



## Elevating metastatic cancer stories

Metastatic cancer, also known as Stage IV cancer, occurs when cancer that started in one organ, such as the breast, ovary or prostate, spreads to other parts of the body, including bone, lungs, liver and brain. It is treatable, but not curable. Though exact statistics are unknown, as an example, an estimated quarter of a million people are living with metastatic breast cancer in the United States.

Metastatic cancer patients are up against a clock – hoping for advances in the treatment of this disease and more time to live well and enjoy their day-to-day lives. For these patients, it's about time. Time to spend with their families, time to cross something off their bucket list, time to simply drive the carpool or cook a meal.

The COVID-19 pandemic has made accessing care even more challenging for many metastatic cancer patients. And we know that access is critical – not only to care, but to new and innovative treatments, and transparent insurance coverage that is free from barriers. Metastatic cancer patients deserve access to the best care and treatment available that's also affordable, regardless of their insurance, stage of disease or income status.

The *It's About Time* campaign encourages metastatic cancer patients and their families to share their stories in an effort to build broader understanding of this disease, and advocates for increased access to care. **It's about time these voices were heard.**

### FOR METASTATIC CANCER PATIENTS:



**Access is critical** – to care, innovative treatments and transparent insurance coverage that is free from barriers.



**Shared decision-making with their physician that treatment is critical** – making decisions supported by evidence with support from the health care system of personalized medical decisions made by a patient and their healthcare team.



**More education and information** for patients about their disease and their care is needed.

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