

# IRA THREATENS CURES FOR CANCER PATIENTS



Study Shows Government-Mandated Drug Pricing Policies Decimate Development of Cancer-Fighting Drugs

A new study by research firm Vital Transformation estimates that there would be hundreds of lost therapies, including those for patients battling cancer, if Congress expands new aggressive government-mandated drug pricing policies.

**LOST THERAPIES**

**70%** of all currently available medicines – treatments Americans rely on every day – would likely never have been created, including nearly 30 different cancer-fighting therapies.

**LOST INNOVATION**

**237** fewer medicines will be FDA-approved over the next decade, especially in areas where we are desperately seeking cures – like cancer.

## “PILL PENALTY” THREATENS DEVELOPMENT OF CANCER CURES

The new IRA law discourages the development of medicines that come in pill or tablet form, often referred to as “small molecule medicines”. These medicines target specific features of cancer cells, including genetic characteristics, and may be taken orally, which gives patients easier access to treatment and the ability to be treated at home instead of a healthcare delivery setting.

	IRA	WH BUDGET PROPOSAL & SENATE SMART PRICES ACT
<p><b>Time Limit Between FDA Approval &amp; Mandated Price</b></p>	<p><b>Small-molecule drugs</b> <b>9 years</b></p> <p><b>Biologics</b> <b>13 years</b></p>	<p><b>All drugs</b> <b>5 years</b></p>

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More than **60% of oncology medicines approved a decade ago** received approvals for additional indications in later years, and most occurring seven or more years after initial FDA approval<sup>1</sup>. Mandating prices on medical discoveries so soon after they're approved will have a chilling effect on cancer research and development.

## CANCER MOONSHOT INITIATIVE GROUNDED BY IRA CONSEQUENCES

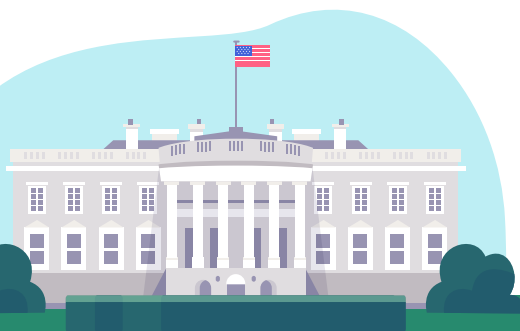
In 2022, the White House announced an admirable goal of reducing cancer deaths by 50% over the next 25 years. A major contributor to the decline in cancer deaths is life-saving medicines researched and developed by America's biopharmaceutical companies.

## WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT CANCER INVESTMENTS

"This program [the Inflation Reduction Act] is bad for innovation—and, in turn, the millions of patients who are counting on the pharmaceutical industry to develop new treatments and cures that save lives and improve health and wellbeing." – **Bristol Myers Squibb**<sup>2</sup>

"Investments by Merck and others in the biopharmaceutical sector have led to important progress in the treatment of earlier-stage cancer, most notably lung cancer...The IRA makes further investment in treatments for earlier-stage cancer and screening far more difficult." – **Merck Leadership**<sup>3</sup>

"The price setting provisions in the IRA thwart the progress we have made and lead to less hope for patients battling this [colorectal] disease." – **Andrew Spiegel, Executive Director of Global Colon Cancer Association**<sup>4</sup>



## LEARN MORE

The new study issued by We Work For Health (WWFH) and Vital Transformation modeled the impacts on industry revenues, jobs and future research and development investments. For the full study, please visit [We Work For Health](#).

1. Powaleny, Andrew. "IRA Impacts: Cancer treatment research and development." [PhRMA](#), March 23, 2023.

2. "Impact of the Inflation Reduction Act on Innovative Medicines for Patients." [Bristol Myers Squibb](#), June 16, 2023.

3. Davis, Rob. "The Inflation Reduction Act's Negative Impact on Patient-Focused Innovation, Value and Access." [Merck](#), Dean Li, Jennifer Zachary, Jannie Oosthuizen, June 6, 2023.

4. "Legal Momentum Grows Against IRA." [Pharmaceutical Executive](#), June 23, 2023.