Florida Cancer Control & Research Advisory Council

General Membership Meeting

Friday, November 14, 2025
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Florida Cancer Control & Research Advisory Council

Mission Statement

The Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory Council was established by the Florida Legislature in 1979, under Florida Statute 1004.435, with the purpose of advising the Legislature, Governor, and Surgeon General on ways to reduce Florida's cancer burden.

Florida Cancer Control & Research Advisory Council

Florida Cancer Control & Research Advisory Council Membership

(December 2024)

Chair
Clement Gwede, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute

Vice Chair
Erin Kobetz, PhD, MPH
Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of Miami

Senator Colleen Burton
Senate President's Appointee

Representative Linda Chaney
House Speaker's Appointee

Autumn Citta, ARNP
Governor's Appointee

Christopher Cogle, MD
Senate President's Appointee

Michael Diaz, MD
Association of Community Cancer Centers

Paul Hull, PhD
American Cancer Society

Joseph Ladapo, MD, PhD
Florida's Surgeon General

Jessica MacIntyre, DNP, MBA, APRN, AOCNP
Florida Nurses Association

Merritt Martin
House Speaker's Appointee

Nitesh Paryani, MD
Florida Medical Association

Mitchell F. Peabody, DO
Florida Osteopathic Medical Association

Alfredo Quinones-Hinojosa, MD
Mayo Clinic Jacksonville

Luis Raez, MD
Florida Hospital Association

Ramzi G. Salloum, PhD
University of Florida Health Cancer Center

BYLAWS OF THE
FLORIDA CANCER CONTROL AND RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL

ARTICLE I: AUTHORITY, TITLE, AND DEFINITIONS

1.1 AUTHORITY: The Cancer Control and Research Act (Section. 1004.435, Florida Statutes) establishes the Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory Council (referred to as "the Council").

1.2 TITLE: These bylaws may be known and cited as the bylaws of the Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory Council.

1.3 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Employee designated by Moffitt Cancer Center to administer the Council.

ARTICLE II: LOCATION AND STAFF

2.1 LOCATION: The Council office shall be located at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute.

2.2 STAFF: The H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute shall provide staff support and other assistance as reasonably necessary for the completion of the responsibilities of the Council. An Executive Director will be assigned to facilitate coordinated functions and assist in carry out of the duties of the Council.

ARTICLE III: MISSION AND PROCEDURES

3.1 MISSION: In an effort to reduce morbidity and mortality associated with cancer in Florida through prevention, early detection, and state-of-the-art therapy, the mission of the Council is:

a. To advise the Governor, the Legislature, and state agencies on cancer control programs, policies, priorities and initiatives,
b. To approve a state cancer plan, and coordinate with the Biomedical Research Advisory Council on a state cancer research plan
c. The Council will meet in person bi annually.

3.2 PROCEDURES

3.2.1 *Advisory Capacity*: Issues may be brought to the Council by any member or other interested person by notifying the Chairperson or the Executive Director. Recommendations shall be made in writing to the Governor, Legislators, the Secretary of Health, or other appropriate individuals or agencies.

ARTICLE IV: COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

4.1 COMPOSITION: Membership criteria, agencies represented, and requirements for minority representation are as specified in Section 1004.435, F.S (4)(a), Florida Statutes.

ARTICLE V: NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT PROCESS

5.1 APPOINTMENT PROCESS

5.1.1 New Appointments

5.1.1.1 Organizations, the Governor's Office, the Speaker of the House's Office, and the Florida Senate President's Office shall provide the Executive Director the name of the member they wish to appoint.

5.1.2 Reappointments

5.1.2.1 At the end of a member's term, the represented organization shall notify the Executive Director if they wish to reappoint their current member or appoint a new one.

ARTICLE VI: MEMBERSHIP RULES

6.1 TERMS OF SERVICE: Organizations appoint members for a term of four years, and can be re-appointed for an unlimited number of terms.

6.2 RESIGNATION: A member wishing to resign before the end of his/her term shall submit a letter of resignation to the Executive Director. Organizations must immediately appoint a new member.

6.3 CONFLICT OF INTEREST: No member of the Council shall participate in any discussion or decision to recommend grants or contracts to any qualified nonprofit association or to any agency of this state or its political subdivisions with which the member is associated as a member of the governing body or as an employee or with which the member has entered into a contractual arrangement.

6.4 REMUNERATION: Council members will serve without pay per Section 1004.435, F.S. (4)(e).

ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS

7.1 CHAIRPERSON: A chairperson shall be selected by the majority of the Council for a term of 2 years. The chairperson shall appoint an executive committee of no fewer than three members to serve at the pleasure of the chairperson. This committee will prepare material for the council but make no final decisions.

The Chairperson, or his/her proxy, will liaison with other state councils and advisory boards as needed to fulfill the duties of the Council. The Chairperson may request participation by content experts or other state council/advisory members to fulfill the duties of the Council. These consultants will have no voting capacity and must adhere to the Council Conflict of Interest policy.

