The American Society of Clinical Oncology and the Lance Armstrong Foundation Launch “Moving Forward: Perspectives from Survivors and Doctors,” a Patient Education Video Series for Young Adults with Cancer

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ALEXANDRIA, Va. – The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) and the Lance Armstrong Foundation today announced the launch of a new video series for young adults with cancer that is featured on ASCO’s patient information website www.cancer.net and on the Foundation’s YouTube site. The series, “Moving Forward: Perspectives from Survivors and Doctors,” addresses critical issues that young adults with cancer may face and helps them better understand and cope with challenges related to their diagnosis.

Each year, about 70,000 young adults in their 20s and 30s are diagnosed with cancer, making it much less common than cancer occurrence in older adults. However, in contrast to the progress in cancer survival rates overall, the survival rates for patients ages 15 through 39 who have cancer have not improved in more than 30 years.

The “Moving Forward” series will present 13 companion videos for young adults that provide insight from survivors and information from doctors on important topics. Released today are the first four video pairs in the series, including an introduction, and information on fertility,
fear of recurrence and bills and medical expenses. Each month new videos featuring ASCO members will be paired with survivor vignettes addressing issues such as body changes, dating and sexuality, diet and exercise, family and friends, fear of dying, health insurance, pain and swelling, school and work.

“Young adults face distinct, unique challenges in coping with a cancer diagnosis,” said ASCO President Michael P. Link, MD. “That’s why ASCO and the Lance Armstrong Foundation teamed up to offer this new series, to provide viewpoints from both health professionals and survivors. We believe the combination of the two videos on each topic will provide a well-rounded perspective and practical guidance to use right away.”

“When I was first diagnosed with cancer at age 19, I was frustrated by the lack of resources available to me,” said Doug Ulman, Lance Armstrong Foundation president and CEO. “As both a young adult survivor and cancer advocate, I’m thrilled that this new video series can serve as a much-needed resource for young adults with cancer. By collaborating with ASCO, we can ensure that health care professionals are offering their young adult patients this additional support to help them in their cancer journey.”

Young adults with cancer often have different concerns compared with children and older adults with cancer, some of which may arise even before they receive a cancer diagnosis. For example, even if a person has symptoms of cancer, the young adult and the health care team may not act on these symptoms because cancer is not a likely explanation. In addition, they may not have health insurance, or they may have limited financial resources to pay for cancer treatment even if they do have insurance. Young adults with cancer also have a wide range of emotional, physical, and social concerns, including relationships, sexuality, parenthood, education, and employment.

The video series was made possible by a grant from the Lance Armstrong Foundation to the Conquer Cancer Foundation of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, which supports Cancer.Net. These videos and additional resources for young adults with cancer are available at www.cancer.net/movingforward, on Cancer.Net’s YouTube site and the Lance Armstrong Foundation’s YouTube site, and they will also be featured through the Lance Armstrong Foundation’s blog at http://blog.livestrong.org/ starting April 10.
About ASCO:

Founded in 1964, the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) is the world’s leading professional organization representing physicians who care for people with cancer. With more than 35,000 members, ASCO is committed to improving cancer care through scientific meetings, educational programs and peer-reviewed journals. ASCO is supported by its affiliate organization, the Conquer Cancer Foundation, which funds groundbreaking research and programs that make a tangible difference in the lives of people with cancer. For ASCO information and resources, visitasco.org. Patient-oriented cancer information is available at Cancer.Net.

About Cancer.Net

Cancer.Net (www.cancer.net) brings the expertise and resources of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), the voice of the world’s cancer physicians, to people living with cancer and those who care for and care about them. ASCO is composed of more than 30,000 members who are the leaders in advancing cancer care. All the information and content on Cancer.Net was developed and approved by the cancer doctors who are members of ASCO, making Cancer.Net an up-to-date and trusted resource for cancer information on the Internet. Cancer.Net is supported by the Conquer Cancer Foundation, which provides funding for breakthrough cancer research, professional education, and patient and family support.

About the Lance Armstrong Foundation

The Lance Armstrong Foundation serves people affected by cancer and empowers them to take action against the world’s leading cause of death. With its iconic yellow LIVESTRONG
wristband, the Foundation became a symbol of hope and inspiration to people throughout the world affected by cancer. Created in 1997 by cancer survivor and champion cyclist Lance Armstrong, the Foundation provides free patient navigation services to survivors with financial, emotional and practical challenges that accompany the disease. Known for its powerful brand – LIVESTRONG – the Foundation is also a leader in the global movement on behalf of 28 million people living with cancer today. Since its inception in 1997, the Foundation has raised more than $450 million for the fight against cancer. For more information, visit LIVESTRONG.org.

About the Conquer Cancer Foundation

The Conquer Cancer Foundation is working to create a world free from the fear of cancer by funding breakthrough research, by sharing knowledge with physicians and patients worldwide, and by supporting initiatives to ensure that all people have access to high-quality cancer care. Working in close collaboration with a global network of top scientists and clinicians, as well as leading advocacy and research organizations, the Foundation draws on the passion and expertise of the more than 30,000 oncology professionals who are members of its affiliate organization, the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). For more information, visit www.conquercancerfoundation.org.