# Research in Yoga for Cancer Care—Trends (Advancing Yoga in U.S. Cancer Care: Addressing the Barriers)

Sue Tebb, PhD, MSW, C-IAYT
Vice President, Board of Directors,
International Association of Yoga Therapists

susan.tebb@slu.edu



# Barriers to Yoga in Cancer Care

## Availability:

- 1. Inconsistent quality of yoga research to inform national clinical practice guidelines, making it hard to replicate
- 2. Absence of evidence-based best practices in oncology yoga; dosing needs study; long-term follow-up to study durable response

#### Awareness:

- 3. Low public awareness of the benefits of yoga during and after cancer treatment
- 4. Cultural and attitudinal influences intersecting with beliefs about yoga



# Barriers to Yoga in Cancer Care (cont.)

## Accessibility:

- 5. Limited patient access to safe, affordable yoga therapy
- 6. Absence of nationally recognized, medically vetted training programs for yoga professionals working with vulnerable medical populations, including people with cancer and those with metabolic syndrome and comorbid conditions

### Affordability:

7. Inadequate payment and reimbursement models for yoga therapists and teachers, as well as patients