7.2 VICE CHAIRPERSON: A vice chairperson shall be selected by the majority of the Council for a term of 2 years.

ARTICLE VIII: DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL

8.1 DUTIES: The duties of the Council are outlined in F.S. 1004.435 (4)(g-m), Florida Statutes.

ARTICLE IX: MEETINGS

9.1 REGULAR MEETINGS: The Council shall meet at least twice a year. Notification of such meetings shall be at least thirty days prior to the meeting date, and shall be published in the Florida Administrative Weekly.

9.2 SPECIAL MEETINGS: Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson at his/her discretion upon the written request of four members of the Council. Notification of such meetings shall be at least fifteen days in advance of the meeting date.

9.3 QUORUM: Nine members shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of exercising the powers of the Council. A vote of the majority of the members present is sufficient for all actions of the Council.

9.4 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: The Chairperson shall appoint an executive committee of no fewer than three persons to serve at the pleasure of the chairperson. This committee will prepare material for the council but make no final decisions. Meetings of executive committee members shall be noticed 10 days prior to the meeting.

9.5 SUBSTITUTES: If a member cannot attend a meeting, s/he may send a substitute, who is authorized to vote. The member must notify the Executive Director in writing prior to the meeting if a substitute will be attending and who the substitute will be.

9.6 ABSENCES: Members shall inform the Executive Director if they are unable to attend a scheduled meeting. In the event of two consecutive absences without just cause or prior notification, even if a substitute is provided, a member may be asked by the Chairperson to submit a letter of resignation. The sponsoring organization will be notified and asked to nominate another representative.

9.7 RULES OF ORDER: The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the Council in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are consistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Council shall adopt.

ARTICLE X: AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

10.1 PROCEDURE: The Council may prescribe, amend, and repeal bylaws governing the manner in which the business of the Council is conducted. The bylaws can be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Council provided that the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing to all members at least fifteen days in advance of the next regular or special meeting, and that a quorum is present.

ARTICLE XI: INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

11.1 To the fullest extent permitted by law, and to the extent not covered by insurance, the Corporation shall indemnify, hold harmless, and pay on behalf of its Directors and officers, including former Directors and officers, for any and all claims and liabilities which any such Director may incur as a result of serving or having served as a Director or officer, or by reason of any action, incident, error, or omission committed as a Director or officer. In addition, the Corporation shall reimburse such Director or officer for reasonable attorneys' and legal assistants' fees and costs incurred in connection with any such claim or liability. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Corporation shall not indemnify any Director or officer for any expenses incurred in relation to any claim or liability arising out of that Director's or officer's own willful misconduct, bad faith, gross negligence, conscious disregard for the best interests of the Corporation, recklessness, violation of criminal law (unless the Director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was lawful or had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful), as a result of a final adjudication, or any transaction from which the Director or officer derived an improper personal benefit, either directly or indirectly.

Florida Cancer Control & Research Advisory Council

General Membership Meeting Agenda

Friday, November 14, 2025
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Meeting Registration Link (for Zoom participation):
https://moffitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/IkiiMJT0QemJww9w-kEe4g

Physical Meeting Location: Moffitt Cancer Center Stabile Research Building, Trustees Boardroom, 12902 Magnolia Drive, Tampa, 33612

10:00 AM	**Log-in & Networking**	*All Meeting Participants*
10:05 AM	**Welcome, Introductions & Mission Moment**	*Dr. Clement Gwede & Dr. Erin Kobetz*
10:15 AM	**Approval of Minutes from Meeting on June 6, 2025**	*Dr. Clement Gwede & Council*
10:20 AM	**Highlights of Florida's Cancer Burden & 2030 Cancer Plan Progress**	*Dr. Clement Gwede*
11:05 PM	**Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program Annual Report**	*Dr. Clement Gwede & Council*
11:15 AM	**Department of Health Updates**	*Dr. Joseph Ladapo & DOH Team*
11:30 AM	**Biomedical Research Advisory Council (BRAC) Update**	*Dr. Danny Armstrong*
11:45 AM	**Florida Rural Health Transformation Program & Biomarker Test Coverage Update**	*Dr. Chris Cogle*
11:55 AM	**Prostate Cancer Advisory Council (PCAC) Update**	*TBD*
12:00 PM	**State Legislative Update & Discussion**	*Sen Burton, Rep Chaney, ACS CAN*
12:15 PM	**Break (Lunch provided for those in-person)**	
12:30 PM	**Florida Cancer Plan 2030 Review & Discussion**	*Dr. Clement Gwede, Dr. Erin Kobetz, Dr. Ramzi Salloum, Dr. Luis Raez*
1:50 PM	**Florida Cancer Plan 2030 Next Steps**	*Dr. Clement Gwede & Council*
2:20 PM	**CCRAB Leadership**	*Dr. Clement Gwede & Council*
2:50 PM	**Comments**	*All Meeting Participants*
2:55 PM	**Next CCRAB Meeting**	*Dr. Clement Gwede*
3:00 PM	**Adjourn**	*Dr. Clement Gwede*

