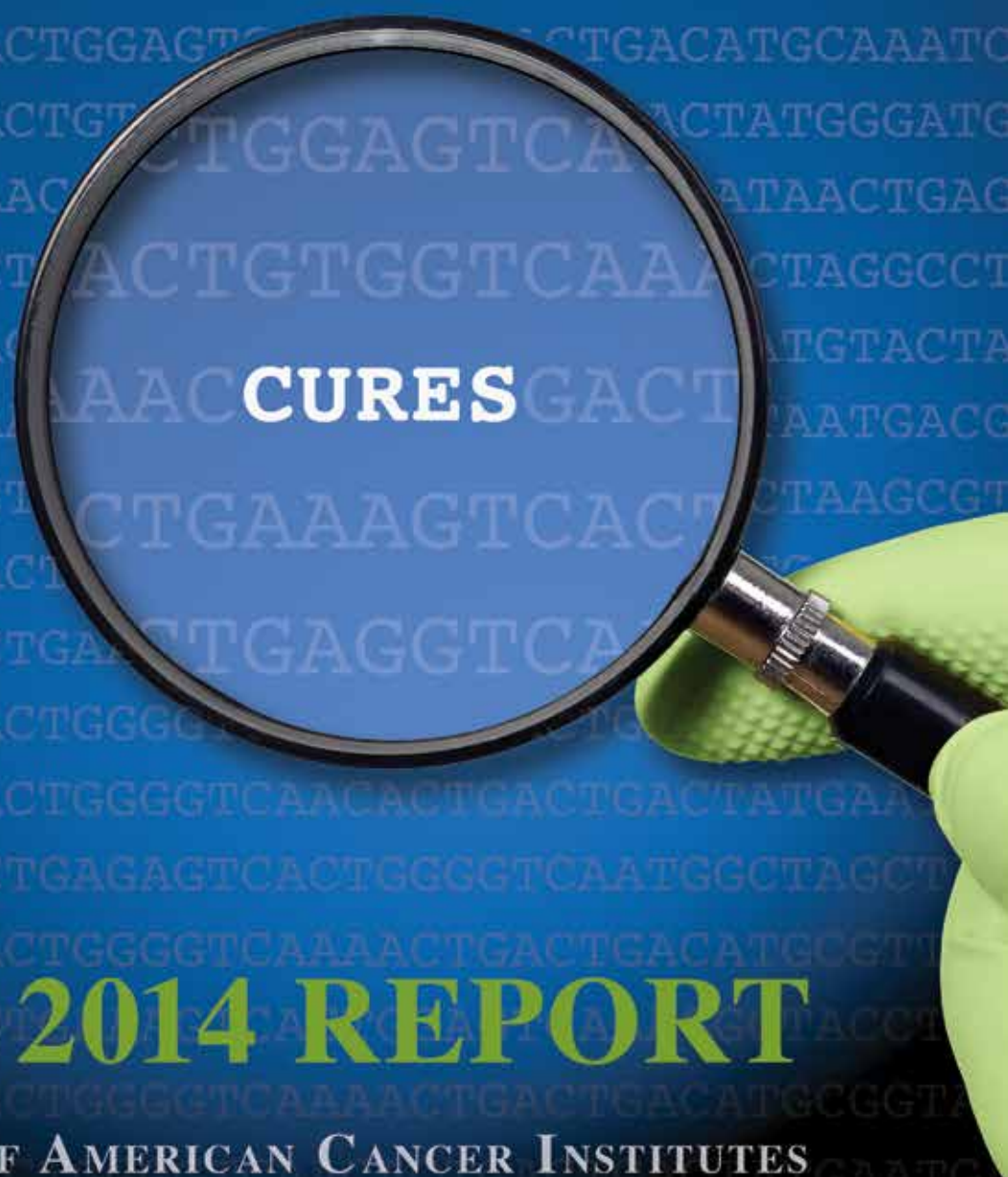


TARGETING CANCER CURES



AACi

2014 REPORT

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN CANCER INSTITUTES

2014 AACI REPORT

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MISSION

The Association of American Cancer Institutes is dedicated to reducing the burden of cancer by enhancing the impact of the nation's leading academic cancer centers.

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The University of Chicago
Comprehensive Cancer Center

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A MESSAGE FROM AACI



IN LATE 2013 THE AACI BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONVENED A DAY-LONG RETREAT TO TAKE STOCK OF WHERE THE ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN AND TO BEGIN TO MAP ITS FUTURE DIRECTION. AS PART OF THAT MEETING, THE BOARD CRAFTED A STREAMLINED MISSION STATEMENT THAT REAFFIRMS AACI'S DEDICATION TO "REDUCING THE BURDEN OF CANCER BY ENHANCING THE IMPACT OF THE NATION'S LEADING ACADEMIC CANCER CENTERS."

Retreat participants also updated AACI's strategic goals, which include these imperatives that are fulfilled by our annual meeting and other programming:

- Gather and share best practices
- Provide a forum for members to address common challenges and explore new opportunities
- Support initiatives that engage AACI membership in developing specific recommendations to NCI.

AACI is the only professional association that focuses exclusively on the nation's cancer centers. There are currently 93 AACI member centers from across the country, including 64 NCI-designated centers and 29 academic cancer centers that receive NCI research support.

As highlighted in this 2014 report, AACI's broad array of member services includes a Government Relations Forum, focused largely on advocating for increased federal funding for biomedical research, the Translational Cancer Research Fellowship that funds promising young investigators at AACI centers, and communications outreach such as the *AACI Commentary* and *AACI Update*.

A number of AACI initiatives address challenges in the operation of cancer centers, including the AACI Molecular Diagnostics Initiative, launched in 2013 to provide input on best practices in implementing precision oncology at the nation's cancer centers. In 2014, the initiative conducted an in-person meeting during the AACR annual meeting, numerous conference calls with leading experts in molecular oncology and clinical trials, and an AACI annual meeting session on the interpretation of molecular data. A white paper outlining the recommendations resulting from these discussions is set for publication in 2015.

