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News From the Association of American Cancer Institutes | August 2026

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[Awards & Honors](#) | [Grants & Gifts](#) | [Leadership Transitions](#) | [Research Highlights](#) | [Other News](#)
[Job Opportunities](#) | [Meeting Announcements](#)

AACI HEADLINES

[Baskin Named VCU Massey Director](#)



Monica L. Baskin, PhD, will serve as the next director of VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Baskin is the first female director of Massey and the first Black woman to be named director of a National Cancer Institute (NCI)-Designated Cancer Center. As the fifth director of Massey since its NCI designation in 1975, she oversees a comprehensive cancer center made up of 250 scientists and clinical investigators. Dr. Baskin succeeds AACI Immediate Past President **Robert A. Winn, MD**. [Read More](#)

[Annual Meeting Spotlight: Working Effectively With Colleagues of All Ages](#)



At 8:30 am central time on **Monday, October 26**, panelists will share strategies for collaboration, engagement, and closing the generation gap at work during "Four Generations, One Workplace: Navigating the Post-COVID Cancer Center Workforce." The session is part of the **2026 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting**, slated for **October 25-27** in Chicago. [Read More](#) | [Register Today](#)

[The James Hosts Second Clinical Trial Concept Workshop in Partnership With AACI](#)

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - The James hosted the in-person component of its "Clinical Trial Concept in the Oncology Landscape" course for the second consecutive year, during the 18th Annual AACI CRI Meeting. The hybrid course, known as the **idea2Concept Workshop**, teaches oncology



[AACI Comments on Proposed OMB Grant Rule, Shares Opportunities for Federal Engagement](#)

Last month AACI submitted comments to the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in response to its proposed [Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance \(OMB-2026-0034\)](#). The association is currently reviewing additional federal policy proposals that could impact academic cancer centers, including a potential cap on the number of active grants a principal investigator can hold and provisions related to the 340B Drug Pricing Program and site-neutral payment policies. [Read More](#)

[Learn How SIRUM is Redistributing Surplus Oncology Medicine 'for Good'](#)



This story was updated on August 5, 2026 to reflect a change in presenters.

At **1:00 pm eastern time on Monday, August 10**, AACI will host a webinar in partnership with **SIRUM**, titled "[Leveraging Oncology Medicine Surplus for Good](#)." Presenters **George Wang, PhD**, SIRUM, and **Jennifer Booth, PharmD, MS, BCPS**, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, will share how surplus medicine donation works — and how it's already changing lives. [Read More](#) | [Register Today](#)

NEWS FROM THE CENTERS

AWARDS & HONORS

[Gabrilove Receives 2026 Lifetime Achievement Award](#)

[Mount Sinai Tisch Cancer Center](#)



Janice Gabrilove, MD, received the 2026 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Faculty Council in recognition of her leadership, innovation, mentorship, and impact in oncology and medicine. [Read More](#)

[Bergom Named ASTRO Fellow](#)

[Siteman Cancer Center](#)

Carmen Bergom, MD, PhD, a WashU Medicine radiation oncologist at Siteman Cancer Center, has been named a fellow of the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO). [Read More](#)



[Ulrich Among Huntsman's New and Renewed Endowed Chairs](#)

[Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah](#)



AACI Vice President/President-elect **Cornelia Ulrich, MS, PhD**, is one of seven Huntsman Cancer Institute faculty members recently honored with an endowed chair. Dr. Ulrich, chief scientific officer and executive director of Huntsman's Comprehensive Cancer Center, has been appointed the inaugural Mary C. Beckerle Presidential Endowed Chair in Cancer Research and Leadership. [Read More](#)

[Markey Named Innovators Network Endowed Chair](#)

[Fred Hutch Cancer Center](#)



Kate Markey, MBBS, PhD, FRACP, a Fred Hutch physician who studies how bacteria in the gut affect recovery after patients receive a bone marrow transplant or cellular immunotherapy, has been named the next holder of the Innovators Network Endowed Chair. The chair is awarded every three years to an early-career scientist whose work demonstrates creativity, collaboration, innovation, and strong potential for patient impact. [Read More](#)