FLORIDA CANCER CONTROL AND RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Friday, December 6, 2024, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Council Members in Attendance

- Autumn Citta, ARNP - Governor's Appointee
- Christopher Cogle, MD - Senate President's Appointee
- Clement Gwede, PhD, MPH, RN - Moffitt Cancer Center (Chair)
- Paul Hull, PhD - American Cancer Society
- Erin Kobetz, PhD - Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center University of Miami (Vice Chair)
- Joseph Ladapo, MD, PhD - Florida's Surgeon General, Florida Department of Health
- Jessica MacIntyre, DNP, MBA, APRN, AOCNP - Florida Nurses Association
- Merritt Martin - House Speaker's Appointee
- Nitesh Paryani, MD - Florida Medical Association
- Alfredo Quinones-Hinojosa, MD - Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville
- Luis Raez, MD - Florida Hospital Association
- Ramzi Salloum, PhD - University of Florida Health Cancer Center

Council Members Not in Attendance

- Senator Colleen Burton - Senate President's Appointee
- Representative Linda Chaney - House Speaker's Appointee
- Mike Diaz, MD - Association of Community Cancer Centers
- Mitchell Peabody, DO - Florida Osteopathic Medical Association

Others

- Tiffany Albury
- Leanne Alexander
- Daniel Armstrong
- Kimberlee Baugh
- Jessica Beckstrand
- Tarik Benidir
- Seth Berkowitz
- Caio Buschinelli
- Laura Corbin
- Gabriela Cruz
- Nicole de Lara Puente
- Mackenson Desamours
- Jeff Feller
- Leah Fine
- William Fredericks
- Tracey Gregory
- Susan Harbin
- Sydney Harper
- Tonia Harris
- Monique Hernandez
- Taylor Humphries
- Caitlin Kennedy
- Jennifer Kue
- Heather Lake-Burger
- Paul Ledford
- David Lee
- Valerie Lee
- Gary Levin
- Peyton Lurk
- Justice Mbizo
- Bobbie McKee
- Lara Medley Prewitt
- Leah Mitchem
- Bridgette Morton
- Brooke Murray
- Julie Newberry
- Deandrea Newsome
- Sandy Noel
- Vickie Perez-Marrero
- Lindsey Redding
- Ma Rk
- Emma Spencer
- Chris Sugg
- Lynn Vinson
- Jamie Wilson
- Kathy Woodward

Welcome
Dr. Clement Gwede began by welcoming members and guests, taking a moment to reaffirm the Council's mission to advise the state on ways to reduce cancer burden, and reviewing the day's agenda. Council members introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes
Dr. Gwede presented the minutes from December 6, 2024. Dr. Paul Hull made a motion to accept the minutes. Merritt Martin seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The Council concurred with no objections.

Highlights of Florida's Cancer Burden
Dr. Gwede discussed Florida's cancer burden and focus areas of the 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan, including differences in diagnoses of late-stage cancers and early detection, data regarding early detection for colorectal cancer screening, and efforts to ensure collection of comprehensive and high-quality cancer-related data. He reviewed mortality differences by county, and the long-term vision of reducing cancer burden for all Floridians. There was discussion regarding challenges in both rural and urban areas. The Council will continue to work collaboratively with partners across the state to highlight opportunities and identify gaps.

Statewide Colorectal Cancer Screening and Prevention Initiative 2022-2023
Dr. Chris Cogle discussed colorectal cancer screening in Florida, with a focus on screening rates within Federally Qualified Health Centers, shared screening models, and available modalities for Florida Medicaid enrollees. He also addressed the overall screening rates across the state, identified care gaps, and outlined a long-term vision for cancer prevention in Florida, offering key lessons for improving public health outcomes.

Department of Health Updates
The Florida Department of Health team provided updates on state Cancer Prevention and Control Program, which includes The Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program and the Colorectal Cancer Control Program, all of which work with the Florida cancer data registry to improve cancer outcomes in the state. Additional updates were provided regarding the 2024 Florida Adult Tobacco Survey and the Florida Cancer Innovation Fund.

State Legislative Update & Discussion
Susan Harbin, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), gave an update of the 2025 Florida legislative session. She highlighted several key items, including SB 158, which would require state health plans to cover supplemental breast exams, and a proposal to exempt heated tobacco products from taxation. On the budget front, the House and Senate reached early agreement on maintaining level funding for the Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program and the Cancer Innovation Fund. One item still under negotiation is the Mary Brogan Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, which continues to be a priority.

Biomedical Research Advisory Council (BRAC) Update
Dr. Danny Armstrong gave an update on the state's cancer research programs, including the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program (JEK), Bankhead Coley Cancer Research Program (BC), Live Like Bella Pediatric Cancer Research Initiative (LLB), Rare Pediatric Disease Research Initiative, the Casey DeSantis Cancer Innovation Fund, and the Cancer Centers of Excellence Program.