AACI's Clinical Research Initiative attracted nearly 200 attendees to its sixth annual meeting this past July in Chicago. CRI's scope of activity is broad and deep, addressing various facets of clinical trials management at the cancer centers. We are also in the early stages of developing a forum where AACI clinical services leaders collect, evaluate and share clinical and quality care best practices under the banner of the Physician Clinical Leadership Initiative. You can expect to hear more about the work of this group in 2015.

AACI is deeply grateful to all of its members, particularly those who contribute their time and expertise on the association's board and committees. We extend a warm welcome to AACI's new president, Dr. George Weiner, director of the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Iowa. We look forward to working with George to assist the centers in keeping pace with the changing landscape in science, technology and health care, and to support their continuing drive toward a cancer-free future.

Michelle M. Le Beau, PhD
President, AACI
Director, The University of Chicago
Comprehensive Cancer Center

Barbara Duffy Stewart, MPH
Executive Director, AACI

CLINICAL RESEARCH INITIATIVE



Dr. Lee Newcomer, of UnitedHealthcare, talks about precision oncology at CRI's 2014 annual meeting.

PRECISION ONCOLOGY FOCUS OF SIXTH CRI ANNUAL MEETING

THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN CANCER INSTITUTES (AACI) CLINICAL RESEARCH INITIATIVE (CRI) CONVENED ITS SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING JULY 9-11 IN CHICAGO. THE 2014 MEETING WAS EXPANDED AN ADDITIONAL HALF DAY TO ACCOMMODATE CONCURRENT SESSIONS FOR CLINICAL TRIALS MEDICAL DIRECTORS AND ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTORS.

AACI CRI is a network of cancer center clinical research leaders that examines and shares best practices that promote the efficient operation of cancer center clinical research facilities. It also leverages the ability of the AACI cancer center network to advocate for improvement in the national clinical trials enterprise.

This year's meeting focused on precision oncology and its impact on clinical research at the nation's cancer centers. Attendees discussed how cancer centers manage the challenges of activating new clinical trial designs that require centers to become "research ready" sites.

CRI MEETING ABSTRACT PRESENTATIONS

AACI received 24 abstract submissions focused on oncology research that illuminates clinical research management challenges and solutions. The top three abstracts, as judged by the AACI CRI Steering Committee, were selected for presentation at the annual meeting. The concepts presented demonstrated the creative and thoughtful methods being employed at cancer centers to address clinical trial process issues. The winning authors were:

FIRST PLACE

"Improving Clinical Trial Activation Efficiency Through Technology, Systems Integrations and Analytics"

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Joe Lengfellner, Ann Rodavitch, Collette Houston, Joe Larkin, Paul Sabbatini, MD, Sarah Wise

SECOND PLACE

"Tumor Imaging Metrics Manager: The Complete Workflow Solution for Quantitative Imaging Assessment of Tumor Response for Oncology Clinical Trials"

Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center and Yale Cancer Center

Richard A. Bronen, Trinity Urban, Kimberly Hall, William B. Hanlon, Annick D. Van den Abbeele, Gordon J. Harris

THIRD PLACE

"Less Is More: Specializing Regulatory Responsibilities to Decrease Time to IRB Approval"

Siteman Cancer Center

Chloe Fournier, Nick Fisher



WORKING GROUP HIGHLIGHTS

CRI's Recruitment Specialist Committee is focusing on the value that a Clinical Trial Recruitment Specialist, or employees with similar roles, bring to a cancer center. It is also examining practices for increasing trial accrual and how centers are recruiting non-English speaking subjects. AACI members have also discussed how the position is funded.

The External Safety Report Committee reviewed how AACI cancer centers handle external industry sponsored safety reports that do not affect a trial's risk benefit ratio. The committee is currently considering how to reduce clinical trial office effort while satisfying trial sponsors, investigators, study coordinators, institutional review boards, and auditors.

The Academia, Industry and Government Relations Working Group collaborated with TransCelerate Biopharma, Inc. in April 2014 on a webinar presented by Lilly Oncology. More than 50 clinical trial leaders and staff from AACI cancer centers participated. The webinar reviewed various TransCelerate initiatives.

CRI'S LISTSERV VALUE IS GROWING

CRI's online discussion forum has grown from 275 subscribers in its first year (2011) to 501 subscribers from 80 AACI cancer centers today. Popular Listserv topics in 2014 included feedback on institutional requirements regarding informed consent and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act consent, and shared insights into centers' requirements for scientific review of amendments prior to an IRB review.



CRI'S SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING INCLUDED AN ADDITIONAL HALF DAY OF SESSIONS AND FOCUSED ON PRECISION ONCOLOGY AND ITS IMPACT ON CLINICAL RESEARCH AT THE NATION'S CANCER CENTERS.

CRI WELCOMES THREE NEW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Elizabeth Anderson, MPH, BSN
Director, Clinical Trials
Knight Cancer Institute
Oregon Health and Science University



Nick Fisher, MBA
Director of Clinical Research
Siteman Cancer Center



Steve Weitman, MD, PhD
Director, Institute for Drug Development
University of Texas Health Science Center
at San Antonio



AACI/CCAF ANNUAL MEETING

THE 2014 AACI/CCAF ANNUAL MEETING, HELD OCTOBER 26-28, IN CHICAGO, CONVENED MORE THAN 300 AACI CANCER CENTER DIRECTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS WITH LEADERS OF NATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY GROUPS, INDUSTRY, AND GOVERNMENT HEALTH AGENCIES.

The annual meeting program committee, chaired by Robert S. DiPaola, MD, Director, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, assembled an outstanding array of speakers and compelling topics. The meeting featured panel discussions on emerging models for research and clinical care, tobacco use reduction, molecular data interpretation, and the human papillomavirus vaccine. In the public policy arena, speakers considered the changing landscape of clinical research, the current political environment and the 2014 midterm elections.

Following an overview of the meeting and AACI's activities through the year, delivered by AACI President Dr. Michelle M. Le Beau and AACI Executive Director Barbara Duffy Stewart, panel discussions began with a look back at the evolution of U.S. cancer centers and prognostications for their future by a stellar group of past and current center directors and administrators: Drs. H. Shelton Earp, Robert C. Young, Joseph Simone, Robert S. DiPaola, and Ms. Marcy Waldinger.

