

2019 Public Policy Agenda

The Lymphoma Research Foundation (LRF) recognizes that public policy is critical to achieving its mission, to eradicate lymphoma and serve those touched by this disease. Toward that end, the Foundation is committed to advocating on behalf of the entire lymphoma community in support of this mission, working collaboratively with policymakers, the medical community, patient advocates and other stakeholders to advance those efforts that will improve the lives of people with lymphoma. The Foundation and its network of thousands of grassroots advocates across the United States support policy measures which will increase federal funding for lymphoma research and education and ensure patient access to high quality cancer care. As an extension of these efforts, LRF seeks the integration of the lymphoma community's perspective throughout the policymaking process and urges that lymphoma patients, survivors and their loved ones be appointed to relevant federal panels, committees and commissions.

Faster Cures

The Lymphoma Research Foundation supports the following policy initiatives, which would increase federal investment in lymphoma research and funding for agencies like the U.S. Food and Drug Administration so that new lymphoma treatments can become available to patients faster. These efforts include:

- Increased funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute, including enhanced support for early career investigators whose innovative research has the potential to make noteworthy advancements in cancer research.
- Greater support for the nation's clinical trials enterprise and improvements to infrastructure, including efficiencies to the clinical trial development process, maximization of secure data sharing and focus on patient-centered outcomes as well as inclusion of the patient voice in the drug development process.
- Increased support for research and infrastructure for the development of new therapies for rare lymphoma subtypes and underserved populations, like adolescent and young adult lymphoma patients.

Improved Access for Patients

The Lymphoma Research Foundation endorses legislation and regulations which seek to increase access to comprehensive lymphoma treatment and cancer survivorship care, including:

- Public policies which ensure equal access to cancer treatment and meaningful health insurance coverage for people with lymphoma and the development of tools to assist physicians and investigators improve the quality of cancer care in the United States.
- Legislation and regulations which ensure equality of access (and equality of insurance coverage) to all approved anticancer regimens including, but not limited to oral and intravenous drugs, injections, cellular therapy, surgery, radiation and transplantation.
- Implementation of policies which support the development of new therapies and clinical trials for rare diseases and policies which assist and encourage patient participation.

Prioritizing Survivors

The Lymphoma Research Foundation endorses legislation which recognizes the increased number of cancer survivors in the United States and the needs of people living with and after a lymphoma diagnosis. These efforts include:

- Legislation which provides education and provider reimbursement for cancer care planning and which would facilitate care planning services for all people with lymphoma.
 - Legislation which protects access to quality health insurance for anyone with a preexisting condition.
 - Policies that would increase funding for cancer survivorship research and the study of treatment side effects.
-