



New Year, Renewed Commitment: Advancing Patient Navigation

JANUARY 2025

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A Legacy of Excellence: Honoring Kristina Thomson



This December, we celebrated an extraordinary milestone: Kristina Thomson's twenty-five years of dedicated service to the American Cancer Society, including the past two years as Director of the ACS NNRT. Her unwavering commitment, grace, and excellence have profoundly shaped patient navigation, inspired countless colleagues and volunteers, and left an indelible mark on ACS programs and the future of navigation.

Kristina's leadership, authenticity, and care have made her a joy to work alongside. As she embarks on this new chapter of retirement, we honor her transformative contributions and wish her a future filled with love, Brody, and new adventures.

Congratulations, Kristina, on an incredible twenty-five-year legacy and your leadership with ACS NNRT!

American Cancer Society's Cancer Facts & Figures 2025 is HERE!



- These annual ACS reports provide:
- Estimated number of new cancer cases and deaths in 2025 by cancer site and US state
- Current cancer incidence, mortality, and survival statistics
- Information on cancer systems, risk factors, early detection, and treatment

Go To ACS
Cancer Facts & Figures
2025 Report

American
Cancer
Society

NATIONAL
NAVIGATION
PROGRAM

Patient navigation plays a vital role in improving outcomes by breaking down barriers to care and ensuring timely access to treatment and resources.

Explore state-specific data in the full report.

[Download the report](#)

Exciting News!

We have a brand-new home on LinkedIn.

Stay connected with us to learn about our latest initiatives, important updates for the patient navigation community, and opportunities to engage and make a meaningful impact.

We're looking forward to continuing the conversation with you!



Follow our new LinkedIn page

Honoring Our Past, Embracing Our Future

A Heartfelt Thank you

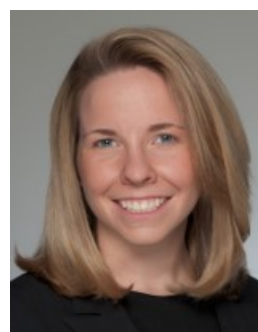
We'd like to extend our gratitude to Electra D. Paskett, Ph.D., FACE, James Cancer Hospital, The Ohio State University, for your leadership and valued contributions to ACS NNRT Steering Committee. Your dedication, positivity, and passion have inspired us all and played a pivotal role in our successes. Your unique light has brightened our path, fostering an atmosphere of collaboration and support that will leave a lasting impact.



Welcome our new Steering Committee Members!



**Nicole Centers, MBA, BSN,
RN, OCN, CBCN, BHCN, FNCBC**
Executive Director Oncology Service
Line, Nurse Leader
Wellstar Health System



Katie Garfield, JD
Director of Whole Person Care,
Clinical Instructor
Health Law and Policy Clinic Center
For Health Law Policy Innovation Of
Harvard Law School



Raymond Liu, MD
Kaiser Permanente Northern
California, San Francisco Cancer
Center



Sally Werner, RN, BSN, MSHA
Chief Executive Officer
Cancer Support Community

[Learn more about our Steering Committee](#)

Webinar Spotlight

ICYMI-- Understanding the Impact of New Billing Codes on Patient Navigation: Survey Insights and Recommendations

This ACS NNRT webinar shared insights from a recent 2024 survey on the new CMS/PIN and AMA/CPT codes supporting reimbursement for patient navigation services. You can learn about key findings and challenges for improving the adoption of these codes, as well as strategies to enhance their implementation.

[Visit our website](#)

VOICES of Black Women

Addressing health equity for generations to come

VOICES of Black Women is a new population cohort study led by the American Cancer Society launching in May 2024. The study is designed to help better understand the multi-level drivers of incidence, mortality, and resilience of cancer and other health conditions among Black women in the United States, so we can better understand how to collectively address them. This study will be the largest cohort study of cancer risk and outcomes among Black women in the United States.

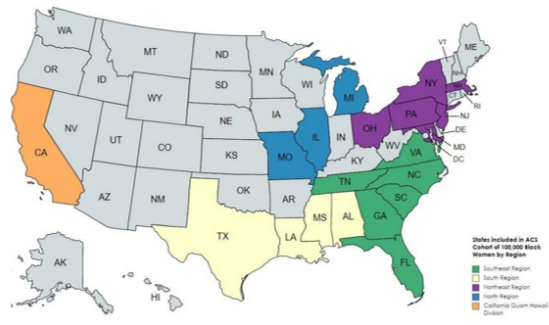


At the American Cancer Society, equity is at the heart of our mission. We prioritize work that helps ensure everyone has an opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer. It's with this vision in mind we're excited to launch a new groundbreaking population cohort

study – VOICES of Black Women – underscoring our commitment to better understand how this demographic is impacted by cancer disparities.

VOICES of Black Women aims to enroll at least 100,000 Black women in the US during the next few years.

The goal of this study is to better understand health conditions like cancer and how to improve overall health among Black women.



[Learn more](#)

Empowerment Hub

- [January 15, 2025 Cancer Moonshot Fact Sheet](#)
- [Fact Sheet from the Office of Women's Health](#)
- [Becker's Announces Its 2024 List of Hospitals and Health Systems Recognized for Excellence in Oncology Care](#)
- [Cancer Statistics 2025](#)
- [Webinar, January 22, 2025: Addressing HRSNs Through Medicare: An Update on CY 2025 Changes and Implementation Activity for Community Health Integration and Principle Illness Navigation \(CHI/PIN\) Codes](#)
- [Webinar, January 23, 2025: Solutions for Success: Enhancing Patient Access and Accrual in Cancer Clinical Trials](#)
- [Patient Advocate Foundation \(PAF\) to activate the Cancer Care Continuity Fund](#)
- [Webinar, January 29, 2025: Cancer Prevention & Early Detection for Community Health Centers](#)
- [The Efficacy and Cost-Effectiveness of Patient Navigation Programs Across the Cancer Continuum: A Systematic Review](#)
- [Webinar: January 29, 2025 Organizations that are currently exploring and implementing billing and reimbursement opportunities through CHI and PIN.](#)
- [Webinar: January 30, 2025, Medicare: What's New in 2025?](#)
- [Randomized Trial of Enhanced Versus Standard Navigation to Promote Timely Initiation of Adjuvant Radiotherapy for Head and Neck Cancer](#)
- [Webinar February 5, 2025 : Public Awareness Strategies to Promote Colorectal Cancer Screening](#)

See archived ACS NNRT newsletters [HERE](#)
Visit ACS NNRT's [website](#)

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