

# WHAT OUR SUPPORTERS ARE SAYING ABOUT MULTI-CANCER EARLY DETECTION (MCED)



## What would it mean to your organization and the community you represent to be able to access multi-cancer early detection tests?

“This would be a powerful tool in the hands of healthcare practitioners and would bring hope of beating so many cancers through early detection and treatment.”

**Daniel Kenyon**

*Executive Director, Indiana Hospice & Palliative Care Organization*

“Only 44% of female Medicare enrollees in Virginia get their annual mammograms. Breast cancer can grow quickly in younger women, so being able to detect something before a lump can be felt or other symptoms arise could be a game-changer.”

**Katy Sawyer**

*Executive Director, Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation*

“By changing the way we detect cancer, we will change how we can treat it, ultimately saving lives and improving health care outcomes.”

**Steve Hentzen**

*Co-Founder and Co-Chairman, Prostate Network*

“Multi-Cancer Early Detection Tests would forever change the face of cancer care. Delays in deploying MCED technology is creating inequalities in cancer care for traditionally underserved communities and only exacerbates existing disparities.”

**Gary Puckrein**

*President, National Minority Quality Forum*

“Multi-cancer early detection, or MCED, tests have the potential to dramatically increase the lung cancer survival rate by catching the disease earlier, when it is more treatable and even curable.”

**Elridge Proctor**

*Senior Director Government Affairs, GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer*

“With full access to multi-cancer early detection, those paths forward would help us reach the Cancer Moonshot goal of ending cancer as we know it. Early detection is essential in preventing and treating cancer.”

**Alec Stone**

*Government Affairs Director, Oncology Nursing Society*

“With no specific diagnostic test available for ovarian cancers, many women don’t get diagnosed until stage 3 or stage 4, making it the deadliest gynecological cancer! By improving early detection, women stand a better chance of survival!”

**Ashley Thompson**

*Executive Director, Norma Livingston Ovarian Cancer Foundation*

## **What do you think the future cancer landscape will look like with access to multi-cancer early detection tests through Medicare?**

“Access to multi-cancer early detection tests through Medicare can fill the gaps in our current screening modalities, and hopefully make it easier to detect metastatic disease earlier.”

**Katy Sawyer**

*Executive Director, Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation*

“Medicare coverage for multi-cancer early detection tests could provide affordable access and increased survivability to seniors who are more likely to be diagnosed with cancer than other age groups.”

**Stephanie Krenrich**

*Senior Director, Federal Advocacy, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network*

“By helping to diagnose cancers in the early stage, when survival rates are higher, MCEDs combined with new treatment protocols will cause a dramatic reduction in deaths from cancer for those with Medicare.”

**Gary Puckrein**

*President, National Minority Quality Forum*

## **Why do you think it is essential for Congress to act now and pass the Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act?**

“If technology is available that could reduce fears, reduce costs of care, and give more people an opportunity to catch cancer before it becomes late stage, Congress needs to act now to make MCEDs available across the nation.”

**Natalie Zacharczyk,**

*President, Cancer Community Clubhouse*

“Science is changing, treatments are improving, but coverage is not keeping up. We need Congress to enable Medicare patients to access the newest lifesaving or life-extending tests and treatments.”

**Carole Florman**

*Policy Fellow, CancerCare*

“Without systems driving us forward to ignite change, existing disparities and the number of cancers found in late stages are likely to remain stagnant. We cannot move forward in decreasing health inequities and reducing cancer mortality without innovations that detect more cancers early and are accessible to all who need them.”

**Jody Hoyos**

*President & COO, Prevent Cancer Foundation*

“We now have five cancers that we routinely screen for, but it has required an act of Congress to get each of those screenings covered by Medicare. This process can take a decade, and that’s simply too long to wait to adopt new cancer tests. The amount and pace of scientific knowledge have increased exponentially since 1968, so we need to ensure that our social programs are nimble enough to respond to the science.”

**Katy Sawyer**

*Executive Director, Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation*

“MCEDs would forever change the face of cancer care. Delays in deploying MCED technology is creating inequalities in cancer care for traditionally underserved communities and only exacerbates existing disparities.”

**Gary Puckrein**

*President, National Minority Quality Forum*

“I am a five-time cancer survivor and lost a son and mother to cancer. We cannot afford to wait any longer, there are too many variables on so many levels. We can help so many to live a cancer free life before it gets too late”

**Geri Barish**

*President & Executive Director, 1in9 Long Island Breast Cancer and Hewlett House Cancer Resource Center*

“It’s time to shift the power from cancer to the people. We cannot move forward in reducing cancer mortality and decrease health inequities without innovations designed to be complimentary to -not a replacement for - existing screenings. That is what multi-cancer early detection test has the power to do.”

**Jody Hoyos**

*President & COO, Prevent Cancer Foundation*

“The cost of cancer treatment in the U.S. is staggering, especially for those in the BIPOC community who remain underserved. Early detection screening for multiple cancers would enable these individuals to be better served, while also providing greater peace of mind regarding their outcome.”

**Joseph Yurjevich**

*Executive Director, Cancer Lifeline*