



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

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August 3, 2000

The Honorable John D. Rockefeller  
United States Senate  
531 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Rockefeller:

As you probably know, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) has recently posted on its website a proposed new National Coverage Decision regarding coverage of patient care costs for Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in quality clinical trials. We speak for thousands of cancer survivors, providers and researchers in expressing our deep appreciation for your many years of support for our position on this issue. Without your steadfast support, this wonderful advance for both individual cancer patients and overall progress against cancer would not have occurred.

At times, over the course of the past number of years, it has seemed as though we were in a losing fight, but your ongoing interest in the issue sustained our own energy and made us carry on. Now, our mutual success on this important issue has confirmed our joint efforts, and we have you and your colleagues in the Congress to thank for that.

The next Congress holds many challenges for biomedical research generally and cancer specifically. We look forward to facing those challenges with your strong support both in the Congress and outside it.

**Cancer Leadership Council**

Alliance for Lung Cancer Advocacy,  
Support, and Education  
American Cancer Society  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
American Society for Therapeutic Radiology & Oncology, Inc.  
Association of American Cancer Institutes  
Cancer Care, Inc.  
Cancer Research Foundation of America  
The Children's Cause, Inc.  
Coalition of National Cancer Cooperative Groups  
Colorectal Cancer Network  
Cure For Lymphoma Foundation  
International Myeloma Foundation  
Kidney Cancer Association  
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation  
National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship  
National Patient Advocate Foundation  
National Prostate Cancer Coalition  
North American Brain Tumor Coalition  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Ovarian Cancer National Alliance  
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network  
The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation  
US-TOO International, Inc.  
Y-ME National Breast Cancer Organization