

AACR

American Association for Cancer Research

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for Cancer Research*

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President, AACR

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Working to Prevent and Cure Cancer



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What is the AACR?

- More than 17,000 members worldwide
- Emphasis on scientific excellence in research
- Proactive approach to development of programs and activities to meet the needs of the field
- Complex, expanding agenda for a wide range of constituencies
- Passionate commitment to mission of the AACR

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Mission

To Prevent and Cure Cancer through:

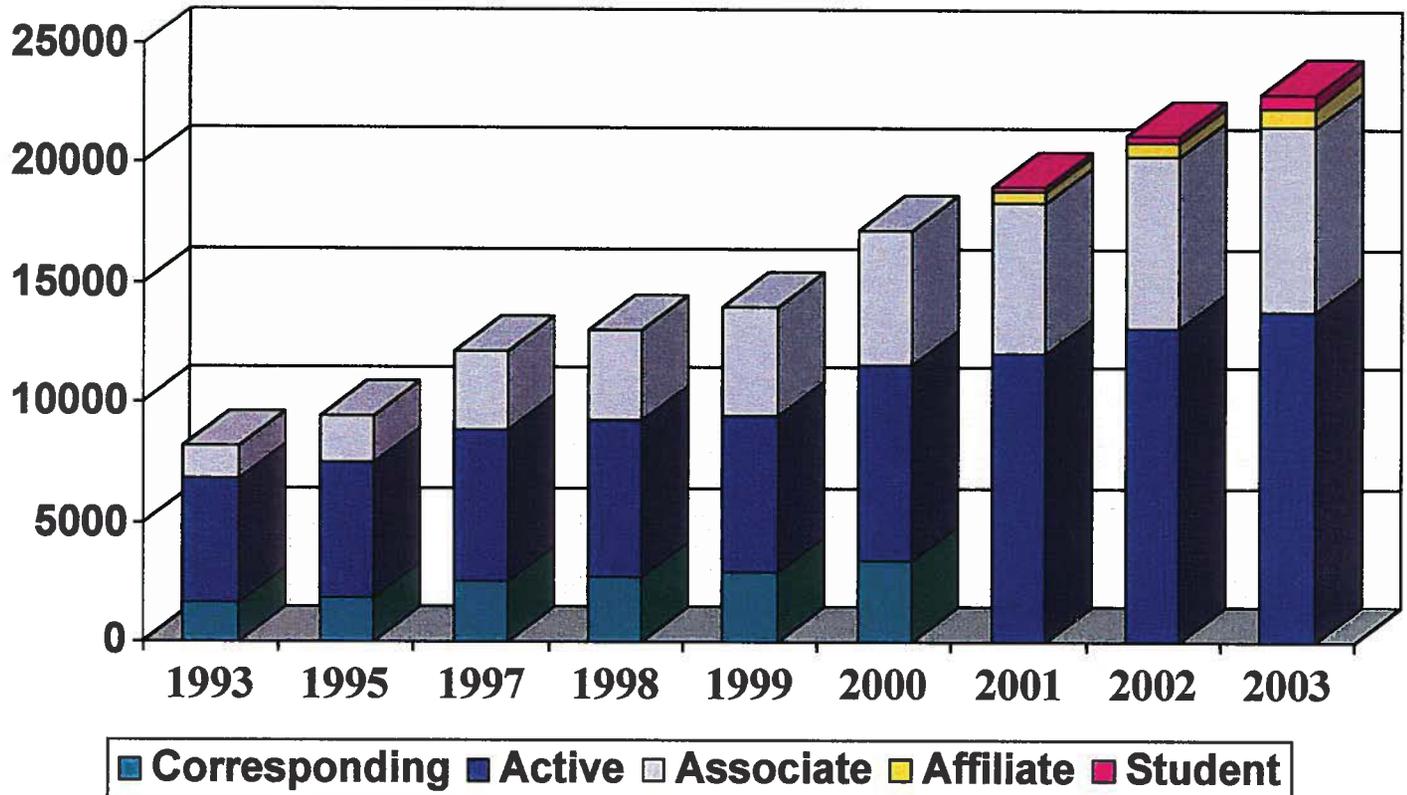
- Research
- Education
- Communication
- Collaboration

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Membership Growth by Category 1993-2003



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Who are AACR Members?

