION:

- > Increase the number of government staff who review test requests to expedite approvals
- > Address a shortage of pathology lab technicians by easing regulatory burdens for obtaining licenses to practice in NY and by allowing reciprocity for experienced-technicians to practice between states
- > Continue discussions around CMS 14-day rules with a goal of streamlining comprehensive testing in NY
- > Generally ease the regulatory burden around testing approvals to streamline and expedite testing while still maintaining quality standards

**A LOOK
AHEAD**

Foster conversation among attendees

Collaborate with Legislators

Build support with medical oncology

Identify ways to support policy efforts

Precision Medicine Roundtables are a part of AstraZeneca's YOUR Cancer initiative, which convenes the oncology community to eliminate cancer as a cause of death.

Learn more at www.YourCancer.org.