GRANTS & GIFTS

[Researcher Awarded \\$3.4M NCI Grant for Stem Cell-Based Breast Cancer Prevention](#)

[UF Health Cancer Institute](#)

[Rogel Research Team Receives \\$3.2M NCI Grant to Cascade Genetic Testing to Relatives](#)

[University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center](#)

[NIH Awards \\$3.1 Million for Pancreatic Cancer Research](#)

[LSU LCMC Health Cancer Center](#)

[Study Explores Effects of Weight-Loss Drugs on Colorectal Cancer Risk](#)

[The University of Kansas Cancer Center](#)

[Cynthia Ma Receives Susan G. Komen Leadership Grant](#)

[RevitaLash Cosmetics Award Accelerates Karmanos, Wayne State Cancer Research](#)

[Karmanos Cancer Institute, Wayne State University](#)

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

[Gadgeel Named Co-Chair of Winship PRMC](#)

[Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University](#)



Shirish Gadgeel, MBBS, FASCO, has been named co-chair of the Protocol Review and Monitoring Committee (PRMC) at Winship Cancer Institute. Together with Pediatric Oncologist **Tamara Miller, MD, MSCE**, Gadgeel will lead the PRMC in ensuring rigorous internal oversight of Winship's cancer clinical trials, a requirement for all National Cancer Institute-Designated Cancer Centers. [Read More](#)

[Shah Named Associate Director for Translational Research](#)

[University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)



Pediatric oncologist **Nirali N. Shah, MD, MHSc**, has been named associate director for translational research for the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center and will serve as professor and director of the Pediatric/Adolescent and Young Adult Cell and Gene Therapy Program at University of Maryland School of Medicine. [Read More](#)

[Zhong Appointed Director of Hollings CMI Shared Resource](#)

[Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina](#)



Zhi Zhong, MD, PhD, has been appointed director of the MUSC Hollings Cancer Center Cell and Molecular Imaging (CMI) Shared Resource. Dr. Zhong will provide scientific, operational, and strategic leadership and help ensure delivery of state-of-the-art imaging, expertise, and training. She succeeds **John Lemasters, MD, PhD**, who retired after 20 years at MUSC. [Read More](#)

[Internationally Recognized Hematologist to Treat Patients at UMGCCC](#)

[University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Hematologist **Enrico M. Novelli, MD, MS**, has been named director of the University of Maryland School of Medicine Program in Sickle Cell Disease and a professor in the Department of Medicine, Division of Hematology/Oncology. He will treat patients at the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center (UMGCCC). [Read More](#)



[Munster Appointed to Expand Impact of Stanford's Early Drug Development Program](#)

[Stanford Cancer Institute](#)



Pamela Munster, MD, has joined the Stanford Cancer Institute as the inaugural associate director for Early Detection and Interception Research. Dr. Munster brings her expertise in translational medicine, early-phase clinical trials, and precision oncology to Stanford's Early Drug Development Program, helping turn scientific discoveries into safer, more personalized treatments for patients. [Read More](#)

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

[Stanford Scientists Develop Novel Solution for Tonic Signaling in CAR T Cells](#)

[Stanford Cancer Institute](#)

[Wearable Devices May Help Detect Cytokine Release Syndrome Earlier](#)

[Mount Sinai Tisch Cancer Center](#)

[Antiviral Immune Defenses Repurposed to Attack Tumors](#)

[Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health](#)

[IU Study: Obesity 'Fuels' Leukemia, Combo Using Popular Weight-Loss Drugs May Stop It](#)

[Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Winship Researchers Engineer 'Armored' CAR T Cells to Improve Tumor Control](#)

[Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University](#)

[Roswell Park Team Discovers Metabolic Pathway in Cell Nucleus That Helps Cancer Progress](#)

[Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Bile Acid Buildup Can Drive Spread of Breast Cancer](#)

[University of Virginia Cancer Center](#)

[Gut Bacteria Metabolites Help Immune System Fight Cancer](#)

