Ending Cancer As We Know It

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“Science and technology—when applied with vision and optimism, with wisdom and humility, with rigor and integrity, and with a commitment to engage and serve everyone—are among the most powerful forces ever devised to better the human condition.”

– Eric Lander, President Biden’s Science Advisor and Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy
A bold vision for enhancing the federal government’s capabilities to make progress to promote human health
“We will see more technological change in the next 10 years – than we saw in the last 50 years. And we’re falling behind in that competition. ... The National Institutes of Health, the NIH – should create an ... **Advanced Research Projects Agency for health.** To develop breakthroughs – to prevent, detect, and treat diseases like Alzheimer’s, diabetes and cancer. ... I can think of no more worthy investment. And I know of nothing more bipartisan.”

FY22 budget request: **$6.5B** available over three years
ARPA-H Structural Elements

Centered around ensuring risk tolerance, urgency, nimbleness, and innovation

• Flat, dynamic organization
• Term-limited director with technical and leadership skills
• Creative, diverse cohort of program managers recruited for short terms with broad autonomy to drive transformational change
• Distinct project review and selection processes
• Convergence of scientific disciplines
• Collaborations across academia, industry, government
Draft Goals for an ARPA for Health

Support transformative research to:

• Speed application and implementation of health breakthroughs to serve all patients

• Foster breakthroughs across various levels – from the molecular to the societal

• Build capabilities and platforms to revolutionize prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cures in a range of diseases

• Convert use-driven ideas into tangible solutions for patients far more rapidly than previously believed possible

• Overcome market failures through critical solutions or incentives
An urgent focus on making patient-driven progress toward ending cancer as we know it
Principles of Approach

- inject urgency to our collective approach to end cancer as we know it
- bring all possible solutions and partners to the table with ideas and action
- provide an avenue to hear and prioritize what patients and caregivers identify as being the most important
- change the systems and culture to meet this moment
- deliver on the hope felt by millions of families facing a devasting diagnosis
How do we know cancer?

What are the most important challenges?

What issue areas are the most poised for progress?