State Cancer Data Workgroup Updates
Dr. David Lee provided an update on workgroup efforts to address cancer data goals and objectives in the current Florida Cancer Plan. The groups focus on data access and utilization, collection of cancer screening data, social determinants of health, and cancer biology data. Key initiatives include launching a pilot oncology data specialist support program, integrating cancer screening data with registry data through a partnership with Tobacco Free Florida, incorporating social determinant indicators into the registry, and working towards identifying cancer recurrence. Funding remains a challenge, particularly for the cancer biology data collection efforts. The group is exploring funding options, including potentially applying for Florida Innovation grants, to fully implement their plans.

Presentation: Lung Cancer and Incidental Pulmonary Nodules
Dr. Luis Raez and Leah Fine presented the potential to leverage incidental pulmonary nodules (IPNs) for early lung cancer detection. This approach utilizes existing imaging procedures and could benefit patients who would not qualify for screening under current guidelines. Council will continue to monitor. AI tools can help identify suspicious nodules. There was discussion regarding the benefits and challenges of implementing IPN programs.

State Cancer Plan Implementation – Regional Cancer Control Collaborative Updates
Dr. Erin Kobetz recapped the purpose of the community implementation grant initiative, a joint effort by the offices of community outreach and engagement at Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, Moffitt Cancer Center, UF Health Cancer Center and Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, which provides up to $16,500 to work on projects that reflect local need and evidence-based work. Laura Corbin introduced the Regional Cancer Control Collaborative Coordinators to provide updates on the projects they are working on through this funding mechanism as well as funding through the DOH and Tobacco Free Florida. Coordinators from each of the six regions presented on the work their Collaboratives are doing.

Florida Cancer Plan 2030 Planning and Discussion
Drs. Gwede and Kobetz discussed planning for the 2026-2030 Florida Cancer Plan. A draft timeline was shared. Consultant assistance for planning has been secured. Four subgroups have been established, focusing on: 1) collaboration, data, and research; 2) prevention/risk reduction; 3) screening/early detection; and 4) diagnosis and treatment, survivorship/quality of life, and childhood cancers. Subgroups began meeting to review state cancer plans and develop strategies. All interested stakeholders are welcome to participate.

CCRAB Leadership
Council will select a new Chair and Vice Chair at the Fall meeting. Dr. Bobbie McKee will send a communication regarding the process for nominations prior to the next meeting.

Comments
Dr. Gwede invited any meeting attendees to make comments.

Next CCRAB Meeting
Dr. Gwede stated that the next CCRAB meeting will be in the Fall of 2025. Dr. Bobbie McKee will follow-up with Council members with additional information.

Adjourn
Dr. Gwede thanked everyone for participating. The meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM on June 6, 2024.

DRAFT Florida Cancer Plan 2026-2030

https://www.ccrab.org/cancer-plan-2026-2030

Comments and suggested edits may be added directly to the shared document in Box or submitted to bobbie.mckee@moffitt.org by 5:00 PM on November 20, 2025. Please contact bobbie.mckee@moffitt.org if you are not able to access the Box folder or have questions.

Florida Academic Cancer Center Alliance

Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center
Moffitt Cancer Center
Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
UF Health Cancer Center

2025 Annual Consolidated Report

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

The Florida Academic Cancer Center Alliance (FACCA), consisting of Moffitt Cancer Center (Moffitt), UF Health Cancer Center (UF Health), Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Miami (UM Sylvester), and Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center in Florida (Mayo Clinic in Florida), formed in 2014 to build collaborations that expedite innovation in the area of cancer research throughout the State of Florida and maximize state investments in biomedical technology and research.

A primary goal of the program at the time of creation was to provide support for UF Health and UM Sylvester to obtain National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation and for Moffitt to sustain NCI Comprehensive designation. As reported previously, UF Health Cancer Center obtained NCI designation in June 2023. UM Sylvester competitively renewed their designation in 2024, having first obtained designation in 2019. Moffitt will submit for their sixth competitive renewal in January 2025 to take effect in 2026. Mayo Clinic joined the program in 2024, as an NCI designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, the same year as their most recent competitive renewal. Thus, all FACCA members are NCI designated and recognized for significant and impactful research.

Since the last consolidated FACCA report in 2023, this extraordinary partnership has strengthened its efforts to advance cancer care, research, and education throughout the State of Florida. The foundation of this relationship is engaged collaboration among faculty and staff at the centers. Examples over the last three years[1] include:

- Expansion of the program to include Mayo Clinic in Florida
- Treatment of 79,480 newly diagnosed patients combined across all four centers
- Accrued 31,942 patients combined to investigator-initiated interventional clinical studies
- Competed for $480.2 million (M) in peer-reviewed grant funding across all four centers
- Provided programming for 51,604 clinical and scientific trainees
- Published 7,046 peer-reviewed articles across the four centers, with 301 unique articles featuring at least two (2) FACCA centers
- Continued to invest in the FACCA Pilot Program which has resulted in 9 pilot awards ($1.35M investment) over the last 5 years that have generated $19.5M in extramural funding, 20 peer-reviewed publications, and 2 patent applications, demonstrating a strong return
- Three collaborative retreats; January 2022, March 2023, and April 2024, fueling research collaborations and alignment
- Continuous and purposeful collaboration and communication between the four (4) Center Directors
- Monthly virtual meetings between the four (4) Center administrative teams and principal Administrators.

