Cancer Advocacy In Louisiana

Julie Stokes, CPA



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Advocacy is the Bridge









Key Advocacy Areas

- Prevention
- Early Detection
- Treatment
- -Access to Treatment
- Survivorship



- LA Act 494 3D Mammography
- LA Act 461 Scans for Bilateral Mastectomy Patients
- LA Act 593 Licensure of Genetic Counselors
- LA Act 580 (Sen Troy Carter) The Carter-Stokes Act
- HB689 Fertility Preservation
- HB470 Louisiana Medical Research Fund



- LA Act 120 Step Therapy prohibited on stage four, metastatic, advanced cancer patients
- LA Act 119 Coverage of diagnostic scans at same level as screening mammograms
- LA Act 119 *Amended to include restoration of both breasts when bilateral mastectomy was elected
- LA Act 118 Coverage of genetic testing <u>before</u> the presence of cancer



2020 Louisiana Regular Session LA Act 222 (Talbot)

- Three months of prescribed therapy targeting a specific genetic mutation,
- Regardless of the exact location of the occurrence of the cancer in the patient's body.
- And to continue that beyond the 3-month period if that therapy is clinically beneficial to the patient



- LA Act 43 Biomarker Testing to facilitate precision medicine. Covers FDA Approved Tests for tumor mutation testing, next generation sequencing, hereditary germline mutation testing, pharmacogenomic testing, whole exome & genome sequencing.
- LA Act 45 Updates Mammography Standards to those of the American Society of Breast Surgeons.





LA Act 412

Coverage for Biomarker Testing in Louisiana

- When the test is a companion ... labeled for FDA usage
- When a test is covered by CMS national and local coverage determinations, or
- When supported by clinical practice guidelines such as those of NCCN or ASCO



2022 Louisiana Regular Session, Cont.

- LA Act 229 Clarifies 2020 Precision Medicine Legislation to include treatments approved by the FDA for the treatment of cancer with the specific genetic mutation, even if a different tumor type
- LA Act 501 Provides private pay and Medicaid coverage for genetic testing for critically ill infants with no diagnosis in the NICU setting.



2022 Louisiana Regular Session, Cont.

- SR 77 Requests the Louisiana Department of Health to study and make recommendations on best practices for coordinating services for patients with cancer.
- HB 537 Requires fertility preservation services be covered by health insurance plans in the state of Louisiana. Excluded Medicaid and Office of Group Benefits.

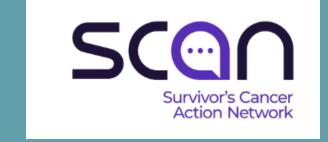


- Biomarker Testing Expansion
- Fertility Preservation for Young Adult Patients
- Bone Marrow Donation
- The Cancer Patient's Right to Prompt Coverage
 - 36 Hour Prior Authorization Limit
 - PET Scans when recommended by standards
 - Peer to Peer study prohibition for recommended treatment
 - Cancer Treatments for Rehab, SNF, LTAC inpatients



Survivor's Cancer Action Network

- Private Network for Patients & Survivors
- Mental Health Services
- Mentor Training and Matching
- Nonclinical Navigation
- Purpose Finding for Survivors
- Classes and Help!



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Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Julie Stokes has no relevant financial relationships to disclose.