Also on the meeting's first day, Dr. George J. Weiner, director of the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center, assumed leadership of the association for a two-year term and launched his AACI presidential initiative,

DR. GEORGE WEINER'S AACI PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVE, "THE ACADEMIC DIFFERENCE", AIMS TO GATHER AND DISTRIBUTE DATA THAT HIGHLIGHTS ACADEMIC CANCER CENTERS' INDISPENSABLE ROLE AND WHY THEIR EFFORTS SHOULD BE SUPPORTED.



Above: Drs. Claire Verschraegen and Dominique de Valeriola; Right, Dr. Stephen Nimer poses a question to annual meeting panelists.

AACI/CCAF ANNUAL MEETING



Above (L-R): Drs. Michelle Le Beau, Timothy Ley and George Weiner.
Below: Dr. Le Beau leads a panel discussion on molecular diagnostics with (L-R) Drs. Andrea Califano, Stanley Hamilton, Keith Flaherty and Barbara Conley.

THE AACI DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIST AWARD WAS PRESENTED TO TIMOTHY LEY, MD, ON OCTOBER 27, DURING THE 2014 AACI/CCAF ANNUAL MEETING, IN CHICAGO. PRIOR TO THE AWARD PRESENTATION, DR. LEY DELIVERED A TALK ON HIS RECENT RESEARCH ON ACUTE MYELOID LEUKEMIA.

Dr. Ley is the Lewis T. and Rosalind B. Apple Chair in Oncology at Washington University, serves as director of the stem cell biology section in the Department of Medicine and associate director of The Genome Institute, and is a member of Siteman Cancer Center. Dr. Ley led the team at Washington University in St. Louis that sequenced the first human cancer genomes, and he is principal investigator on a five-year, \$14.3 million National Institutes of Health Program Project Grant in leukemia.

The AACI Distinguished Scientist Award acknowledges extraordinary scientific accomplishments and contributions to cancer research. Previous honorees are Drs. Brian Druker, Lee Hartwell, Mary-Claire King, Janet Rowley, Stuart Schreiber, Margaret R. Spitz, Bert Vogelstein, Robert Weinberg and Irving Weissman.

The annual meeting also featured a panel discussion on the interpretation of molecular data, which complemented AACI's ongoing Molecular Diagnostics Initiative.





MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS INITIATIVE

NUMEROUS CHALLENGES IMPEDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPREHENSIVE MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS AT CANCER CENTERS, INCLUDING THE ACQUISITION OF APPROPRIATE TISSUES, DEVELOPMENT OF MUTATION PANELS, SELECTION OF TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS AND REGULATORY REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES.

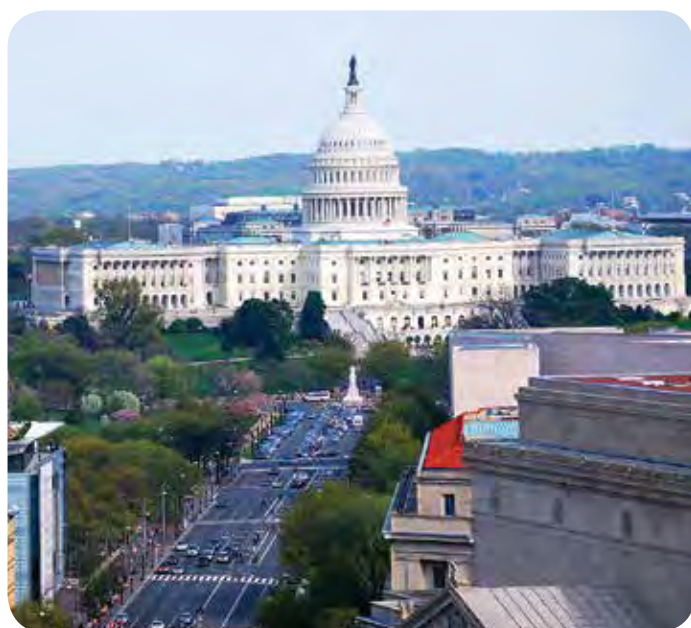
To help guide cancer centers in identifying and addressing these and other obstacles to molecular diagnostics implementation, AACI launched the Molecular Diagnostics Initiative (MDI) in July 2013, as the focus of Dr. Michelle M. Le Beau’s AACI presidential initiative.

The Initiative has seen a busy and productive 2014, including an in-person meeting during the AACR annual meeting, numerous conference calls with leading experts in molecular oncology and clinical trials, and a session on the “Interpretation of Molecular Data” at the annual meeting in October. A white paper outlining the recommendations resulting from these discussions is set for publication in mid-2015.



AACI MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS INITIATIVE <i>WHITE PAPER</i>	
 WORKING GROUP	 MAJOR DISCUSSION POINTS
Cost-Benefit Working Group Chair: Dr. George Weiner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reimbursement issues • Implementation of tests • Value of molecular diagnostics • Cost-effectiveness of panels
Test Panel Working Group Chair: Dr. Michelle Le Beau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core panel of genes and mutations • Level of evidence: actionable, diagnostic, prognostic, predictive
Data Collection Working Group Chair: Dr. John Iafrate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goals and benefits of clinical data sharing • Minimal requirements for data sharing • Data useful to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, payers and the pharmaceutical industry
Clinical Trials Working Group Chair: Dr. Razelle Kurzrock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hurdles of clinical trials, including medication acquisition and regulatory issues • Accelerating clinical trials

PUBLIC ISSUES



AACI's 2014 GOVERNMENT RELATIONS ACTIVITIES FEATURED INVOLVEMENT WITH 21ST CENTURY CURES, A U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE INITIATIVE AIMED AT FINDING THE BEST REFORM FOR REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE DRUG APPROVAL PROCESS, AS WELL AS HOW BEST TO MOVE FORWARD TOWARD CURES.

In submitted remarks, AACI reminded Congress that the partnership between the federal government and the nation's cancer centers is mutually beneficial, and continues to make strides in biomedical research, thanks to federal funding. Without such support, research projects with the potential to deliver breakthrough therapies would not be possible.



