

key facts

- An estimated 10 million Americans live with lymphedema (LE).
- Delayed diagnosis is associated with worse outcomes and higher costs.
- **LE&RN Centers of Excellence** provide multidisciplinary, specialized care.

By staying informed about the latest advances in lymphedema diagnosis and treatment, you can make a significant difference in your patients' lives. **The Lymphatic Education & Research Network (LE&RN)** offers valuable educational resources, provider networks, and research updates to support you in delivering optimal care.

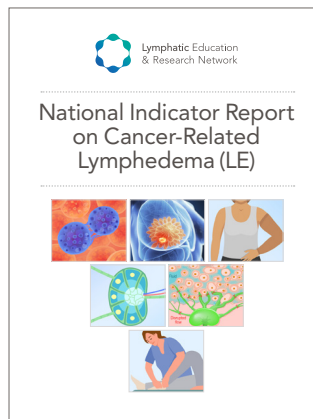


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CLOSING THE GAP IN LYMPHEDEMA CARE

What Every Healthcare Professional Should Know



Lymphedema (LE) is a chronic disease that affects millions of Americans, yet it remains under-recognized and often misdiagnosed. As a healthcare professional, you play a critical role in improving outcomes for patients living with lymphedema. The attached *National Indicator Report on Cancer-Related Lymphedema*—created by the **Lymphatic Education & Research Network (LE&RN)**—highlights areas in need of urgent attention, revealing

opportunities to heighten awareness and improve the standard of care. Below is a summary of key information found in the attached document.

Essential Insights for Healthcare Providers:

- Lymphedema is often overlooked, leading to delayed diagnosis and treatment.
- Gaps in medical education contribute to low awareness among providers.
- Early intervention and comprehensive management can improve patient outcomes.
- A multidisciplinary approach and specialized centers offer best-practice care.

Five Key Indicators for Immediate Focus to Improve Patient Outcomes:

1. **Epidemiology:** Developing a better understanding of lymphedema epidemiology
2. **Access to Care:** Broadening the accessibility of lymphedema care
3. **Health Disparities:** Addressing inequities in access to lymphedema care
4. **Transition in Care:** Easing the transition of care from pediatric to adult services
5. **Perceptions Amongst Stakeholders:** Aligning stakeholder perceptions with patient needs

Visit **LymphaticNetwork.org** to access clinical guidelines, patient education materials, and opportunities for professional development.

Together, we can close the gap in lymphedema care.