

# NCI Director's Report

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W. Kimryn Rathmell, M.D., Ph.D.  
Director, National Cancer Institute

*NCI Council of Research Advocates (NCRA)*

*September 18, 2024*

@NCIDirector  
@TheNCI

# Welcome! New NCRA Members



**Amanda Haddock**  
Dragon Master Initiative



**Katie Coleman**  
Rare Cancer Research  
Foundation



**Andrea Hutton**  
Research Advocate

# Today's Topics

1. Recent News/Updates
2. Budget Updates
  - *NEW: NCI FY26 Annual Plan and Professional Judgment Budget Proposal*
3. Research and Program Highlights
4. Q&A / Discussion

# Recent News and Updates

# A summer of visits and meetings with collaborators (U.S. and international)

*\*not comprehensive*



NCORP sites: Kansas (top),  
New York (bottom)



U Chicago research symposium



MD-PhD national conference  
(Colorado)



WHO Collaborating Center for  
Global Cancer Control



U.S. Ambassador to Australia



Visit from National  
Cancer Center,  
Japan; and US-  
Japan Conference  
on Oncology

# Recent White House engagements

**White House Office of Management and Budget** examiners visited NIH to learn about Cancer Moonshot projects



**Office of Management and Budget** visited NCI at **Frederick** to see the science (and needs to advance progress) up close



**HHS Deputy Secretary** visited for an overview of NCI at Frederick and efforts aimed at eliminating HPV-driven tumors



# Summer retreat – key takeaways (July 16, 2024)

Goal:

To identify 1-3 areas of focus for which NCI can **demonstrate output and value** to the public.



TRUST

EARLY ONSET CANCERS

DATA SCIENCE

TRAINING

COMMUNICATION

CANCER BIOLOGY

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

PREVENTION

IMMUNOLOGY

OBESITY

VACCINES



# NCI Senior Leadership Updates



**Peter Garrett**  
Director, Center for External  
Affairs (CEA)\*



**Amber Lowery**  
Deputy Director for Management /  
Executive Officer



# NCI's Inaugural Deputy Director for Data Science and Strategy



Warren Kibbe, PhD

**Deputy Director, Data Science  
and Strategy**

*As of June 30, 2024*

Later today...

