



FUTURE OF CANCER CARE

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CANCERX | MOFFITT CANCER CENTER | DIME (DIVERSITY IN MEDICINE EDUCATION SOCIETY)

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James Weese

Vice President, Cancer Service
Line



What do you perceive as the most pressing challenges currently facing cancer care in the US?

There are numerous challenges facing cancer care: the need to lower the cost of care; to increase screenings, especially among vulnerable populations; to get patients the right treatments at the right time; to work with payors to ensure patients can seamlessly access the treatments they need; and to continue to advance new discoveries and more effective methods of treatment.

What upcoming advancements in cancer care are you most excited about?

Precision medicine is the future of cancer care. It allows us to use genetic sequencing to deliver the best possible treatment to patients on an individualized basis. We've

seen other great advances in using clinical pathways—evidence-based plans that standardize best-in-class care for specific cancers—to accelerate use of clinical trials and evaluate large quantities of data to learn more about how we can move the field forward. Every time we fine-tune our treatments and discover new ways to address cancers, we are saving lives and improving quality of life for our patients.

How would improved transdisciplinary collaboration transform cancer care and patient outcomes?

The more we work across disciplines, the greater the impact for our patients—whether that is through multidisciplinary conferences, clinics or use of pathways. The next areas we need to focus on are increasing clinical trial participation, improving support from pharmaceutical companies and reducing barriers to care.

In what ways does Advocate Health stand out as a pioneer in addressing cancer care needs nationwide?

Advocate Health is a national leader in the use of pathways and has invested in building multidisciplinary care teams and precision medicine programs to provide the best possible care for our patients. With our new scale—we have 850+ providers and researchers united against cancer and over 650 clinical trials advancing the future of cancer care—we look forward to having an even greater impact on our patients' health outcomes and quality of life.