Other AACI public policy efforts included the association's endorsement of a joint position statement on indoor tanning. The statement highlighted the scientific evidence showing that the use of tanning devices is associated with an increased incidence of skin cancer. The goal is for advocacy groups and other organizations to use the statement to advance state legislative efforts aimed at adopting indoor tanning restrictions for minors.



Above (upper photo): Erik Fatemi (at podium) and Dr. Patrick Loehrler reviewed federal funding and the political landscape during the annual meeting; (lower photo) Ross Frommer.

AACI's Board of Directors encouraged each center to issue a press release on the matter and asked that cancer center prevention and control program directors develop a proactive local effort to support the initiative.

In September, AACI Executive Director Barbara Duffy Stewart joined colleagues from the biomedical research community on Capitol Hill for the Rally for Medical Research. Cancer center directors, researchers, advocacy group leaders, cancer survivors and others, gathered to ask Congress to make funding for the National Institutes of Health a priority and to stem the loss of public funding for science.

At an AACI Government Relations Forum meeting in February at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, in Houston, center president Ronald DePinho, MD, underscored the need for increased federal funding for cancer research, noting that cancer incidence in the U.S. is projected to increase 45 percent by 2030.

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS PRESENTED TO DURBIN AND MCCAUL

In honor of their commitment to advancing cancer research, U.S. Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) and U.S. Representative Michael McCaul (R-TX) received the 2014 AACI Public Service Awards at AACI's annual meeting in Chicago.

Each year AACI recognizes individuals who work to advance cancer research and who are unwavering in support of programs that ease cancer's burden. Senate Majority Whip Durbin has served as a member of the Senate Cancer Coalition and is a dedicated advocate for prevention, concentrating on legislative efforts to curb tobacco use. Sen. Durbin has remained committed to requesting adequate funding for the National Cancer Institute (NCI) throughout his tenure in Congress.

Representative McCaul is a co-chair and founder of the Congressional Childhood Cancer Caucus and a member of the House Cancer Caucus. He has worked tirelessly to advance the childhood cancer agenda on Capitol Hill and has developed strong relationships with cancer centers in his home state of Texas and with the cancer community at large.

At the annual meeting, Rep. McCaul accepted the award in person from University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center President Dr. Ronald DePinho and delivered remarks at the awards luncheon. Rep. McCaul and his wife, Linda McCaul, also attended a meeting of the AACI Government Relations Forum, as well as a reception on the first evening of the annual meeting. Sen. Durbin's Chicago office chief of staff, Clarisol Duque, accepted the award on his behalf.

IN REMARKS SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS, AACI EMPHASIZED THAT THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND OUR NATION'S CANCER CENTERS IS MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL, AND CANCER CENTERS CONTINUE TO MAKE STRIDES IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH THANKS TO FEDERAL FUNDING.



Above (upper photo, L-R): Rep. Michael McCaul, Linda McCaul and Dr. Ronald DePinho; (lower photo, L-R) Dr. Michelle Le Beau and Clarisol Duque, aide to Sen. Richard Durbin.

CAPITOL HILL DAY

CANCER CENTER ADVOCATES CONTINUE QUEST FOR INCREASED FEDERAL FUNDING



IN MAY, 75 CANCER CENTER DIRECTORS, PHYSICIANS, RESEARCHERS AND ADVOCATES TRAVELED TO CAPITOL HILL TO URGE LEGISLATORS TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH) AND THE NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE (NCI).

Advocates stressed to legislators and staff that cancer centers are still coping with budget cuts and that until Congress appropriates predictable and suitable funding to the NIH and NCI, cancer centers will be compelled to focus on alternative funding sources, slowing research and development.

Hill Day participants advised that investing in the NIH and NCI would not only play a vital role in addressing cancer incidence, but also in helping to curb the overall annual costs associated with cancer.



At the Hill Day reception the evening before the legislative meetings, Representative Charlie Dent (R-PA) and Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) were recognized for their outstanding leadership in promoting cancer research. Rep. Dent highlighted the importance of biomedical research and the need for strong support of NIH. In his capacity as co-chair of the Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus, and as the newest co-chair of the House Cancer Caucus, Rep. Dent has been vocal in his support of federal funding for NIH and melanoma research.



Adrienne Hallett, staff director of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education, accepted the award on Sen. Harkin's behalf. Sen. Harkin announced his retirement effective at the end of the 113th

Congress in 2014, marking the loss of a true champion in Congress for the biomedical research community.

Above (upper photo): Barbara Duffy Stewart and Rep. Charlie Dent; (lower photo) Adrienne Hallett, representing Sen. Tom Harkin, and Dr. George Weiner.

CANCER CENTER LEADERS TESTIFY IN WASHINGTON

AACI'S CANCER CENTER LEADERS CONTINUED TO ADVOCATE ON BEHALF OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH IN 2014. IN MARCH, SAMIR N. KHL EIF, MD, DIRECTOR OF THE GRU CANCER CENTER AT GEORGIA REGENTS UNIVERSITY, TESTIFIED BEFORE THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES.

Dr. Khleif stressed the need for increased National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding for cancer research and more dollars devoted to the elimination of cancer health disparities, particularly among minority and economically disadvantaged populations.

In May, Thomas Sellers, PhD, MPH, executive vice-president and director of the Moffitt Comprehensive Cancer Center, testified before the Senate Special Committee on Aging. The hearing hosted an impressive panel including Harold Varmus, MD, director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and television celebrity and cancer survivor, Valerie Harper. The hearing highlighted innovations in cancer research and the importance of continued progress in biomedical research, particularly as baby boomers and future generations age. Dr. Sellers and Dr. Varmus both stressed the importance of increased federal investment in NIH and NCI.