[1] The Reporting Period for this report reflects data provided for the Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program allocation from FY23-24 to FY25-26.

MOFFITT CANCER CENTER

Moffitt's designation by the NCI as a Comprehensive Cancer center was officially renewed on February 1, 2022, with the start of year 25 of funding for the Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG). Over the last two years, Moffitt has continued its forward momentum in achieving or sustaining its efforts to contribute to the prevention and cure of cancer. Moffitt is well-positioned for a strong and successful renewal of the NCI CCSG.

The last two years have been focused clinically on expanding access within the community. A new ambulatory center, Moffitt SouthShore, opened in January 2025. Located on 9 acres in Ruskin, Moffitt SouthShore is a 75,000-ft^2 facility home to 18 exam rooms and 10 bays strictly for blood draws, as well as a full radiology suite offering MRIs, CTs, ultrasounds, mammograms, PET scans and radiation oncology services. Clinical trials will also be offered at Moffitt SouthShore, bringing both clinical care and research closer to patients.

The first development of the 775-acre Speros regional biomedical park in Pasco County has made significant progress. Construction of another Moffitt-owned 100,000-ft^2 ambulatory center is well underway on this campus, and this is scheduled to open in January 2026. Next door to this ambulatory center will be a state-of-the-art proton therapy center that will offer flash therapy; this is scheduled to open in the spring of 2026.

Finally, a 5-story, 250,000-ft^2 cutting-edge Discovery & Innovation Center is under construction and scheduled to open in the spring of 2026. This new facility will ultimately house 55 laboratories for the following research disciplines: metabolism, bioengineering, drug discovery including facilities for chemistry, cancer biology, and tumor metastasis. The initial construction will build out 28 of the 55 laboratories.

Florida's investment has enabled Moffitt to recruit 23 research faculty at all ranks (FY24 and FY25) to support innovative research. Of these new recruits, Moffitt was able to promote both highly competitive trainees to faculty from its own pool of highly qualified trainees, successfully retaining scientific expertise in Florida, and successfully competed for top-tier scientists against established institutions including:

• Marcelo Bonini, PhD	Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center	Chicago, IL
• Renee Brady-Nicholls, PhD	Moffitt Cancer Center	Tampa, FL
• Sylvia Crowder, PhD	Moffitt Cancer Center	Tampa, FL
• Michael Dunne, PhD	Harvard University	Cambridge, MA
• Jeremy Goecks, PhD	Oregan Health & Science University	Portland, OR
• Patrick Grogan, MD, PhD	University of Wisconsin	Madison, WI
• Rober Haile, DrPH	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center	Los Angeles, CA
• Megan Hitchins, PhD	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center	Los Angeles, CA
• Chang Jiang, PhD	Moffitt Cancer Center	Tampa, FL
• Lilit Karapetyan, MD	University of Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, PA
• Karen Lu, MD	MD Anderson	Houston, TX
• Jorge Mansilla-Soto, PhD	Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center	New York, NY
• Stuart Maudsley, PhD	University of Antwerp	Antwerp, Belgium
• Martina Molgora, MD	Washington University School of Medicine	St. Louis, MO
• Duy Nguyen, PhD	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL
• Fabiana Perna, MD, PhD	Indiana University	Indianapolis, IN
• Yoly Pina, MD	Moffitt Cancer Center	Tampa, FL
• Mark Robertson-Tessi, PhD	Moffitt Cancer Center	Tampa, FL
• Greg Sawyer, PhD	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL
• Alex Soupir, PhD	Moffitt Cancer Center	Tampa, FL
• Gilmer Valdes, PhD	University of California, San Francisco	San Francisco, CA
• Nathan Ward, PhD	Moffitt Cancer Center	Tampa, FL
• Vivien Yin, PhD	Mayo Clinic	Rochester, MN

As a reflection of the high-quality mentoring and supportive research environments at Moffitt, in 2024, 11 faculty were awarded their First R01 or R01 equivalent award, 23 applications were filed and 52 IND applications.

