



Margarita L. Valdez is the assistant director of congressional relations for the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO). ASTRO is the premier radiation oncology society in the world, with nearly 10,000 members who are physicians, nurses, physicists, and other health care professionals who specialize in treating cancer patients with radiation therapies. Valdez is a senior strategist and policy expert with 17 years of experience and a demonstrated history of success working with various stakeholders in the health care industry. Prior to joining ASTRO, Valdez worked as director of government relations for the National Breast Cancer Coalition, where she coordinated the congressional strategy to secure \$120 million in funding for the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program. She also worked as the senior director of congressional relations at the American Health Information Management Association and served as a senior aide in the U.S. House of

Representatives. Valdez earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science Administration and Public Policy from Michigan State University, and she also completed coursework for a Master of Public Administration at Western Michigan University.