**Data Science at NCI  
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**



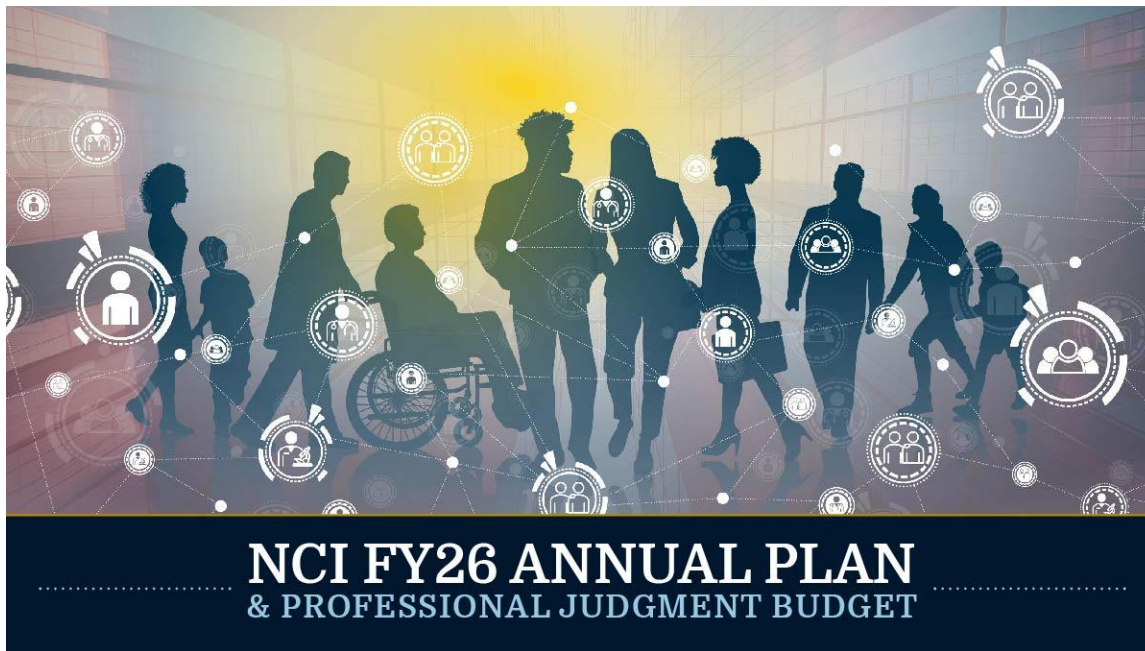
Cancer Data Science Pulse

**Subscribe to NCI's  
*Cancer Data Science Pulse* blog:**  
[https://datascience.cancer.gov/news-  
events/blog](https://datascience.cancer.gov/news-events/blog)

**Budget Updates:**

**NCI FY26 Annual Plan and Professional  
Judgment Budget Proposal**

# NCI Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Plan and Professional Judgment Budget Proposal



<https://www.cancer.gov/research/leading-progress>

# NCI Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Plan and Professional Judgment Budget Proposal: *Stories of Cancer Research*



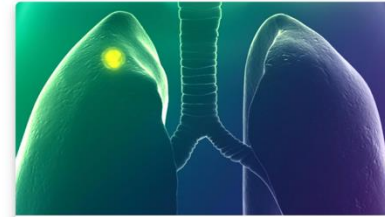
## [Opting for a Novel Combination Treatment for Resistant Aggressive B-Cell Lymphoma](#)

Enrolling in NCI's trial of a 5-drug combination called ViPOR for non-Hodgkin lymphoma changed Justin's life.



## [Treating Precancer in Low-Resource Settings to Prevent Cervical Cancer](#)

Read about the work of Leeya Pinder, M.D., M.P.H., an NCI grant recipient and Cancer Moonshot Scholar.



## [Lighting the Way to Detect Tumors During Surgery](#)

CYTALUX, a molecule that makes tumors glow in the operating room, was developed with support from NCI.

<https://www.cancer.gov/research/leading-progress>

# FY26 Professional Judgment Budget Proposal

FY24 NCI Appropriation	\$7,224	
FY25 President's Budget Proposal*	\$9,287	
Proposed Increase over FY25 President's Budget Proposal (Allocation by category)	\$2,179	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$479 Cancer Biology Research</li> <li>\$338 Cancer Prevention Research</li> <li>\$457 Cancer Detection &amp; Diagnosis Research</li> <li>\$534 Cancer Treatment Research</li> <li>\$175 Public Health &amp; Cancer Control Research</li> <li>\$196 Training &amp; Infrastructure</li> </ul>
<b>FY26 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,466**</b>	

(Dollars in millions)