- Scientists on the frontline of cancer research in the lab and clinic who devote their lives to conquering this disease
- Each contributes in a unique way -from the physician treating patients to the worm biologist uncovering regulatory pathways that ultimately become targets for drug development
- Cross-disciplinary communication generates a powerful synergy
- This excitement can be felt at the AACR Annual Meeting and our many other conferences

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The State of Cancer Research

- Quantum increase in knowledge
- Impact of the genome
- Many new treatments in the pipeline
- Emergence of new disciplines
- Greater appreciation of the complexity of cancer

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New Horizons

- **Oncogenomics**
 - The impact of new genome knowledge on cancer
 - Jan 25-27, 2001 conference with over 500 participants (oversubscribed)
 - Educational sessions, workshops
- **Bioinformatics**
 - New discipline in biomedical sciences

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New Horizons

- **Mathematics and Physical Sciences**
- **Chemical Biology**
 - Reinvigoration of a traditional discipline
- **Biological Imaging**
- **Stem Cell Biology**
 - Reprogramming normal and cancer cells
- **Drug Development**
 - New approaches accelerating time to clinic

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New Horizons

- **Mouse Models**
 - Cancer biology and genetics *in vivo*
 - Gene function
 - Preclinical drug development
 - Target identification/validation
 - Training
 - Infrastructure and cost

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AACR Priorities

- Emphasize scientific excellence
- Launch new strategies to advance laboratory, clinical and translational research
- Engage and develop synergies with other scientific disciplines
- Offer education, training, and mentorship opportunities
- Exploit new information technology
- Promote international communication and collaboration

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AACR Scientific Initiatives

- Scientific Retreat
- Standing Scientific Committees
- AACR 2001 Frontiers Report: Progress and Promise in Cancer Research
- Task Forces
- Scientific Working Groups
- Councils for Special Constituencies

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Scientific Retreat

- Chairperson- Dr. Phil Sharp
- 30 Leaders in the Cancer Field
- April, 2001
- Status and Prospects for Cancer Research

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Scientific Committees

- Formed in specific scientific areas
- Designed to strengthen scientific representation in AACR
- Prepare position statements
- Contribute to a progress report- eventually annual
- Agendas of committees reach beyond our membership, 40,000 on mailing list, many non-members attend meetings

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Task Forces

- Treatment of Intraepithelial Neoplasia (report in preparation)
- Methods for Active Approval of a New Agent Against a Specific Target
- Science-based Task Force on Tobacco and Cancer
- Cancer Incidence and Mortality in Minorities and Aging Populations

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Scientific Working Groups

- Molecular Epidemiology
- Prevention
- Clinical and Translational Research
- Chemistry in Cancer Research

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AACR Councils

- Associate Members
- Women in Cancer Research
- Minorities in Cancer Research

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Communications

- Public Education and Legislative Activities
- Scholarly Publishing

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Public Education

- Educate public about progress and advocate for increased support
- Provide cancer information
- Interface with national/international media
- Work with Congress- legislative outreach on science policy, provide expert commentary
- AACR Public Forum/Ask the Experts session
- Scientist-Survivor Program

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Ask-the-Experts Sessions

- One-on-one interaction with leading scientists
- Information about cancer and clinical trials
- All organ sites and sub-fields of cancer research

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AACR Scientist-Survivor Program

- Link survivor advocates with top scientists
- Provide information on the latest findings in cancer research through an individualized curriculum
- Educate scientists about the perspectives of survivor advocates
- Foster mutual understanding and long term relationships

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www.AACR.org

- Two-track system, one for members and one for public (under construction)
- Webcasting
 - e.g. Annual Meeting sessions
- Virtual meetings
- Online journals and specialized electronic publications.

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AACR Journals- *now online!*

- Cancer Research
- Clinical Cancer Research
- Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention
- Cell Growth & Differentiation

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New in 2001: Molecular Cancer Therapeutics

- **Editorial focus:**
 - Latest developments in molecular and cellular cancer pharmacology
 - Identification of molecular targets
 - Cancer chemistry and cancer classification
 - Drug discovery and drug development
 - New models
 - Experimental and molecular cancer therapeutics.
- **Editor-in-Chief:** Daniel D. Von Hoff
- **Deputy Editors:** Jeffrey M. Trent, O. Michael Colvin, Susan P. C. Cole

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Education and Training

With the generous support of the NCI, the AACR organizes spectacular workshops for young investigators. We plan to expand these activities in new areas of science in the future.

