2019 Medicare Reimbursement Proposed Cuts a Bad Idea for Individuals with Cancer

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“ASCO strongly opposes provisions in the 2019 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) proposed rule that could significantly cut cancer care resources that are needed to provide high-quality care to individuals with cancer.

“The proposal would trigger major cuts to physician reimbursement for Part B drugs that have been newly introduced to the market and make an already turbulent cancer care delivery system even more unstable. Additionally, the cuts could hinder patient access to newer, innovative therapies—potentially stalling progress against cancer and almost certainly making it more difficult for oncologists to provide essential services to patients with cancer.

“ASCO believes the cuts in the 2019 proposed MPFS rule will harm Medicare beneficiaries with cancer and impede the ability of oncologists to provide the right treatment, to the right patient, at the right time. We urge CMS to abandon this proposal and support robust access to cancer care.”

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About ASCO:

Founded in 1964, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc. (ASCO®) is committed to making a world of difference in cancer care. As the world's leading organization of its kind,
ASCO represents nearly 45,000 oncology professionals who care for people living with cancer. Through research, education, and promotion of the highest-quality patient care, ASCO works to conquer cancer and create a world where cancer is prevented or cured, and every survivor is healthy. ASCO is supported by its affiliate organization, the Conquer Cancer Foundation. Learn more at www.ASCO.org, explore patient education resources at www.Cancer.Net, and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube.