ASCO Congratulates Alex Azar on Confirmation as Secretary of Health and Human Services

Statement by ASCO President Bruce E. Johnson, MD, FASCO
For immediate release
January 24, 2018

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"The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) congratulates Alex Azar for his confirmation as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). As the head of HHS, Secretary Azar has an opportunity to help address critical issues facing the cancer care delivery system, including increasing access to high-quality care, addressing the high cost of care, and supporting the development and dissemination of innovative treatments.

Secretary Azar has a long history of service with HHS, which provides him with deep insight into the important role this agency has in ensuring that the nation's healthcare system provides access to high-quality care for all Americans. As the former head of a pharmaceutical company, he brings expertise in drug development, along with an understanding of the need to innovate and address the challenges of the rising cost of care.

We look forward to working closely with Secretary Azar over the weeks and months ahead to ensure that the 15.5 million people surviving cancer in the United States receive the care they deserve."

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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 more than 40,000 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.