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Current Workshops

- ◆ AACR-ASCO Workshop: Methods in Clinical Cancer Research (Vail, Colorado USA)
- ◆ FECS-AACR-ASCO Workshop: Methods in Clinical Cancer Research (Europe)
- ◆ AACR Workshop: Molecular Biology in Clinical Oncology (Aspen, Colorado, USA)
- ◆ AACR Workshop: Histopathology of Cancer (Keystone, Colorado USA)
- ◆ JSMO-AACR Workshop: Cancer Clinical Trials (Japan)

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New Workshop Ideas

These ideas correlate with existing support programs at the NCI and they would provide a continuum of training opportunities.

- Molecular Epidemiology (K07)
- Cancer Genetics (K23)
- Translational Research (K01)
- Biostatistics for Biostatisticians in Clinical trials (R25)
- Behavioral Epidemiology/Cancer Prevention (R25T, K07)



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International collaborations and Partnerships

- FECS, EORTC, EACR, ESMO, BACR, IARC, UICC
- Japanese Cancer Association
- Japanese Society of Medical Oncology
- Korean Cancer Association
- International Cancer Centers and Institutes
- Alliance of World Cancer Research Organizations

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Alliance of World Cancer Research Organizations

- First Summit of the Alliance of World Cancer Research Organizations held in Bangkok Dec. 3, 1999. Co-Sponsored by the AACR and the Princess of Thailand
- To develop initiatives of international import to accelerate progress against cancer
- AACR functions as the Secretariat
- First Alliance Steering Committee Meeting to be held in June, 2001

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Top Priorities for Alliance

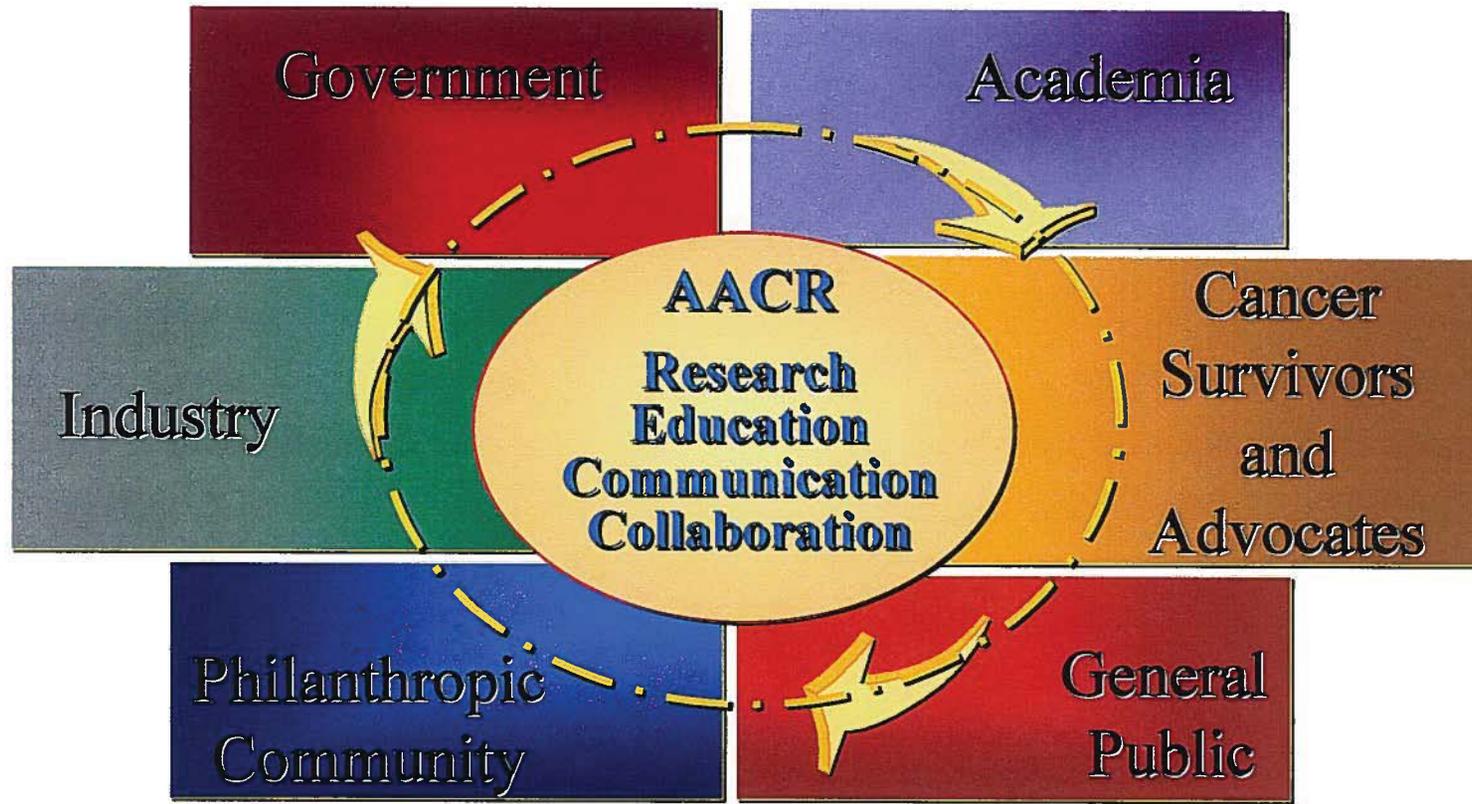
- Funding for cancer research
- Education and training
- Communication and access to information
- Cancer registries, tissue banks, and other resources
- Clinical trials
- Screening and prevention
- International CME accreditation

