



AACR-AACI Hill Day 2023

Meeting Script with Members of Congress and Staff

I am [name], [title and organization], and I appreciate the time you're taking to talk about the importance of medical research.

I'm here on behalf of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) and the Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI). Both organizations are committed to using medical research to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer, and ultimately to find cures. Both organizations represent the interests of cancer centers, early-career scientists, research investigators, patients with cancer, and survivors.

[If colleagues are also in the meeting with you: "I am also joined by colleagues from [organization]. I will let each person introduce him/herself and briefly explain their specialty."]

In 2023, an estimated 1.9 million people will be diagnosed with cancer, and an estimated 609,820 will lose their lives. In addition to this human toll, cancer continues to have a significant impact on the financial security of the United States, with cancer-attributed costs projected to increase by more than 34 percent between 2015 and 2030 to a cost of more than \$246 billion. We are learning more about how to best prevent, detect, and treat cancers each day, but more research funding is urgently needed to help save lives.

We thank you for providing increased funding for NIH in FY 2023, and we are back again to ask for continued robust funding of NIH and NCI in FY 2024. Specifically, we are asking Congress to:

- Continue to prioritize funding for medical research by providing \$50.924 billion for the NIH in FY 2024 (an increase of \$3.465 billion).
- Include at least \$9.988 billion for the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in FY 2024. This request is supported by the NCI's director's Professional Judgment Budget.

[INCLUDE PERSONAL STORIES/ EXAMPLES OF HOW INCREASED FUNDING WOULD BENEFIT CANCER RESEARCH AND WHY IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY]

In conclusion, continued robust funding of NIH and NCI will ensure that medical researchers will have the necessary resources to develop effective cancer treatments, and eventually find cures.

Thank you for meeting me today about the importance of funding for cancer research. I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.