



Society of Gynecologic Oncology Health Policy Priorities As of February 2022

Pass the *Jeanette Acosta Invest in Women's Health Act (H.R. 2216/S. 1063)*.

- This legislation would expand access to preventive, lifesaving women's health screenings, with a focus on breast and gynecological cancer screenings, through safety net and reproductive health care providers.
- The bill would also create new grant and pilot programs to expand access to preventive services and help train health care practitioners, especially in treating low-income and minority patients.

Pass the *Promoting Resources to Expand Vaccination, Education and New Treatments (PREVENT) HPV Cancers Act (H.R. 1550)*.

- The goal of this legislation is to prevent human papillomavirus (HPV)-related cancers by providing new resources to address HPV, a common sexually transmitted infection that causes 90% of all cervical cancers and also contributes to other genital tract cancers.
- The bill directs the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to create a national campaign to increase HPV vaccination rates and understanding of HPV-associated cancers.
- It increases funding at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to expand research on HPV-associated cancers. It also gives states resources to improve their immunization information systems.
- Lastly, it focuses on early detection by expanding funding for the CDC's Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program with an emphasis on underserved communities.

Pass the *Improving Seniors Timely Access to Care Act (H.R. 3173/S.3018)*.

- This legislation calls for practical prior authorization reforms under Medicare Advantage (MA) Plans to ensure patient access to high quality, medically necessary gynecologic cancer care.

Urge Congress to *bring stability to the Medicare payment system*.

- This initiative calls on Congress and the Administration to work with the surgical community to find a sustainable long-term solution to Medicare physician payment that does not threaten patient access to care year after year.

Maintain/increase funding for the *U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Ovarian Cancer Research Program (OCRP)*.

- The DoD OCRP addresses critical gaps in ovarian cancer research by supporting high-impact, cutting-edge research. It funds research from bench to bedside (basic, translational, and clinical) to advance the field of ovarian cancer care towards elimination of the disease.
- By increasing Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 funding for this program to \$45 million, Congress would significantly help to advance discovery science and ovarian cancer care.

Maintain *endometrial cancer* as a research priority under the *DoD Peer-Reviewed Cancer Research Program*.

- This advocacy effort directs the DoD to add endometrial cancer as a research priority under its Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program to enhance the pool of endometrial cancer scientists, reduce the risk of endometrial cancer and improve outcomes, specifically for Type 2 and later stage cancers.

Increase *funding and research opportunities for endometrial cancer and cervical cancer* at the *National Institutes of Health (NIH), NCI, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)*.

- The goal of this initiative is to expand research on the racial, socioeconomic, and geographic disparities in gynecologic cancers, specifically endometrial and cervical cancers, which disproportionately affect low-income patients and patients of color.