Response to the Death of Elizabeth Edwards

Otis Brawley, M.D., Chief Medical Officer

Below is a comment from Otis W. Brawley, M.D., on the death from cancer of Elizabeth Edwards.

"The courage, grace, and dignity that Mrs. Edwards has shown us as she faced her cancer journey is extraordinary. She has been and will continue to be an inspiration to patients, their families, and to the healthcare professionals who care for cancer patients.

"The way she faced the end of her life also serves as an example to us all. Many patients are hesitant to accept hospice and supportive care, despite the fact that for many cancer patients supportive care is more likely to lead to a better quality and longer quantity of life than aggressive therapy.

"We can be grateful to Mrs. Edwards. Her decisions and open discussion of them bring an awareness that is good for all of us. Her presence will be missed, but her impact will live on forever."

For more information, please see: Breast Cancer.