

For Immediate Release: February 29, 2024 Media Contact: Rachel Darwin 267-622-6624 darwin@nccn.org

NCCN Releases Statement on Preservation of Fertility Planning Options

PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA [February 29, 2024] — Crystal S. Denlinger, MD, Chief Executive Officer for the National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®)—an alliance of leading cancer centers devoted to patient care, research, and education—states:

"Many cancer therapies can negatively affect reproductive health and fertility. Considerations of reproductive health, including fertility preservation and planning, are integral components of appropriate cancer care for people of reproductive age facing or surviving cancer. Evidence-based expert consensus clinical practice guidelines for adolescents, young adults, and all cancer survivors of reproductive age recommend consideration of fertility preservation options as a key component of care. Given the rising incidence of cancer in younger people, 1 jeopardizing access to these necessary services has significant ramifications for everyone engaged in cancer treatment planning and delivery. NCCN urges policymakers to protect fertility preservation and planning services, including in vitro fertilization, to ensure people facing and surviving cancer have equitable access to appropriate fertility preservation options as a standard part of cancer care."

Visit NCCN.org/policy to learn more about NCCN's ongoing policy and advocacy work on behalf of people with cancer, including an upcoming Oncology Policy Summit on Sexual and Reproductive Health and its Impact on the Cancer Care Experience on May 6, 2024.

###

About the National Comprehensive Cancer Network

The National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®) is a not-for-profit alliance of <u>leading cancer centers</u> devoted to patient care, research, and education. NCCN is dedicated to improving and facilitating quality, effective, equitable, and accessible cancer care so all patients can live better lives. The NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines®) provide transparent, evidence-based, expert consensus recommendations for cancer treatment, prevention, and supportive services; they are the recognized standard for clinical direction and policy in cancer management and the most thorough and frequently-updated clinical practice guidelines available in any area of medicine. The NCCN Guidelines for Patients® provide expert cancer treatment information to inform and empower patients and caregivers, through support from the <u>NCCN Foundation</u>®. NCCN also advances continuing education, global initiatives, policy, and research collaboration and publication in oncology. Visit <u>NCCN.org</u> for more information.

¹ Koh B, Tan DJH, Ng CH, et al. Patterns in Cancer Incidence Among People Younger Than 50 Years in the US, 2010 to 2019. *JAMA Netw Open.* 2023;6(8):e2328171. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2023.28171