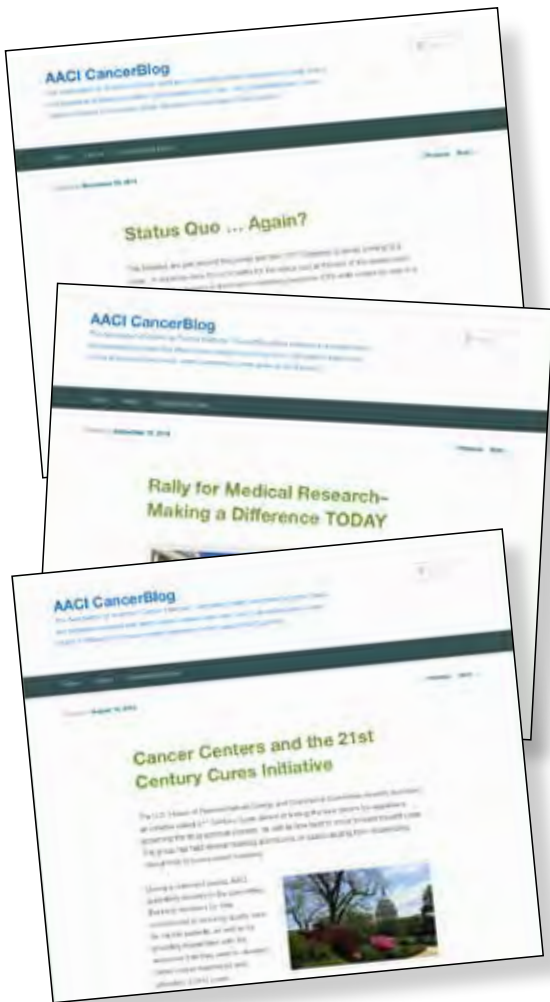
AACI Board Member Dan Theodorescu, MD, PhD, director of the University of Colorado Comprehensive Cancer Center, participated in a 21st Century Cures roundtable in September, led by U.S. Representatives Fred Upton (R-MI) and Diana DeGette (D-CO). Dr. Theodorescu stated that the biomedical enterprise is at a defining moment due to the ascendance of personalized and precision medicine, and that the U.S. has built an incredible genomic engine and infrastructure that has generated technological advances that are catalyzing molecular biotechnology and medicine.

Dr. Theodorescu said it would be in the country's best interest to capitalize on its international leadership in this area, and that the 21st Century Cures initiative is important not just from a health perspective, but also for the national and regional economies. He added that there are tangible steps that the country can take to ensure that it maintains its top position in the field, including establishing guidelines for biomarker development and removing barriers to patient participation in drug trials.



Above (top photo): U.S. senators hear from Dr. Thomas Sellers; (middle photo) Dr. Samir Khleif testifies before a House committee; (bottom photo) Dr. Dan Theodorescu.

AMPLIFYING THE MESSAGE



TO SHED LIGHT ON TOPICS OF INTEREST TO THE CANCER RESEARCH COMMUNITY, AACI LAUNCHED AACI CANCERBLOG (AACICANCERBLOG.WORDPRESS.COM) IN 2014.

The blog focuses on viewpoints pertaining to Congressional action and public policy as they relate to scientific advancement. It also features guest contributors and input from AACI staff and other like-minded organizations. The blog is disseminated via email and through AACI's social media presence on Facebook and Twitter.

On another communications platform, the October issue of *US Airways Magazine* highlighted AACI and the groundbreaking research and care at 39 of its member cancer centers. An AACI introductory editorial and member profiles informed the airline's inflight audience of the leading role AACI centers play in advancing cancer discovery through a multidisciplinary program of prevention, research, treatment, and quality patient care. The feature is available online at usairwaysmag.com.

These two messaging vehicles complemented AACI's ongoing communications outreach, which includes *AACI Commentary*, a quarterly editorial venue for cancer center leaders. *AACI Commentary* is circulated by email to the more than 1,300 readers of AACI's popular *Update* monthly newsletter and is archived on AACI's website. Each edition focuses on a major issue of common interest to cancer centers. While the overall content is left to the author's

discretion, the publication is designed to cover a specific topic in approximately 1,000 words.

In the cancer research and oncology media, *The Cancer Letter* featured a guest editorial by AACI's new president, Dr. George Weiner, director of the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Iowa, about his presidential initiative, "The Academic Difference". Dr. Weiner also contributed to a "point/counterpoint" discussion in *HemOnc Today* about the delivery of chemotherapy in community practices versus cancer centers.

AACI's primary means of promoting its members continues to be its online newsletter, *AACI Update*. The December 2014 issue featured more than 50 stories about research, grants, awards and other news from our centers.

aacicancerblog.wordpress.com

WEBSITE PORTAL

AACI has developed a “member portal” for the AACI website under the guidance of an advisory committee. The portal serves as a central location for essential information such as shared resources and program information from our member centers, contact information for key personnel at each center, and AACI documents, such as presentations from past meetings, survey results, and meeting minutes from past conference calls.



The member portal now includes an expanded library with annual meeting and AACI initiative archives, as well as searchable databases of:

- shared resources available at AACI cancer centers
- AACI cancer center program information
- key contacts for 13 disease states at AACI cancer centers

MEMBER OUTREACH

In a survey circulated to AACI members to gauge the value of our programs and initiatives, as well as to help chart a course for the association’s future, the annual meeting was rated as the most important AACI initiative or activity. Other initiatives or activities that were highly rated included the Clinical Research Initiative and AACI’s government relations and public policy efforts.



CORPORATE ROUNDTABLE AND AACI FELLOWSHIP



THE AACI CORPORATE ROUNDTABLE PROVIDES A FORUM FOR AACI CANCER CENTERS TO ADDRESS TOPICS OF MUTUAL INTEREST WITH THEIR INDUSTRY COLLEAGUES. THE RESULTING INTERACTION HAS THE POTENTIAL TO ADVANCE THE PROGRESS OF RESEARCH AND ULTIMATELY BENEFIT PATIENTS WITH CANCER AND THEIR FAMILIES.

Benefits of AACI Corporate Roundtable membership include:

- Invitation for a delegate/s to attend the annual Corporate Roundtable meeting
- Complimentary registration to the AACI/CCAF annual meeting and AACI's Clinical Research Initiative annual meeting
- Recognition on AACI's website and in *AACI Update*.

AACI is grateful for the support of these companies as corporate roundtable members: Amgen, Astellas, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Celgene, Genentech, Gilead, GlaxoSmithKline, Lilly, Merck and Millennium.