[Cedars-Sinai Cancer](#)

[JAMA Review Outlines How Obesity Leads to Cancer](#)

[The University of Kansas Cancer Center](#)

[LIG1 Loss Exposes Therapeutic Vulnerability in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer](#)

[Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine](#)

[Newly Identified Inhibitors May Boost Drug's Ability to Fight Treatment-Resistant Cancers](#)

[Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University](#)

[Roswell Park Documents High Success Rate for Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplants](#)

[Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Some Metastatic Breast Cancer Patients May Benefit From More Aggressive Treatment](#)

[Duke Cancer Institute](#)

[Study Reveals Why Some Colorectal Cancers Respond Better to Immunotherapy](#)

[USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[UF Researchers Discover First-of-Its-Kind Compound to Target Lung Cancer Cells](#)

[UF Health Cancer Institute](#)

[Common Thyroid Hormone May Help Prevent Brain Tumor Relapse in Children](#)

[Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health](#)

[Could These Tiny Organs Save Millions of Lives?](#)

[UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Engineered Gut Bacteria Show Promise Against Pancreatic Cancer](#)

[The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[FDA Approves New Breast Cancer Drug Based on VIKTORIA-1 Study Results](#)

[Fred Hutch Cancer Center](#)

[Study Explains How Colorectal Cancer Cells Maintain High Iron Levels](#)

[University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center](#)

[Breast Cancer Rising Fast in Asian American Women](#)

[UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[New Drug Shows Promise for NRAS-Driven Melanoma](#)

[Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah](#)

[Yoga Eases Anxiety, Mood Symptoms in Cancer Survivors](#)

[Wilmot Cancer Institute, UR Medicine](#)

[Assessment Shows How Long Patients Wait for Test Results](#)

[Family History Increases Cancer Risk in BRCA-Tested Patients](#)

[Cedars-Sinai Cancer](#)

[Experimental KRAS Vaccine Generates Immune Responses Against Pancreatic Cancer in People at High Risk](#)

[Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University](#)

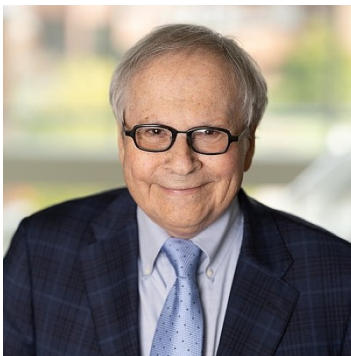
[Thymus-Derived Hormone May Help Suppress Age-Related Inflammation](#)

[USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

OTHER NEWS

[Cancer Research Pioneer Gary Morrow Dies at 82](#)

[Wilmot Cancer Institute, UR Medicine](#)



Gary R. Morrow, PhD, MS, died on July 7, at age 82, of pneumonia complications after coping with prostate cancer for 16 years. A longstanding leader at Wilmot Cancer Institute, Dr. Morrow was credited with building the science around easing cancer symptoms and side effects, such as nausea. [Read More](#)

[Mobile Lung Screening Unit Reaches 1,000 Patients, Expands Access Across Rural Indiana](#)

[Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)



Indiana's first mobile lung screening program has reached a major milestone, screening its 1,000th patient since launching in March 2025. The IU Health Mobile Lung Screening Unit has visited 45 counties, expanding access to lifesaving lung cancer screening across the state, particularly in rural communities. [Read More](#)

[Markey Celebrates 'Topping Out' of New Cancer Center](#)

[UK Markey Cancer Center](#)



Clinicians, faculty, and staff gathered last month to sign the final steel beam before it was raised into place atop the new 550,000-square-foot building that will house the UK Markey Cancer Center. The new facility, which will also house a comprehensive spine center, ambulatory surgery space, and other outpatient services, is slated to open in 2028. Markey Director **B. Mark Evers, MD**, a member of AACI's Board of Directors, delivered remarks. [Read More](#)

[Dana-Farber Launches Free, Evidence-Based Tool for Evaluating Cancer-Related Claims](#)

[Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School](#)