Notable appointments to research leadership positions include:

• Karen Lu, MD	Executive Vice President, Physician-in-Chief
• Heather Jim, PhD	Associate Center Director, Population Science
• Jeremy Goecks, PhD	Assistant Center Director, Research Informatics
• Tiffany Carson, PhD	Program Leader, Health Outcomes & Behavior
• Conor Lynch, PhD	Program Leader, Cancer Biology & Evolution
	Chair, Department of Microenvironment & Metastasis
• Paulo Rodriguez, PhD	Program Leader, Immuno-Oncology; Chair, Department of Immunology
• Marcelo Bonini, PhD	Chair, Department of Metabolism and Physiology
• Greg Sawyer, PhD	Chair, Department of Bioengineering; Chief Bioengineering Officer
• Xuefeng Wang, PhD	Chair, Department of Biostatistics & Bioinformatics
• Gilmer Valdes, PhD	Vice Chair, Department of Machine Learning; Research Director, Clinical AI

UF HEALTH CANCER CENTER

Through sustained investment from the State of Florida, the UF Health Cancer Center has achieved NCI designation and is actively advancing its strategic goal of becoming an NCI Comprehensive Cancer Center. This designation affirms the Center's leadership in scientific discovery, patient care, and community impact. UF Health Cancer Center has earned national recognition by U.S. News & World Report for ranking in 7 adult specialties, 5 pediatric specialties and distinguished as high performing in 17 categories.

The Center continues to build its reputation for excellence across the cancer continuum. In 2022, it was re-accredited by the Commission on Cancer (CoC) and received initial accreditation for the UF Health Rectal Cancer Program through the CoC's National Accreditation Program for Rectal Cancer. A virtual site visit for reaccreditation is scheduled for August 2025. In January 2025, the Center also achieved recertification through ASCO's Quality Oncology Practice Initiative (QOPI), reinforcing its commitment to quality, evidence-based oncology care.

In alignment with its Accelerate 2030 strategic plan, the Center is enhancing statewide access to prevention and early detection services through its mobile outreach unit, which delivers bundled cancer screenings directly to communities. This innovative approach offers screening for breast, cervical, colorectal, and lung cancers—prioritizing underserved and rural populations that experience disproportionate cancer burdens. The mobile unit is also integrated into the Center's catchment-focused research and community-engaged initiatives, helping identify barriers to care and drive actionable solutions.

The UF Health Cancer Center is also recognized for its leadership in data science and informatics, leveraging the university's strengths in artificial intelligence, machine learning, and clinical research informatics to accelerate discovery and improve patient outcomes. The Center's researchers are applying these capabilities across cancer prevention, precision oncology, population health, and cancer disparities research—positioning the Center as a data-driven engine for innovation.

With 351 members across 69 departments in 12 of UF's 16 colleges and the Florida Museum of Natural History, the UF Health Cancer Center continues to unite transdisciplinary expertise to address the cancer burden in Florida and beyond. Its focus on integrating scientific innovation, community engagement, and inclusive excellence ensures meaningful progress toward comprehensive status and lasting impact on cancer outcomes statewide.

Faculty recruitment is an ongoing initiative and was recognized as essential for UF Health's resubmission application to NCI in 2022. During the period of 2022-2024, state funding has been a critical resource in the successful recruitment of a total of 18 strategic faculty recruits from several states, including established NCI-Designated Cancer Centers and Academic Medical Centers. Among the recent recruits include:

• John Ligon, MD	National Cancer Institute	Bethesda, MD
• Jordan Milner, MD	New York Medical College	Valhalla, NY
• Alex H. Yoon, PhD, MPH	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL

• Jason Butler, PhD	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL
• Jae Jeong Yang, PhD, MPH	Vanderbilt University Medical Center	Nashville, TN
• Shama D Karanth. PhD	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL
• Serendipity Z Rinonos, MD, PhD	University of California, Los Angeles	Los Angeles, CA
• Qianqian Song, PhD	Wake Forest School of Medicine	Winston-Salem, NC
• Zhipeng Li, PhD	University of California, Berkeley	Berkeley, CA
• Mohammed Gbadamosi, PhD	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL
• Xingui Liu, PhD	University of Dundee	United Kingdom
• David Iglesias, MD	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL
• Anna Y Khanna, MD	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL
• Leighton A Elliott, MD	Geisinger Medical Center	Danville, PA
• Gahyun Gim, MD	Wilmot Cancer Center	Rochester, NY
• Donna Zhang, PhD	University of Arizona	Tucson, AZ
• Ayman M Mukhtar, MD, MBBS, DABIM, FRCPC	University of Toronto	Toronto, Ontario
• Sulma Mohammed, DVM, PhD	Purdue University	West Lafayette, Indiana

UM SYLVESTER COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER

Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Miami (UM Sylvester), the only academic cancer center in South Florida, became the 71st NCI designated Cancer Center in July 2019. In 2023, UM Sylvester competitively renewed its designation, receiving a score of 21. The Center's catchment area remains a primary driver of its clinical and research agenda, encompassing a four-county region (Miami-Dade, Broward, Monroe, and Palm Beach) that spans more than 10,000 square miles. Of Florida's 23 million residents, more than 6.5 million comprise UM Sylvester's unique catchment area which is poorer and older than that of the national average, providing UM Sylvester's investigators with important opportunities to advance cancer research more quickly than other areas in the country.

