## **Trends in cancer research**

Polling, the Congressional funding process and the National Cancer Institute

December 11, 2018

# National polling shows the majority of Americans support government action on cancer research

"On which of the following cancer-related issues do you believe the U.S. government should spend more money (even if it meant higher taxes or adding to the deficit)?"

4,016 U.S. adults with 1,508 having cancer or an immediate family member with cancer, July 10-17, 2017



#### "How optimistic are you that the majority of cancers will be curable within the next...?"

4,016 U.S. adults with 1,508 having cancer or an immediate family member with cancer, July 10-17, 2017



Sources: National Cancer Opinion Survey, American Society of Clinical Oncology.

### **Congressional funding affects multiple steps of the cancer research process**



Sources: Research Funding by the National Cancer Institute: From Pipeline to Patient, American Society of Clinical Oncology.

## The National Cancer Institute is the primary source of federal funding for cancer research

#### NCI funding, FY 2013-2017

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS



Sources: Funding Trends, cancer.gov.

## Cancer research compromises the largest program area of the NCI

#### The NCI is involved in various programs and mechanisms of funding

#### **Background of NCI**

- When the President submits an annual budget to Congress, the NCI must prepare a document called the Congressional Justification, which explains the NCI's mission and its proposed budget
- The primary type of program funded by the NCI is research
- The primary mechanisms of funding from the NCI are Research Project Grants

#### Mechanism Share of the NCI Budget, FY 2017



#### Major NCI program areas



1. **Research** – Categorized by detection and diagnosis, treatment, cancer biology and cancer causation



2. Resource Development – Includes research manpower development, buildings and development and cancer centers support



3. Cancer Prevention and Control



4. Program management and support

Sources: Program Structure, cancer.gov.

### Less than two percent of researchers 35 or younger have a research grant from the NIH



Sources: Proportion of Research Project Grant Dollars Awarded by PI Age Group, NIH, updated on April 11, 2018.

### Cancer funding by disease area



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