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute has updated the Cancer FactFinder, a free online resource providing evidence-based information on what does and does not cause cancer. The site presents the best evidence currently available in clear, accessible language, making it a valuable tool to share with affiliates, colleagues, students, and community partners. The resource launched in 2022 to combat cancer-related misinformation. Currently available in English, it will soon expand to eight additional languages. [Read More](#)

[Karmanos Rolls Out New KCI Clinical Trials App Features](#)

[Karmanos Cancer Institute, Wayne State University](#)

Karmanos Cancer Institute (KCI) has released a new and improved version of the KCI Clinical Trials App with new features to improve usability, accessibility, and alignment with today's clinical and cancer research workflows. The upgrades provide a modernized platform to improve how patients, caregivers, and health care professionals discover and engage with actively recruiting cancer clinical trials, leading to more informed treatment decisions. [Read More](#)

[Conversations in Cancer: Radioligand Therapy](#)

[Duke Cancer Institute](#)

Radioligand therapy is an image-guided cancer treatment that uses radioactive material to selectively target and destroy cancer cells. In the Duke Health's Conversations in Cancer series, **Diane Reidy-Lagunes, MD**, and **Hannah McManus, MD**, Duke Cancer Institute oncologists specializing in neuroendocrine tumors and prostate cancer, respectively, discuss ongoing research to improve and expand radioligand therapy to more cancer types. [Read More](#)

[Subaru Dealerships Donate Care Kits and Comfort Items for UVA Cancer Center Patients](#)

[University of Virginia Cancer Center](#)

UVA Cancer Center received donations of comfort items and care kits from local Subaru dealerships. The gifts were part of the Subaru Loves to Care initiative, a nationwide partnership with Blood Cancer United (formerly The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society) dedicated to providing comfort, encouragement, and support to individuals and families affected by blood cancer. [Read More](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

[Decentralized Trials Program Lead](#)

[UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill](#)

[Executive Administrator](#)

[Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Clinical Trials Fiscal Manager](#)

[Fred Hutch Cancer Center](#)

[Clinical Research Project Manager II](#)

[Fred Hutch Cancer Center](#)

[Oncology Trial Activation Manager](#)

[OHSU Knight Cancer Institute](#)

[Associate Director for Administration](#)

[LSU LCMC Health Cancer Center](#)

[Program Leader, Cancer Prevention and Control](#)

[Cedars-Sinai Cancer](#)

MEETINGS & EVENTS

[Leveraging Oncology Medicine Surplus for Good](#)

Hosted by AACI in partnership with SIRUM

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

[August 10, 2026](#)

[Webinar](#)

[Annual Gastrointestinal Oncology Symposium](#)

Hosted by Karmanos Cancer Institute

[SAVE THE DATE](#)

[September 19, 2026](#)

[Troy, MI](#)

[Cancer Center Community Impact Forum \(CCCIF\)](#)

Hosted by Fred Hutch Cancer Center/University of Washington/Seattle Children's Cancer Consortium

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

[September 27-29, 2026](#)

[Seattle, WA](#)

[2026 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting](#)

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

[October 25-27, 2026](#)

[Chicago, IL](#)

[2026 New Cancer Center Directors Meeting](#)

[BY INVITATION ONLY](#)

[October 24, 2026](#)

[Chicago, IL](#)



[Impact Summit](#)

Hosted by AACI in partnership with the Cancer Center Network

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

[October 24, 2026](#)

[Chicago, IL](#)



[AACI Leadership Development Workshop](#)

[LEARN MORE](#)

[October 24-25, 2026](#)

[Chicago, IL](#)

[2027 AACI/AACR Hill Day](#)

[SAVE THE DATE](#)

[May 20, 2027](#)

[Washington, DC](#)

[19th Annual AACI Clinical Research Innovation \(CRI\) Meeting](#)

[SAVE THE DATE](#)

[June 28-30, 2027](#)

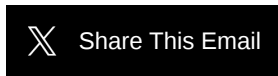
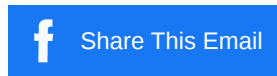
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