

Precision, Access, and the Next Era of Cancer Care

Our panel of experts share their opinions on the innovations transforming cancer treatment and what it will take to ensure those advances reach every patient who needs them.



INTERVIEW WITH
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Senior Vice President and
Chief Medical Officer, Solid
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INTERVIEW WITH
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Vice President, Global
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INTERVIEW WITH
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Chief Medical Officer,
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What innovations are set to have the biggest impact on cancer care in the next few years?

Mark Lanasa: The next wave of impact in cancer care will be driven by advances in targeted therapies using novel modalities — such as protein degraders, novel antibody-drug conjugates, and multi-specific antibodies — alongside smarter combination approaches. These innovations are enabling researchers to more precisely match therapies to tumor biology and individual patient characteristics. At the same time, automation and AI are poised to further accelerate both discovery and development, improving the speed and quality with which new medicines reach patients.

Gursel Aktan: Over the next few years, the most meaningful advances in cancer care will come from more precise, biology-driven approaches that reflect how complex and varied cancer truly is. Immune-based therapies will continue to evolve as researchers gain a deeper understanding of how to boost antitumor immune responses and overcome resistance. Advances in cancer biology are also making it possible to address oncogenic drivers and pathways that were once considered beyond reach, opening new potential options for cancers that have historically been difficult to treat. Cancer's complexity also demands more precise, tissue-specific approaches, with antibody-drug conjugates showing potential to

enable more selective targeting of tumor cells.

How are advances in diagnostics and precision medicine improving treatment decisions?

Rita Shaknovich: Precision medicine is, at its core, about matching the right therapy to the right patient at the right time, and diagnostics make that possible. Modern cancer treatment increasingly depends on identifying specific biomarkers that predict response to a given drug. As our understanding of tumor biology deepens, we are moving beyond single markers toward more sophisticated profiles that capture pathways, tumor heterogeneity, and the tumor microenvironment.

GA: Advances in diagnostics and precision medicine are giving researchers a clearer picture of what's driving each person's cancer, helping to evaluate more individualized treatment decisions. Historically, conversations around cancer focused on tumor location and stage. Now, thanks to the evolution in tools and technologies, clinicians are able to gain insights that are reshaping how they think about disease and approach care.

What will it take to ensure more patients benefit from the latest advances in cancer care?

RS: Despite remarkable progress, access to precision cancer care remains uneven. While education for physicians and patients is still important, information alone is no longer the primary barrier. Structural issues, particularly gaps in insurance coverage and reimbursement, continue to limit access to advanced diagnostics and novel therapies for many patients. Without consistent coverage, even the most effective innovation cannot reach those who need it most.

ML: Reaching more patients requires both faster innovation and broader access. Our global development approach is designed to deliver innovation at scale and speed. Expanding clinical trials into traditionally underserved regions and engaging diverse patient populations to help shape study design around real patient needs are integral to this model. Since patients deserve access to the next wave of cancer innovation regardless of where they live, health systems and partners must work together to remove barriers and accelerate access.