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AACR: A Catalyst for Discovery and Innovation



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AACR and the NCI

- AACR first Presented to the NCAB eight times since 1991
- Programs with the NCI
- Members in NCI
- Extramural Members work with/supported by NCI

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AACR-NCI Partnership

- AACR membership and programs tightly linked to NCI
- Organizations work hand-in-glove
- First Molecular Targets meeting November, 1999 (AACR/NCI/EORTC), second October, 2001
- Minority Grants for attendance of junior investigators and HBCU faculty to AACR meetings
- Educational Workshops

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The National Cancer Act, 1971

“(2) that new scientific leads, if comprehensively and energetically exploited, may significantly advance the time when more adequate preventive and therapeutic capabilities are available to cope with cancer;

(3) that cancer is a leading cause of death in the United States;

(4) that the present state of our understanding of cancer is a consequence of broad advances across the full scope of the biomedical sciences;

(5) that a great opportunity is offered as a result of recent advances in the knowledge of this dread disease to conduct energetically a national program against cancer;”

30 years later, as the promises are beginning to be delivered, the AACR believes that we must now redouble our efforts.

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‘As President, I will fund and lead a
medical moonshot...

...our government will promote
medical advances with new resources
and new resolve’

*-- Governor George W. Bush
Florida, September 22, 2000*

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Americans' Attitudes Toward Cancer
Research:
A Poll Commissioned by
The American Association for Cancer
Research

From August 24 to 27, 2000, Peter D. Hart Research Associates conducted a survey to determine attitudes toward and experiences with cancer

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'... which ONE of those illnesses do you worry the most about getting during your lifetime?'

	%
Cancer	48
Heart disease	15
Alzheimer's	10
Diabetes	7
AIDS	5
Multiple sclerosis	1

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‘For each of the following statements I read, please tell me whether it applies or does not apply to you personally.’

	<u>Applies</u>	<u>Does Not Apply</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
A family member or close friend has had cancer	81	18	1
A family member or close friend died of cancer	73	26	1
A family member or close friend had cancer and was cured	45	50	5
You have had cancer yourself	11	87	2



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'what do you think are the odds that you will develop cancer during your lifetime?'

	%
One in a thousand	24
One in a hundred	26
One in ten	18
One in five	8
One in three	3
One in two	4

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Probability of Developing Invasive Cancers

Average NCAB member:

male 1 in 2

female 1 in 3

Less than 10% of those surveyed gave correct answers, half thought the chance was less than 1 in 100

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Despite the denial of their own risk of cancer, more than two-thirds (70%) of those polled would like the federal government to AT LEAST double current Federal research spending to find a cure for cancer, including 46% who want the federal government to AT LEAST triple current funding levels.

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Cost of Cancer

- Cost in terms of human suffering can't be measured
- Enormous loss of productivity because of illness and premature death
- The total cost of cancer was \$107 billion in 1999
- Latest information from the NIH is that cancer cost the US \$180 billion in 2000
- The cost of treatment and the cost associated with premature death have almost doubled in one year
- Total could reach as high as 0.5 trillion by 2010

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Shared Vision for the Future

- Enormous scale of the problem and the extent of human suffering mandate that we respond with energy, creativity and immediacy
- Encouraged by the remarkable pace of scientific discovery
- Challenged to accelerate progress with highest level of science possible
- AACR-NCI partnership to prevent and cure cancer
- Look forward to continuing work closely with NCI in future

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