# FY26 Annual Plan and Professional Judgment Budget Proposal

## *Highlighted Scientific Opportunities*



**TACKLING THE EMERGENCE OF EARLY-ONSET CANCERS IN YOUNG ADULTS**



**APPROACHING CANCER AS A DISEASE THAT AFFECTS THE ENTIRE BODY**



**ALLEVIATING FINANCIAL TOXICITY FOR CANCER SURVIVORS AND CAREGIVERS**



**EXPANDING THE UTILITY OF CANCER-TARGETING VACCINES**

# Our current budget situation

What it would cost to do  
what is expected



What we are working  
with

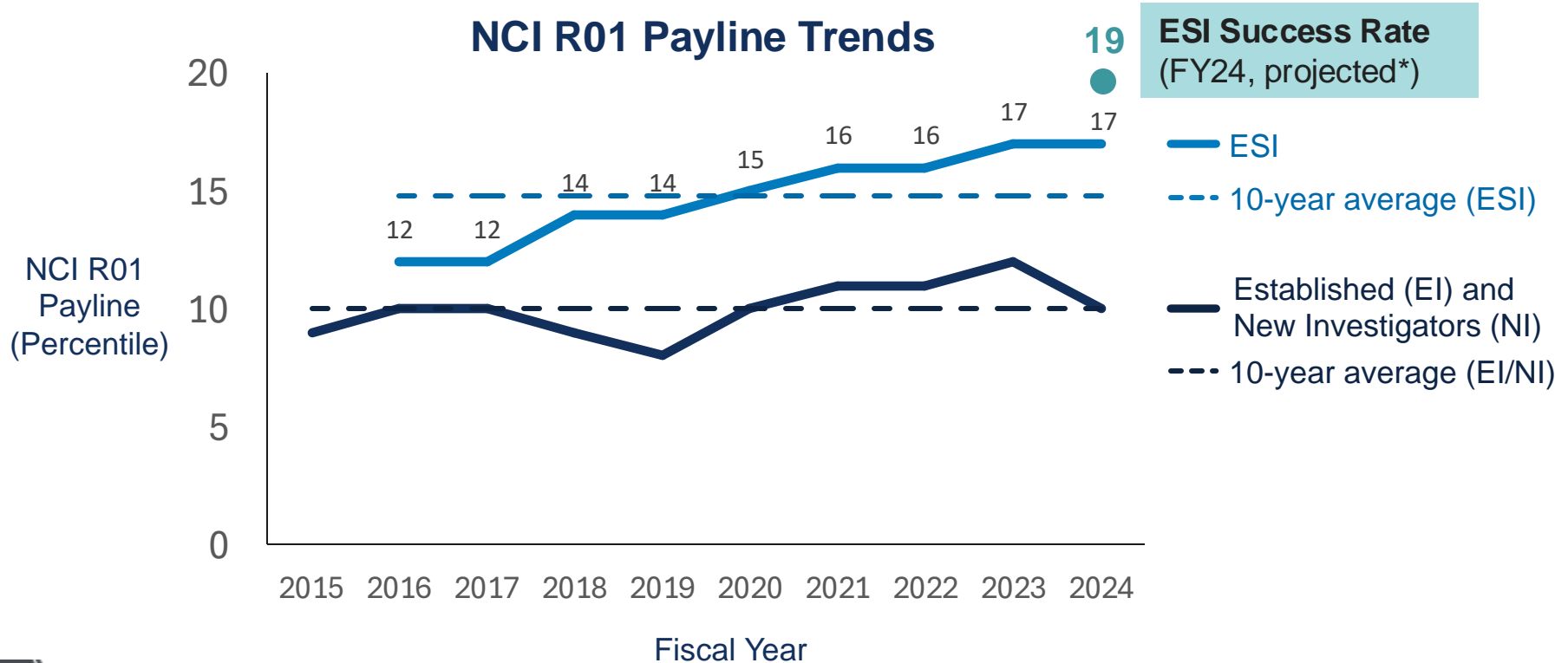


	NCI's Professional Judgment Budget Proposal	Actual NCI Budget
FY 2023	\$7.766B	\$7.3B
FY 2024	\$9.988B	\$7.22B <i>(\$120M increase to the base but an overall \$96M decrease)</i>
FY 2025	\$11.466B	?
FY 2026	\$11.466B	?

