

key summary

- Lymphedema is an underappreciated public health issue affecting millions.
- Delayed care leads to costly complications, disability, and health disparities.
- Strategic policies and investments can drastically improve patient outcomes.



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& Research Network

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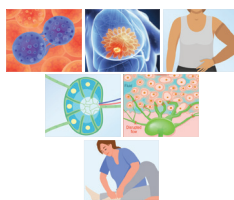
THE UNTOLD BURDEN OF LYMPHEDEMA

A Call to Action for Policymakers



Lymphatic Education
& Research Network

National Indicator Report
on Cancer-Related
Lymphedema (LE)



Lymphedema (LE) is a debilitating chronic disease, most prevalent in breast cancer survivors. Resulting from the malfunction of the lymphatic system, it leads to significant physical, emotional, and financial burdens. An estimated 10 million Americans live with lymphedema, yet it remains an underappreciated and underfunded public health issue. *As a policymaker, you have the power to drive change and improve the lives of those impacted by lymphedema.*

We need your leadership in advancing policies and investments aimed at:

- Increasing federal and state funding for research through the NIH or other mechanisms to advance lymphedema treatments and cures
- Improve insurance coverage and reduce out-of-pocket costs for compression supplies and other therapies to reduce the disease burden
- Mandating the inclusion of lymphatic system education in medical and nursing schools to provide comprehensive lymphedema education for healthcare providers.
- Promote public awareness initiatives to reduce stigma and encourage early diagnosis

The **Lymphatic Education & Research Network (LE&RN)** is a trusted partner, working tirelessly to advocate for the lymphedema community. By collaborating with LE&RN and championing this cause, you can make a meaningful difference. We are confident that with your support, we can make significant strides in addressing the challenges of lymphedema.

LE&RN welcomes the opportunity to discuss this matter further and to provide additional information or resources to assist in your decision-making process.

Additionally, please visit LymphaticNetwork.org to learn more about how you can help advance the fight against lymphedema.

Together, we can create a brighter future for this overlooked patient population.