



METAVIVOR

Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness, Research and Support



Legislative Agenda 116th Congress, 2nd Session

The Stage IV Stampede The Stage IV Stampede is a flagship event honoring National Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day that represents a national grassroots movement to raise awareness of metastatic stage IV cancer, educate policymakers about the challenges faced by affected individuals, and advocate for advancing medical research and improving care. This patient-driven effort is led by **METAvivor Research and Support and partners including the Living Beyond Breast Cancer, Male Breast Cancer Coalition and MET Up. The event would not be possible without our sponsors: Eisai, Pfizer, and Novartis.** The Stampede welcomes anyone who is interested in standing up, speaking out, and using their voice to improve health, wellness, and survivability for the stage IV metastatic cancer community.

Metastatic Stage IV Cancer Each year, almost 600,000 Americans die from metastatic stage IV cancer. Metastatic cancer can develop from any cancer. It becomes metastatic cancer when it spreads to other parts of the body and activates. Recent scientific breakthroughs in cancer research and improvements in detection and prevention have not benefited the metastatic stage IV cancer community. Treatment options are extremely limited and the condition for most cancers is not considered survivable. Presently, science has very few answers to the question of why cancer metastasizes and there are no therapies that permanently arrest metastatic growth. With emerging opportunities, including precision medicine and the “moonshot” initiatives, there is tremendous opportunity to advance science and improve health outcomes for the metastatic stage IV cancer community through meaningful financial support for critical research activities.

Congress Can Help

Advance Research

-Please provide the National Institutes of Health with a \$3 billion funding increase for Fiscal Year 2021, which would bring total NIH funding up to \$44.7 billion annually). Moreover, please support timely efforts to assist the National Cancer Institute with fully modernizing the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End-Results Registry.

-Please provide a meaningful funding increase for the Department of Defense Peer-Reviewed Cancer Program, and please continue to include “metastatic cancers” as eligible for study through this program.

Improve Care

-Please work with you colleagues to pass the bipartisan **Metastatic Breast Cancer Access to Care Act (H.R. 2178/S. 1374)**, which would fast-track disability and federal healthcare benefits for individuals with metastatic breast cancer. This bill is led by Senators Mc Sally (R-AZ) and Smith (D-CT) in the Senate and Congressman King (R-NY) and Congresswoman Castor (D-FL) in the House.

-Please work with your colleagues to pass the bipartisan **Cancer Drug Parity Act (H.R. 1730/S. 741)**, which would prevent manipulating treatment administration to increase patient cost-sharing responsibilities. This bill is led by Senators Smith (D-MN) and Moran (R-KS) in the Senate and Congressman Higgins (D-NY) and Congressmen Guthrie (R-KY) in the House.