Lan G. Coffman



Pengrong Yan

AACI FELLOWSHIP

AACI awarded two AACI Translational Cancer Research Fellowships in 2014 to Lan G. Coffman, MD, PhD, University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center, and to Pengrong Yan, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Funded by Amgen and Gilead, the one-year, \$50,000 grants help ensure that qualified applicants from AACI member institutions receive training and experience guided by established investigators who have demonstrated success in their fields of research.

This year's winning researchers and their projects are:

Lan G. Coffman, MD, PhD Hematology/oncology fellow, University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center

Project Title: Ovarian carcinoma associated mesenchymal stem cells and the formation of the ovarian cancer microenvironment. **Mentor:** Ronald J. Buckanovich, MD, PhD

Pengrong Yan, PhD Research scholar, Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Chemistry, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Project Title: Studies towards the translation of Grp94 inhibitors as a novel therapy in EGFR-overexpressing triple negative breast cancers. **Mentor:** Gabriela Chiosis, PhD

The fellowship period is July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015. There will be a poster presentation of the researchers' findings at the 2015 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

AACI SUPPORTERS AND SUSTAINING MEMBERS

AACI APPRECIATES ITS SUPPORTERS' INVESTMENT IN ITS STRATEGIC MISSION TO REDUCE THE BURDEN OF CANCER BY ENHANCING THE IMPACT OF THE NATION'S LEADING ACADEMIC CANCER CENTERS.

The AACI/CCAF annual meeting provides a venue for AACI to recognize this critical support and to highlight its value to the wider cancer center community. In 2014, educational grants for this conference were provided by Amgen, Astellas, Genentech, Gilead, Huron Consulting Group, Novartis, and Pfizer. Exhibitors at this year's meeting included iLab Solutions, LLC, Intellisphere, and Precision Imaging Metrics.

AACI also received program and activity support from Amgen, Astellas, BRANY, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Celgene, Essex Management, Genentech, Gilead, Lilly, Merck, Precision Imaging Metrics, Millennium, Velos, and WIRB-Copernicus Group.



SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Sustaining membership in AACI is open to like-minded cancer organizations—non-profit groups that represent and support clinical oncology health professionals, researchers, and cancer patients and their families. Sustaining members work with AACI to educate policymakers on the importance of cancer research funding and they participate in AACI sponsored meetings, workshops, and forums to advance progress toward a cure for cancer.

AACI is grateful for the support of its 2014 sustaining members: the American Association for Cancer Research; the American Cancer Society; the American Society of Clinical Oncology; C-Change; and the CEO Roundtable on Cancer.



AACI LEADERSHIP

NEW AACI PRESIDENT

George J. Weiner, MD

George J. Weiner, MD, director of the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Iowa, became the new president of the Association of American Cancer Institutes during the association's 2014 annual meeting in Chicago.

At the meeting, Dr. Weiner delivered a talk on his presidential initiative, "The Academic Difference", which aims to gather and distribute data that highlight the unique and indispensable role played by academic cancer centers and why these efforts should be supported.

"Academic cancer centers leverage their missions of research, clinical care and education to create knowledge, provide complex therapies, serve as a resource for community oncologists and educate the next generation of investigators and clinicians," Dr. Weiner said.

The new initiative will collect information about the value of academic cancer centers with respect to clinical care, research, education and economic impact. Through AACI, the information will be shared with various audiences including the general public, leadership at academic institutions, payers, corporations, chambers of commerce and government officials at the federal, state, and local levels.



DEDICATED SERVICE

Michelle M. Le Beau, PhD

AACI extends its deep gratitude to outgoing AACI President Dr. Michelle M. Le Beau, Director, University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center, for her dedicated service to the association, as well as her energetic and ongoing leadership of the Molecular Diagnostics Initiative. Her tenure was marked by many collegial and productive interactions with cancer research and advocacy colleagues, and she represented AACI and the cancer centers as a member of the National Cancer Policy Forum and at meetings with policy makers both on Capitol Hill and at AACI events.

Dr. Le Beau will continue to serve the cancer research community in leadership roles with the American Association for Cancer Research, the American Society of Hematology, and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and as Immediate Past President of AACI.



Dr. Le Beau (left) with Former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius at the 2013 annual meeting.

AACI WELCOMED A NEW VICE-PRESIDENT/ PRESIDENT-ELECT, TREASURER AND TWO BOARD MEMBERS IN 2014

Stanton L. Gerson, MD, director of the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center, in Cleveland, OH, was elected as AACI vice-president/president-elect.

Also elected to AACI's Board of Directors were **Patrick J. Loehrer, Sr., MD**, director of the Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center, in Indianapolis, IN, and **Thomas A. Sellers, PhD, MPH**, director and executive vice president of the Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute, in Tampa, FL. Drs. Loehrer and Sellers will serve three-year terms; Dr. Gerson will succeed AACI President Dr. George A. Weiner after his two-year term.

Also in 2014, AACI's Board of Directors appointed a new treasurer, **Jeff A. Walker, MBA**, senior executive director, The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute. He succeeds Dorothy E. Puhy, MBA, executive vice president, and chief operating officer, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

In a statement submitted to AACI members, Dr. Gerson said that in his new AACI leadership role, he will prioritize three critical aspects of the nation's cancer centers program by: 1) encouraging the centers to work more closely together to lower health care costs and improve outcomes through nationally coordinated research and translation; 2) expanding the use of data to further health improvements and research discoveries; and 3) making optimal use of the cancer center director and administrative leader network, including partnering with funding agencies, to set the policy agenda for cancer research, dissemination of discoveries, and cancer health care.

Dr. Gerson is also director of University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center in Cleveland and a member of the NCI Board of Scientific Advisors. He has been an active member of AACI for the past 12 years, including service on the board of directors (2007 - 2009).



Stanton L. Gerson



Patrick J. Loehrer, Sr.



Thomas A. Sellers



Jeff A. Walker

AACI COMMITTEES

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting Program Committee develops the agenda for the yearly meeting of the association's membership.

