

News Release

For Immediate Release
July 23, 2009

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The GW Cancer Institute's caSNP Launches Comparative Analyses of National Health Reform Legislative Proposals and their Implications for Cancer Patients

WASHINGTON – The George Washington University's Center for the Advancement of Cancer Survivorship, Navigation and Policy (caSNP), with support from the Pfizer Foundation and Pfizer Inc.'s Global Health Partnerships Program, has launched a national health reform project that will provide objective, ongoing comparative analyses of national health reform legislative proposals as they relate to cancer.

“While national health reform legislation is being debated in Congress, our comparative analysis project will help advance public and policy maker understanding about the very real impacts of the legislation for people living with cancer,” said Steven Patierno, PhD, executive director of the George Washington Cancer Institute. “Millions of Americans are at-risk for or live with cancer, and examining health reform in the context of their needs is critical.”

The analytic framework being used to develop the comparative analyses was created in partnership with faculty and staff in GW's Department of Health Policy within the School of Public Health and Health Services (SPHHS) and reviewed by a national advisory committee. It has been specifically tailored to examine the implications of national health reform legislation on cancer prevention, early detection, patient navigation, high-quality treatment, and long-term survivorship care.

The framework will be used to develop comparative analyses of national health reform legislative proposals as they are considered by Congress in the coming weeks and months. The user-friendly design of the analyses will assist policy makers, advocacy organizations, health professionals, and the public in understanding what national health reform means to cancer patients, caregivers, and health care providers.

The first in a series of comparative analyses is now available on caSNP's new website at www.gwumc.edu/caSNP/, as well as the GW Cancer Institute website www.gwumc.edu/gwci/ and the Department of Health Policy's website www.gwumc.edu/sphhs/departments/healthpolicy/healthreform/cancer.

About caSNP

caSNP focuses broadly on the interrelated scientific, clinical, public health and health policy dimensions of cancer care with a special emphasis on patient navigation and survivorship. The Center

was created in 2009 by the GW Cancer Institute, in partnership with the Department of Health Policy within the School of Public Health and Health Services (SPHHS) and is supported by the Pfizer Foundation and Pfizer Inc.'s Global Health Partnerships Program. For more information, visit www.gwumc.edu/caSNP.

About The George Washington Cancer Institute

The GW Medical Center's Cancer Institute (GWCI) takes a comprehensive approach to a complex disease. In connection with the GW Hospital and the GW Medical Faculty Associates, the Institute provides for collaboration in the study, diagnosis and treatment of cancer. GWCI's mission is to provide a confluence of groundbreaking biomedical and clinical research, high quality educational programs, and outstanding patient care to the entire Metropolitan Washington area, and effective outreach for the community. Many programs focus on studying cancers, such as breast, lung, prostate and gastrointestinal / colorectal cancer, that disproportionately affect minority and vulnerable populations. For more information, visit www.gwumc.edu/gwci/.

About The George Washington University Medical Center

The George Washington University Medical Center (GWMC) is an internationally recognized interdisciplinary academic health center that has consistently provided high-quality medical care in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area since 1824. The Medical Center comprises the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, the 11th oldest medical school in the country; the School of Public Health and Health Services, the only such school in the nation's capital; GW Hospital, jointly owned and operated by a partnership between The George Washington University and a subsidiary of Universal Health Services, Inc.; and the GW Medical Faculty Associates, an independent faculty practice plan. For more information on GWUMC, visit www.gwumc.edu.

About the Pfizer Foundation

The Pfizer Foundation is a charitable organization established by Pfizer Inc. Its mission is to promote access to quality health care, to nurture innovation, and to support the community involvement of Pfizer colleagues. The Pfizer Foundation provides funding and resources to local and international organizations that expand and improve global health strategies. In 2008, the Foundation provided \$47.1 million in grants and employee matching gifts to non-governmental organizations around the world. The Global Health Partnerships program is one of the Pfizer Foundation's signature initiatives reflecting Pfizer's global commitment to working with a diverse group of local NGO experts towards improving the diagnosis and treatment of cancer and reducing the disease's incidence and burden. Pfizer Inc and the Pfizer Foundation will be providing a total of more than \$47 million (USD) over four years (2007 – 2010) through 29 grants addressing emerging challenges in cancer and tobacco control in 46 countries across five continents. The program collaborates with a diverse group of local experts to improve the diagnosis and treatment of cancer and to reduce its incidence and burden. The Foundation solicits proposals from organizations that promote access to health care through evidence-based programs that can reach large audiences and be leveraged at the local level. The Foundation does not accept unsolicited requests.

About Pfizer Oncology:

Pfizer Oncology is committed to the discovery, investigation and development of cancer treatments and currently has 22 innovative compounds in clinical development across four platforms. By leveraging the strength of its resources and scientific talent, Pfizer Oncology strives to discover and develop novel treatment options to improve the outlook for oncology patients.

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