UM Sylvester's Office of Outreach and Engagement and its team of 10 community health workers routinely collaborate with community residents to understand emerging concerns and close gaps in cancer education and care through targeted outreach. Leveraging UM Sylvester's Game Changer Vehicles, the community health workers offer testing, screening, and education in the community. UM Sylvester's Community Advisory Committee (CAC) consists of leaders of local organizations, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), faith-based organizations, and civic and advocacy groups that serve key population sub-groups, such as the Miccosukee Tribe, and individuals either treated at UM Sylvester or its partner, Jackson Health System. The CAC formally reports to the UM Sylvester Director, Stephen D. Nimer, MD, to ensure that community input is heard at the highest levels of leadership and can appropriately inform strategic planning and investment.

For 13 years, Dr. Nimer has built an impressive core of cancer researchers and health professionals to best position UM Sylvester as a national leader in cancer research, with teams of outstanding scientists who conduct impactful, collaborative, and transdisciplinary research. UM Sylvester's 449 cancer researchers (as of 12/31/24), span 44 academic disciplines and four UM Sylvester Research Programs: Tumor Biology (TB), Cancer Epigenetics (CE), Translational & Clinical Oncology (TCO), and Cancer Control (CC). The four programs' various interests, perspectives, and expertise advance UM Sylvester's competency in addressing the cancer problem and responding to unique challenges within South Florida.

With the support from the State of Florida appropriation, UM Sylvester has made sustained investments in basic, clinical, translational, and population-based research, as well as in the infrastructure that enables this work. These investments have strengthened the center's Research Programs, expanded shared resources, and enhanced clinical research services. As a result, UM Sylvester continues to play a critical role in the NCI network, leading multiple Experimental Therapeutics Clinical Trials Network (ETCTN) studies. These include a pediatric brain tumor study led by Dr. Macarena de la Fuente and a breast cancer trial led by Dr. Carmen Calfa which achieved the highest national enrollment. Based on this success, the NCI invited UM Sylvester to submit a competitive UM-1 supplement submission, which was approved—granting the Center full ETCTN membership. To date, 97 patients have been enrolled to these important paradigm-shifting studies.

In parallel, strategic investments in education, training, and team science have led to significant funding milestones. These include two new cancer-relevant T32 training grants funded during the reporting period, totaling $559K in annual direct costs. In 2022, UM Sylvester was awarded its second five-year multi-project $5 million Leukemia & Lymphoma Specialized Center of Research Program (LLS SCOR) grant, focused on the epigenetics of myeloid malignancies—an area of particular relevance to Florida's aging population. This award supports eight UM Sylvester members and three outstanding collaborators from Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and Brigham and Women's Hospital. In the same year, UM Sylvester researchers and a collaborator at Columbia University were also awarded a major NCI P01 grant focused on esophageal adenocarcinoma.

These achievements underscore how targeted investments are enabling UM Sylvester researchers to lead innovative, collaborative science. For example, recognizing a major limitation in clinical DNA methylations, a multidisciplinary team of four researchers from UM Sylvester (one biostatistician, two translational scientists, and one academic clinician) developed a novel generative AI solution to improve data coverage and analysis. Because the cost of whole-genome methods restricts most studies to just 3-15% of CpGs sites, the team created DiffuCpG, a generative AI diffusion model that reconstructs the methylome genome-wide from reduced-representation data sets. DiffuCpG addresses the pervasive challenge of missing data in high-throughput methylation platforms and has demonstrated superior accuracy and stability across tissue types and technologies. This innovation significantly enhances the utility of epigenetic data in translational cancer research with the ultimate application of improving patient outcomes.

Finally, UM Sylvester has continued to invest in the FACCA Pilot Funding Program, a collaborative effort with Moffitt and UF Health. This program is already yielding important outcomes, including peer-reviewed publications and new external funding, as outlined below (see the ***FACCA Pilot Projects*** section).

Through the support of the State of Florida's Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program, the Center's NCI designation, and the rising reputation of the quality of clinical care and research, UM Sylvester has successfully attracted exceptional physicians and investigators from premier institutions. Building on this momentum, the Center has prioritized the strategic recruitment of leadership talent to accelerate progress in research, education and training, and patient care. Among these efforts, in 2024, Dr. Damian Green joined as Chief of the Division of Transplantation & Cellular Therapy and Assistant Director of Translational Research, bringing his pioneering work in immunotherapy—particularly stem cell transplantation, CAR-T and antibody-based treatments for multiple myeloma and B-cell malignancies—to Florida. In this leadership role, Dr. Green oversees strategic direction, research mentorship, recruitment support, and financial stewardship, serving as a vital partner in advancing Sylvester's clinical and scientific mission. In 2023, Dr. Aman Chauhan was recruited to lead Sylvester's Neuroendocrine Tumor Program. He is a globally recognized expert advancing clinical trials, radiopharmaceuticals, and precision medicine for rare neuroendocrine cancers. Dr. Bradley Gampel also joined Sylvester in 2023 to expand pediatric and adolescents/young adults (AYA) neuro-oncology efforts. He treats CNS tumor patients across all age groups and leads novel clinical trials in brain and spinal tumors as part of Sylvester's Brain Tumor Initiative.

