DEFINING VALUE IN CANCER CARE

When it comes to assessing the value of medical innovation, patients, policymakers, industry representatives, and insurance companies often evaluate it differently.

**PATIENTS**
The Institute of Medicine (IOM) defines patient-centered care as “providing care that is respectful of and responsive to individual patient preferences, needs, and values and ensuring that patient values guide all clinical decisions.”¹ The value of a new medicine for patients can mean more time spent with loved ones, improved quality of life, and/or fewer treatment side effects.

**CLINICIANS**
Physicians and other health care professionals consider a medicine’s clinical benefits (efficacy), toxicity (safety), and cost while also taking into account the treatment outcomes that matter most to the patient.²

**FEDERAL PROGRAMS**
Investment in medical innovation will improve health care outcomes for patients and lower long-term health costs, relieving financial pressures on federal programs such as Medicare and Medicaid.³

**MANUFACTURERS**
For manufacturers, efficacy, total patient outcomes, and unmet medical needs determine value in cancer care.⁴ This value stems not only from the improved treatment of disease, but also from a reduction in other health care costs, increased productivity, and better quality of life.⁵

**INSURANCE COMPANIES**
Payers, such as private insurance companies, Medicare and Medicaid, and other government agencies, assess the value of a new medicine based on its ability to provide improved patient outcomes, potential side effects, quality of life measures, and the drug’s cost.⁶

**SOCIETY**
Breakthroughs in cancer treatment bring substantial economic value to our health care system. Between 1988 and 2000, life expectancy for cancer patients increased by approximately four years, which translates to about 23 million additional years of life and roughly $1.9 trillion in value added to the economy.⁷

Sources:
³ http://www.projectinnovation.org/whitepaper.pdf
⁴ http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4046476/
⁵ http://theoncologist.alphamedpress.org/content/15/suppl_1/1.full
⁶ http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4046476/