

CANCER RESEARCH FUNDING

CANCER IS THE **SECOND MOST COMMON CAUSE OF DEATH** IN THE U.S.

ABOUT **11,050 CHILDREN + 5,800 ADOLESCENTS** WILL BE DIAGNOSED WITH AN *ESTIMATED* 1,190 AND 540 DEATHS, RESPECTIVELY.

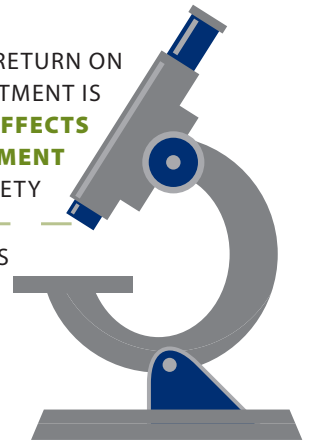
ABOUT **1.81 MILLION** NEW U.S. CANCER CASES
▶ **4,950 new cases** each day

ROUGHLY **1 MILLION** WILL BE TREATED WITH **RADIATION THERAPY**

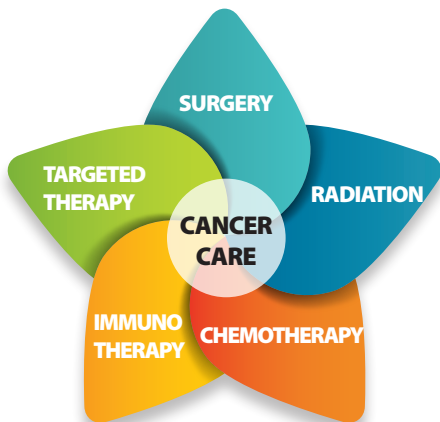
ABOUT **606,520 DEATHS** FROM CANCER
▶ more than **1,600 deaths** each day

RETURN ON THIS INVESTMENT IS **VAST AND AFFECTS EVERY SEGMENT** OF OUR SOCIETY

RESEARCH HAS **CONTRIBUTED TO AVERTING 2.9 MILLION DEATHS**



IN FY 2019, NIH RESEARCH FUNDING SUPPORTED **NEARLY 476,000 JOBS** AND PRODUCED MORE THAN **\$81 BILLION** IN ECONOMIC OUTPUT NATIONWIDE



THE ACS AND NCI PREDICT THAT THERE WILL BE **22.1 MILLION** CANCER SURVIVORS BY **2030**

CANCER MORTALITY HAS **DROPPED BY 29%** FROM 1991 THROUGH 2017 **BUT DISPARITIES** BETWEEN GENDERS AND SOCIOECONOMIC GROUPS REMAIN.

TOTAL NUMBER OF **AVERTED DEATHS** IS LARGER FOR MEN THAN WOMEN.

TREATING AND CURING CANCER REQUIRES A MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH. A ROBUST AND SUSTAINED INVESTMENT IN ALL AREAS OF CANCER RESEARCH IS NEEDED.

CANCER RESEARCH FUNDING

BACKGROUND

ASTRO applauds Congress' long standing bipartisan support for biomedical cancer research funding at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Strong sustainable support will help drive innovative advancements, including those in radiation oncology, for improved cancer treatment and care. Historically, federal investment in research has led to major innovations to better prevent, detect and treat cancer, which has contributed to a trend of declining mortality rates in the United States.

Based on reports from the American Cancer Society there will be an **estimated 1.81 million new cancer cases** (4,950 cases per day) **diagnosed in 2020**.

An **estimated 606,520 people will die from cancer in 2020** (1,600 patients per day).

Cancer is the second most common cause of death among children (1-14 yrs) in the US. **~11,050 children and 5,800 adolescents** (15-19 yrs) **will be diagnosed** with an estimated 1,190 and 540 deaths, respectively.

Advances in early detection and treatment as well as declines in smoking have led to a **29% reduction in cancer death rates** from 1991 through 2017. Research has **contributed to averting ~2.9 million cancer deaths** (1.98 million in men and 919,000 in women) from what would have occurred had mortality rates remained at their peak. The **number of averted deaths for men is greater than for women** as their mortality rates peaked higher and declined more rapidly.

Disparities in cancer occurrence and outcomes remain between gender and among racial and ethnic groups. This is especially true in preventable cancer types.

Data demonstrate that a **combined treatment approach** that includes combinations of radiation and drugs or immunotherapy **are more effective than any single treatment**. Many unanswered questions remain, and ASTRO is prioritizing a variety of research topics as outlined in our 2020 research agenda.

CONGRESSIONAL REQUEST

We are grateful for the bipartisan support that Congress has shown the NIH and NCI over the past five years. Despite the recent funding increases, NIH and NCI are still feeling the effects of 12 years of stagnant budgets and the funding has not kept pace with the rise in inflation and number of scientific proposals.

We join the research community in requesting that Congress increase funding for NIH by at least \$3 billion, for a total of \$44.7 billion; and increase funding for NCI by \$500 million for a total of 6.9 billion.

- Support \$10 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to jumpstart COVID19 impacted research in the next emergency supplemental funding bill.
- Support at least \$44.7 billion (a \$3 billion increase) for NIH in FY2021 including \$6.9 billion for cancer
- Support \$559 million for the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) cancer programs, including \$70 million (\$19 million increase) for cancer registries, in the FY2021 funding bill.