Chair: Robert S. DiPaola, MD

Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey

Dario C. Altieri, MD

The Wistar Institute

Michael K. Benedict, PharmD

GRU Cancer Center

Kevin J. Cullen, MD

University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center

Lisa A. Damiani

Roswell Park Cancer Institute

David Gosky, MA, MBA

UK Markey Cancer Center

Dina Gould Halme, PhD

University of Virginia Cancer Center

Shreya Kanodia, PhD

Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Michelle M. Le Beau, PhD

The University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center

Patrick J. Loehrer, Sr., MD

Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center

Barbara Duffy Stewart, MPH

Association of American Cancer Institutes

Donald L. Trump, MD, FACP

Roswell Park Cancer Institute

George J. Weiner, MD

*Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of Iowa*

CLINICAL RESEARCH INITIATIVE (CRI)

The CRI Steering Committee guides and implements activities that encourage best practices and efficient use of resources and operations in cancer center clinical research facilities.

Chair: Tony R. Reid, MD, PhD

UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center

Paul Barr, MD

*Wilmot Cancer Institute
University of Rochester Medical Center*

Leigh A. Burgess, MHA, MEd, MA

*Duke Cancer Institute
Duke University Medical Center*

Alyssa K. Gateman, MPH, CCRP

Yale Center for Clinical Investigation

Janie Hofacker, RN, BSN, MS

Association of American Cancer Institutes

Randall F. Holcombe, MD

*Mount Sinai Health System
Tisch Cancer Institute*

Vicky Keedy, MD, MSCI

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Paul J. Martin, MD

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Sorena Nadaf, MS, MMI

*UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of California, San Francisco*

Joy Ostroff, RN, BSN, OCN

*UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

Barbara Duffy Stewart, MPH

Association of American Cancer Institutes

Teresa L. Stewart, MS, CRCP

University of New Mexico Cancer Center

Jeanine H. Stiles

UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center

James P. Thomas, MD, PhD (past chair)

Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center

Erin Williams, MBA

Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

The AACI Government Relations Forum Steering Committee monitors public policy actions that have an impact on cancer centers.

Chair: Lisa A. Damiani

Roswell Park Cancer Institute

Jennifer K. Carlson

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center James Cancer Hospital & Solove Research Institute

Robert R. Clark, MS, FACHE

*Comprehensive Cancer Center
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital*

Ross A. Frommer, JD

*Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center
Columbia University*

Heidi L. Gartland, MHA

*Case Comprehensive Cancer Center
Case Western Reserve University
Seidman Cancer Center at
University Hospitals Case Medical Center*

Mark Kochevar, MBA

University of Colorado Cancer Center

Anne L. Levine

*Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Harvard Medical School*

Mark Moreno

*University of Texas
M.D. Anderson Cancer Center*

Elizabeth B. O'Brien, Esq, JD

The Wistar Institute

Kristen L. Pugh, MPA

City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center

Gilda Ventresca-Ecroyd, MA

*Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center at
NYU Langone*

Paul A. Vick, MA

*Duke Cancer Institute
Duke University Medical Center*

Jamie Wilson, MS

Moffitt Cancer Center

NEW INITIATIVE COMMITTEE

The New Initiative Committee identifies and develops new clinical/scientific/educational programs of broad interest to AACI membership.

Chair: George J. Weiner, MD

*Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of Iowa*

Maryann Donovan, PhD, MPH

*University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute
UPMC Cancer Centers*

H. Shelton Earp III, MD

UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Chad Ellis, PhD

UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Peter D. Emanuel, MD

UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

Gordon D. Ginder, MD

VCU Massey Cancer Center

Dina Gould Halme, PhD

University of Virginia Cancer Center

Roy A. Jensen, MD

University of Kansas Cancer Center

Michele M. Le Beau, PhD

The University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center

Timothy L. Ratliff, PhD

Purdue Center for Cancer Research

Cheryl Lynn Willman, MD

University of New Mexico Cancer Center

Theodore J. Yank, MHA

The Dan L. Duncan Cancer Center
At Baylor College of Medicine

MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS INITIATIVE (MDI)

The MDI Steering Committee identifies and addresses the many challenges impeding implementation of comprehensive molecular diagnostics at cancer centers.

Chair: Michelle M. Le Beau, PhD

The University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center

Robert Daber, PhD

BioReference Laboratories

Kojo Elenitoba-Johnson, MD

Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory
Department of Pathology, University of Michigan Medical School

Stanton L. Gerson, MD

Case Comprehensive Cancer Center, Case Western Reserve University
Seidman Cancer Center at University Hospitals Case Medical Center

John Iafrate, MD

Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School

Razelle Kurzrock, MD

UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center

Mark Lingen, DDS, PhD

The University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center

Barbara Duffy Stewart, MPH

Association of American Cancer Institutes

George J. Weiner, MD

Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of Iowa

PHYSICIAN CLINICAL LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

The Physician Clinical Leadership Initiative is a resource for creating best practices as well as for comparing approaches to common problems facing clinical services leaders.

Chair: Richard Lauer, MD

University of New Mexico Cancer Center

Edward Benz, Jr., MD

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Harvard Medical School

Craig Bunnell, MD, MPH, MBA

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Harvard Medical School

Kevin J. Cullen, MD

University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center

Michelle M. Le Beau, PhD

The University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center

Mohammed Milhem, MD

Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center

Michael Neuss, MD

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Barbara Duffy Stewart, MPH

Association of American Cancer Institutes

George J. Weiner, MD

Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of Iowa

Cheryl Willman, MD

University of New Mexico Cancer Center

NOMINATING

The Nominating Committee meets each year and is charged with identifying individuals among the member institutions who are best qualified to serve on the AACI Board of Directors.

Chair: Nancy E. Davidson, MD

University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute
UPMC CancerCenter

Michael A. Caligiuri, MD

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center James Cancer Hospital & Solove Research Institute

Steven T. Rosen, MD

City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center

FINANCE & INVESTMENT

The Finance and Investment Committee oversees the development and implementation of all policies related to AACI's finances and expenditures. It reviews investment performance and advises on AACI's asset portfolio.

