

[Organization Name]

Survivorship Policy

SECTION 1. TITLE:

This policy shall be known as the [Organization Name] Survivorship Policy.

SECTION 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE:

[Organization Name] recognizes the American Indian Cancer Foundation defines Cancer Survivors as anyone at the time of their cancer diagnosis lasts throughout one's lifetime and includes relatives and caregivers because they are also impacted by the diagnosis.

Due to the role in treatment and the intimate nature of a cancer diagnosis that comes with many risk factors and challenges, Health Care Providers may have a significant impact on many areas of a person's life beyond just physical wellbeing and the health setting. For Native cancer survivors, Health Care Providers can also affect the survivor's mental, spiritual, emotional, and social well-being, which is often tied to their relationship with their families and relatives, their community, the earth, and other important relationships in their lives. The relationship that a cancer patient/survivor has with their Health Care Provider team is integral to their healing journey and resilience.

Health Care Providers, as defined by the clinic, include physicians, office managers, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and other staff as assigned. In accordance with this protocol, Health Care Providers will seek to improve cancer screening rates and survivorship care by using the following strategies, which all are focused on open and honest communication.

American Indian and Alaska Native (Native American) people have much higher rates of getting several cancers, including lung, colorectal, liver, stomach, and kidney cancers, compared to Non-Hispanic White people in the United States. (CDC)

[Organization Name] will update this policy to reflect current and up-to-date survivorship data.

SECTION 3. SCOPE:

This policy applies to all [Organization Name] patients eligible or deemed eligible that comply with [Organization Name]'s cancer survivorship eligibility criteria.

SECTION 4. DEFINITIONS:

Survivorship - focuses on the health and wellbeing of a person with cancer from the time of diagnosis until the end of life.

Survivorship Care Plans - is a record of your cancer and treatment history, as well as any checkups or follow-up tests you need in the future. It may also list possible long-term effects, and ideas for staying healthy.

SECTION 5. POLICY/GUIDELINES:

[Organization Name] will implement Cancer Care Plans to support their cancer survivors. [Organization Name] will consider all aspects of the care plan including care coordination, health promotion, follow-up care plan, insurance coverage, patient needs, linguistic needs, health belief systems, and practices, economic needs, diagnosed or perceived disability needs, and accessibility. Cancer Care Plans will guide the cancer survivors through their post treatment journey. This plan will be designed specifically for each survivor and will tailor each need.

Health care providers are to hold healthy conversations through treatment from diagnosis until post-treatment care. Please ensure that the care is well-coordinated, and evidence based. Each care plan will need to be tailored to each patient and per cancer diagnosis. Some examples of care plans can be found using the below link:

<https://www.cancer.net/survivorship/follow-care-after-cancer-treatment/asco-cancer-treatment-and-survivorship-care-plans>

SURVIVORSHIP: Source: (CDC_CancerSurvivors)

It is important to remember that each piece of survivorship care should be specific to the survivors based on their needs, treatment plan, diagnosis, and beliefs.

Everyone is at risk for developing cancer. Those individuals who have a history of cancer are at a greater risk than those who have not had cancer. Developing a second round of cancer, may be due to the following factors:

- Treatment effects
- Genetics
- Living an unhealthy lifestyle
- Risk factors that may have contributed to the first round of cancer

Those who had cancer are often faced with physical, emotional and financial issues that resulted from their cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Survivorship care plans are documents given to the survivor at the end of their cancer treatment. These cancer plans will provide an overview of their cancer, treatment, and check-ups and will often include long-term effects, and screening recommendations and will provide ideas on how to live a healthy and active life.

SECTION 6. EDUCATION, AWARENESS AND ENFORCEMENT:

1. [Organization Name] Survivorship Policy is required to be reviewed by the [Departments] as deemed necessary to determine any updates or revisions to be made to the policy.
2. A summary of the Survivorship Policy will be included in [handbook, newsletter, binder, etc.].

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE:

This policy is effective on ____ __, 20__.