Increase NIH and NCI Funding

Cancer Research Delivers Breakthroughs & Hope

Progress in the Fight Against Cancer

16.9 million cancer survivors in the U.S.

29% decrease in the cancer death rate from 1991 to 2017.

2 out of 3 patients survive at least five years after diagnosis compared to 1 out of 2 patients 40 years ago.

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is the leading institution for cancer research activities across the U.S. and abroad. For decades, NCI-funded research has played a role in cancer prevention, detection, and treatment advances.

The Promise of CAR T

Chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy (or CAR T), a type of immunotherapy, is showing great promise in treating cancer since Dr. Steven Rosenberg of NCI’s Center for Cancer Research first reported successful cancer treatment with CAR T cells in 2010. To date, the FDA has approved two CAR T cell therapies, and more are currently being investigated.

NIH and NCI Funding Drive U.S. Economic Growth

Across all 50 states, NIH's budget provides:

- 50,000 Extramural grants to 300,000 Researchers at 2,500 Universities, medical schools, and other research institutions

In Fiscal Year 2019, NIH funding generated:

- $81.2 billion in new economic activity in the form of goods and services
- 475,905 jobs to carry out NIH grants and contracts

The Promise of CAR T
Cancer is Still the 2nd Leading Cause of Death

1.8 million 

new cancer cases 
estimated in 2020

606,520

estimated deaths due
to cancer in 2020

In the U.S., the lifetime risk of developing cancer is:

2 out of 5

1.8 million 

new cancer cases 
estimated in 2020

606,520

estimated deaths due
to cancer in 2020

The Road Ahead for Research

1. Development of early detection tools and effective treatments for recalcitrant cancers.
2. Address health outcomes disparities by educating all populations about prevention and treatment options.
3. Improve quality of care by advancing pain and symptom management.

Historic Unmet Demand at NCI: Unprecedented Opportunities for Scientific Advancement

The NCI is experiencing a demand for research funding that is far beyond that of any other Institute or Center (IC) at NIH. Between FY13 & FY18, the number of R01 grant applications to NCI rose by 45.9% versus all other ICs who saw applications rise by 4.9% during the same period.

Competing R01 applications vs. NCI budget

Percent change since FY2013

OVAC urges Congress to provide:

To ensure the research being supported today yields the cancer treatments of tomorrow, Congress must sustain and expand its vital support in FY21.

$44.7 billion for NIH

$6.9 billion for NCI


Economic data from United for Medical Research (www.unitedformedicalresearch.com)