Chair: Dorothy E. Puhly

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Harvard Medical School

John A. Kolosky

Moffitt Cancer Center

Randall C. Main

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Michael P. Vander Hoek, MHSA

Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center

Jeff A. Walker, MBA

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center James Cancer Hospital & Solove Research Institute

AACI MEMBERS

ALABAMA

UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama

ARIZONA

The University of Arizona Cancer Center
Tucson, Arizona

ARKANSAS

UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute
Little Rock, Arkansas

CALIFORNIA

City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center
Duarte, California

Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, UCLA
Los Angeles, California

Loma Linda University Cancer Center
Loma Linda, California

UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center
La Jolla, California

Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Los Angeles, California

Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute
La Jolla, California

Stanford Cancer Institute
Palo Alto, California

UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center
Sacramento, California

UCI Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of California at Irvine
Orange, California

UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California

USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, California

COLORADO

University of Colorado Cancer Center
Aurora, Colorado

CONNECTICUT

The Carole & Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of Connecticut Health Center
Farmington, Connecticut

Yale Cancer Center

Yale University School of Medicine
New Haven, Connecticut

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
George Washington Cancer Institute
Washington, DC

Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center
Washington, DC

FLORIDA

Moffitt Cancer Center
Tampa, Florida

UF Health Cancer Center
Gainesville, Florida

Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of Miami Health System
Miami, Florida

GEORGIA

GRU Cancer Center
Augusta, Georgia

Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University
Atlanta, Georgia

HAWAII

University of Hawaii Cancer Center, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Honolulu, Hawaii

ILLINOIS

Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center of Loyola University Chicago
Maywood, Illinois

Simmons Cancer Institute at SIU
Springfield, Illinois

The Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University
Chicago, Illinois

The University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center
Chicago, Illinois

University of Illinois Cancer Center
Chicago, Illinois

INDIANA

Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center
Indianapolis, Indiana

Purdue Center for Cancer Research
West Lafayette, Indiana

IOWA

Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa

KANSAS

University of Kansas Cancer Center
Kansas City, Kansas

KENTUCKY

KentuckyOne Health James Graham Brown Cancer Center
Louisville, Kentucky

UK Markey Cancer Center
Lexington, Kentucky

LOUISIANA

Feist-Weiller Cancer Center
LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport
Shreveport, Louisiana

Louisiana Cancer Research Consortium in New Orleans
Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center
New Orleans, Louisiana

Tulane Cancer Center
New Orleans, Louisiana

MAINE

The Jackson Laboratory Cancer Center
Bar Harbor, Maine

MARYLAND

Murtha Cancer Center at Walter Reed
Bethesda, Maryland

Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland

University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center
Baltimore, Maryland

MASSACHUSETTS

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts

Tufts Medical Center Cancer Center
Boston, Massachusetts

MICHIGAN

Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute
Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan

University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center
Ann Arbor, Michigan

MINNESOTA

Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mayo Clinic Cancer Center
Rochester, Minnesota

MISSOURI

Siteman Cancer Center
St. Louis, Missouri

NEBRASKA

Fred and Pamela Buffett Cancer Center
Omaha, Nebraska

NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Dartmouth-Hitchcock
Norris Cotton Cancer Center**
Lebanon, New Hampshire

NEW JERSEY

Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey
New Brunswick, NJ

NEW MEXICO

University of New Mexico Cancer Center
Albuquerque, New Mexico

NEW YORK

**Albert Einstein Cancer Center
Yeshiva University**
Bronx, New York

**Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center
Columbia University**
New York, New York

**Wilmot Cancer Center
University of Rochester Medical Center**
Rochester, New York

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center at NYU Langone
New York, New York

Roswell Park Cancer Institute
Buffalo, New York

**Stony Brook University Cancer Center
State University of New York**
Stony Brook, New York

**Mount Sinai Health System
Tisch Cancer Institute**
New York, New York

NORTH CAROLINA

**Duke Cancer Institute
Duke University Medical Center**
Durham, North Carolina

**Comprehensive Cancer Center of
Wake Forest University**
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

**UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

OHIO

**Case Comprehensive Cancer Center, Case
Western Reserve University, Seidman Cancer
Center at University Hospitals Case Medical
Center**
Cleveland, Ohio

**Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Institute
The Cleveland Clinic Foundation**
Cleveland, Ohio

**The Ohio State University Comprehensive
Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital &
Solove Research Institute**
Columbus, Ohio

University of Cincinnati Cancer Institute
Cincinnati, Ohio

OKLAHOMA

**Peggy and Charles Stephenson Cancer Center
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences
Center**
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

OREGON

**Knight Cancer Institute
Oregon Health and Sciences University**
Portland, Oregon

PENNSYLVANIA

**Abramson Cancer Center of the
University of Pennsylvania**
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Fox Chase Cancer Center
Temple Health**
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Penn State Hershey Cancer Institute
Hershey, Pennsylvania

The Wistar Institute
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute
UPMC CancerCenters**
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

PUERTO RICO

**Puerto Rico Cancer Center
University of Puerto Rico**
San Juan, Puerto Rico

SOUTH CAROLINA

**Hollings Cancer Center
Medical University of South Carolina**
Charleston, South Carolina

TENNESSEE

**Comprehensive Cancer Center
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital**
Memphis, Tennessee

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center
Nashville, Tennessee

TEXAS

**Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center
UT Southwestern Medical Center**
Dallas, Texas

**The Dan L. Duncan Cancer Center
at Baylor College of Medicine**
Houston, Texas

**University of Texas
M.D. Anderson Cancer Center**
Houston, Texas

**University of Texas
Medical Branch Cancer Center**
Galveston, Texas

**Cancer Therapy and Research Center at the
University of Texas Health Science Center**
San Antonio, Texas

UTAH

**Huntsman Cancer Institute,
University of Utah**
Salt Lake City, Utah

VERMONT

Vermont Cancer Center
Burlington, Vermont

VIRGINIA

VCU Massey Cancer Center
Richmond, Virginia

University of Virginia Cancer Center
Charlottesville, Virginia

WASHINGTON

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, Washington

WEST VIRGINIA

**Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center
West Virginia University**
Morgantown, West Virginia

WISCONSIN

Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center
Madison, Wisconsin



AACI

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