FY25 President's  
Budget Proposal:  
**\$9.287B**



# Prioritizing support for early-stage investigators (ESIs)



# Resources for more in-depth NCI budget updates



**National Cancer Advisory Board Meeting**  
**September 4, 2024**  
**Session: Budget Update**

**Presentation and video available at:**  
[https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/ncab/ncab\\_meetings.htm](https://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/ncab/ncab_meetings.htm)

**NIH** NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE  
Division of Extramural Activities [Search All NCI Board Presentations](#)

### NCAB Meeting Presentations

[Home](#) < [Advisory Boards](#) < [NCAB](#) < [Meetings](#) <

**Presentations from the 168<sup>th</sup> Meeting Held September 3-4, 2024**

**September 4**

<a href="#">NIH Videocast</a>	
<a href="#">NCI Director's Report</a>	<i>Dr. Rathmell</i>
<a href="#">Budget Update</a>	<i>Dr. Lowy &amp; Mr. Ricks</i>

# National Cancer Plan: Everyone has a role

## Empowering Goals

## Health-centric Goals



Improved  
health  
outcomes  
for  
everyone

CANCER  
MOONSHOT  
GOAL:  
Reduce  
cancer  
mortality  
by 50% by  
2047

# National Cancer Plan: Optimize the Workforce

## Empowering Goals



## Health-centric Goals



***Optimize the Workforce:***  
*Focus of community engagement*  
*September - November 2024*

# Prioritizing support to optimize the workforce

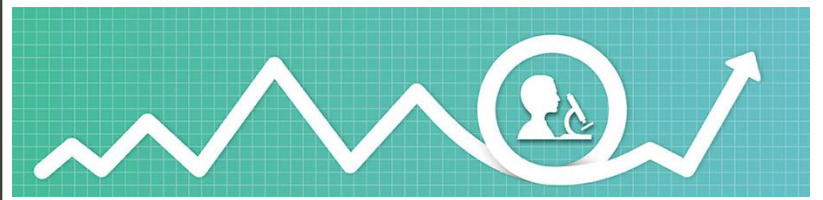


**Cancer Currents: An NCI Cancer Research Blog**

## Growing the Cancer Research Pipeline by Expanding Opportunities

August 29, 2024, by Kimryn Rathmell, MD, PhD, MMHC, and Dan Gallahan, PhD

*This post explains how the **R15 grant program** supports researchers at smaller institutions and encourages students to pursue careers in cancer research.*



**NCI Bottom Line: A Blog about Grants and More**

## NCI's Commitment to Advancing Cancer Training

August 1, 2024, by Oliver Bogler, PhD, Director, NCI Center for Cancer Training

*This post discusses recent trends in funding for cancer training, highlights enhancements to the Pathway to Independence Award and introduces a new career development award for clinical scientists.*

## American Cancer Society Announces up to \$8 Million in Catalyst Awards and Post Doctoral Fellowship Grants to Help Fund Early-Stage Researchers

August 20, 2024



# President's Cancer Panel: Recent public meeting focused on workforce (Sept. 12-13, 2024)



*Advisors to the  
President on the  
National Cancer  
Program*

**Developing and Retaining a Robust and Diverse Cancer Workforce: Challenges and Opportunities Across the National Cancer Program**



Image: X/@IshwariaMD

# Research and Program Highlights



# Research advances – recent highlights

## Immunotherapy

- First FDA approval for a **T-cell receptor therapy** for advanced synovial sarcoma (Aug 2, 2024)
- **Three new FDA-approved** immune checkpoint inhibitors for **advanced endometrial cancer** (June-Aug 2024)

## RAS

- New information on **structure and function** of the **KRAS4a** variant – *Sci Adv* (Feb 2024)
- Discovery of **one of the first dual inhibitors of KRAS G12C (novel experimental compound)** – *J Biol Chem* (Feb 2024)

## Population science

- New analysis finds that **cost of cancer screening (\$43B) is less than annual cost of cancer treatment** (in the first 12 months after diagnosis) – *Ann Intern Med* (Aug 2024)

# What I need from you...

- **Early-onset cancers**

- As advocates, what are you hearing in/from the community about these trends, possible drivers, emerging needs, etc.?

- **Artificial intelligence**

- What elements of data science do you think are ripe for community engagement?

# Thank You!

[www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov)

[www.cancer.gov/espanol](http://www.cancer.gov/espanol)

1-800-4-CANCER

[NCInfo@nih.gov](mailto:NCInfo@nih.gov)

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