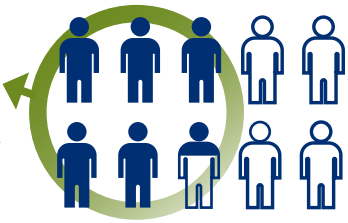
CANCER RESEARCH FUNDING

2019

1.76 MILLION
NEW CANCER CASES
(4,800 NEW CASES PER DAY)

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

606,880 DEATHS
FROM CANCER
(1,700 CANCER DEATHS PER DAY)



**Each figure represents 176,000 patients*

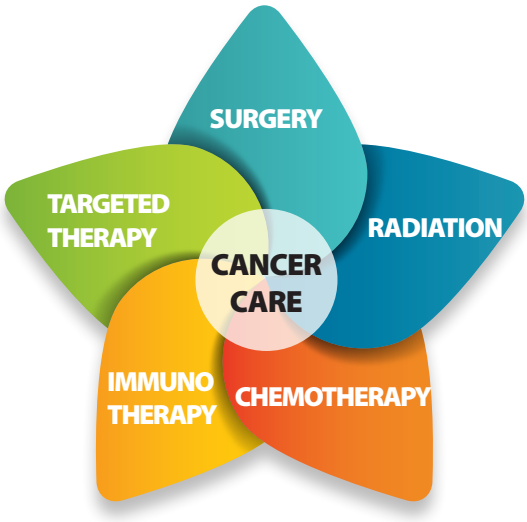
IN 2017, NIH FUNDING PRODUCED
OVER $68 BILLION
IN ECONOMIC OUTPUT NATIONWIDE

ACCORDING TO THE MILKEN INSTITUTE
EVERY $1 IN GRANTS FROM NIH GENERATES $2.21 IN ECONOMIC GROWTH ACROSS THE U.S.

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

RESEARCH HAS
CONTRIBUTED TO AVERTING 2.4 MILLION DEATHS

LESS THAN 2%
OF NCI'S BUDGET
GOES TO **RADIATION ONCOLOGY RESEARCH**



NCI PREDICTS THAT
THERE WILL BE
20.3 MILLION
CANCER SURVIVORS
BY **2026**

CURES
WILL COME FROM
COMBINATIONS OF TREATMENTS

CANCER MORTALITY HAS DECREASED
27% OVER THE PAST 25 YEARS
BUT DISPARITIES
BETWEEN GENDERS AND
SOCIOECONOMIC GROUPS ARE
WIDENING
TOTAL NUMBER OF
AVERTED DEATHS IS LARGER
FOR MEN THAN WOMEN

ASTRO
TARGETING CANCER CARE

CANCER RESEARCH FUNDING

BACKGROUND

ASTRO applauds Congress' long-standing support for biomedical research and funding for cancer research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). The additional funding and structural improvement will help drive advancements in cancer treatment. The federal investment in cancer research has played a role in every major innovation in the fight against cancer, including significant advances in radiation oncology, and has led to a decline in the overall number of cancer deaths in the United States.

There will be an **estimated 1.76 million new cancer cases** (4,800 cases per day) **diagnosed in 2019.**

An **estimated 606,800 people will die from cancer in 2019** (1,700 patients per day).

Cancer death rates are **down 27% over the past 25 years** (as of 2016). **Research has contributed to averting 2.4 million cancer deaths** (1.8 million in men; 825,000 in women). The total number of averted deaths is greater for men than women because the total decline in cancer mortality is steeper for men than women.

Uneven decreases in mortality between men and women and between poor versus wealthy socioeconomic groups are growing. This is especially true in preventable cancer types. It is estimated that approximately **34% of cancer deaths in the US** (in those between 25 and 74 years) **could be averted** with the elimination of socioeconomic disparities.

Data show that treatments including combinations of radiation and drugs or immunotherapy are more effective than any single treatment alone, but many unanswered questions remain. ASTRO is prioritizing these questions, and other research topics outlined in our 2019 research agenda.

In 2017, NIH funding produced over $68 billion in economic output nationwide.

CONGRESSIONAL REQUEST

We are grateful for the bipartisan support that Congress has shown the NIH over the past four years. Despite the recent funding increases, NIH and NCI are still feeling the effects of 12 years of stagnant budgets that followed the end of the five-year doubling effort in FY 2003. If NIH funding had simply kept up with biomedical inflation since the end of the doubling, its budget would be 8.4%, or $3.6 billion higher than it is today. **We join the research community in requesting that Congress increase funding for NIH by at least $2.5 billion, for a total of $41.6 billion; and increase funding for NCI by $378 million, for a total of $6.5 billion.**