Over the reporting period, state appropriations supported the recruitment of 41 new faculty. Each new recruit brings expertise, grant funding, and/or clinical trials to the State of Florida.

• Nicholas Borja, MD	University of Miami | Miller School of Medicine	Miami, FL
• Tasleem Arif, PhD	Icahn School of Medicine	New York, NY
• Priscila Barreto, MD	University of Miami | Jackson Memorial Hospital	Miami, FL
• Defne Bayik-Watson, PhD	Cleveland Clinic	Cleveland, OH
• Jonathan Bell, MD	University of Miami | Miller School of Medicine	Miami, FL
• Markus Bredel, MD	University of Alabama	Tuscaloosa, AL
• John Burnett, PhD	City of Hope	Duarte, CA
• Michele Ceccarelli, MsC	University of Naples	Naples, Italy
• Aman Chauhan, MD	University of Kentucky	Lexington, KY
• Austin Dosch, MD	Washington University	St. Louis, MO
• Julie Grossman, MD	University of Miami | Jackson Memorial Hospital	Miami, FL

• Antonio Iavarone, MD	Columbia University	New York, NY
• Jibran Durrani, MD	National Institute of Health	Bethesda, MD
• Marcella Kaddoura, MD	Mayo Clinic	Rochester, MN
• Morgan Freret, MD	Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center	New York, NY
• Bradley Gampel, MD	Dana Farber Cancer Institute | Harvard Medical School	Boston, MA
• Anna Lasorella, MD	Columbia University	New York, NY
• Chiara La Tessa, PhD	University of Trento	Trento, Italy
• David Lombard, MD, PhD	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI
• Rui Gong, PhD	Columbia University	New York, NY
• Damian Green, MD	Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center	Seattle, WA
• Yan Guo, PhD	University of New Mexico	Albuquerque, NM, IL
• Ronald Hendrickson, PhD	Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center	New York, NY
• Caitlin Hester, MD	MD Anderson Cancer Center	Houston, TX
• Surinder Kumar, PhD	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI
• Kiran Kurmi, PhD	Harvard Medical School	Boston, MA
• Marina Kushnirsky, MD	Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center	New York, NY
• Kevin Van der Jeught, PhD	Indiana University	Indianapolis, IN
• Sangeetha Venugopal, MD	MD Anderson Cancer Center	Houston, TX
• Xiao (Joan) Wang, MD, PhD	MD Anderson Cancer Center	Houston, TX
• Dionysios (Dennis) Watson, MD, PhD	Cleveland Clinic	Cleveland, OH
• Erik Williams, MD	University of California San Francisco	San Francisco, CA
• Abhishek Pandey, MD	University of Colorado School of Medicine	Aurora, CO
• Thomas Plate, MD	University of Miami | Miller School of Medicine	Miami, FL
• Danny Reinberg, MD, PhD	Howard Hughes Medical Institute	Chevy Chase, MD
• Martin Rivas, PhD	Weill Cornell Medical College	New York, NY
• Amanda Rivera, MD	Albert Einstein College of Medicine	Bronx, NY
• Nima Sharifi, MD	Case Comprehensive Cancer Center	Cleveland, OH
• Asaad Trabolsi, MD	University of Miami | Miller School of Medicine	Miami, FL
• Lara Traeger, PhD	Harvard Medical School	Boston, MA
• Zhipeng Wang, PhD	Harvard University	Boston, MA

Recruitment at UM Sylvester has significantly enhanced the University's cancer focus and overall scientific environment, fostering greater collaboration, multidisciplinary innovation, and success in securing competitive peer-reviewed funding—resulting in significant growth in UM Sylvester's overall research portfolio.

Over the reporting period, UM Sylvester has also invested in its research facilities. Primarily funded through philanthropy, the Griffin Cancer Research Building (GCRB) opened its doors in Spring 2025. The new building will collocate scientists and physicians, promote team science, and facilitate bench to bedside discoveries.

MAYO CLINIC COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER IN FLORIDA

Mayo Clinic in Florida proudly serves as one of three integral sites of the NCI Designated Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center (MCCCC), recognized for its national leadership in cancer research, education, and patient care. Through close collaboration with its sites in Phoenix, AZ and Rochester, MN, Mayo Clinic in Florida leverages the strengths of a unified, multi-state model to accelerate scientific discovery and bring transformative innovations to patients with cancer. This collective effort is guided by Cheryl L. Willman, M.D., Executive Director of Mayo Clinic Cancer Programs and Director of the MCCCC. A distinguished physician-scientist and visionary leader in oncology, Dr. Willman brings a deep commitment to advancing cancer care and ensuring that cutting-edge research directly benefits patients across the nation and around the world. Under her leadership, Mayo Clinic continues to strengthen its position as a global leader in comprehensive, patient-centered cancer care.

In alignment with this commitment, Mayo Clinic successfully completed its NCI site visit on February 25, 2025, reaffirming its dedication to excellence in cancer research and care as part of its ongoing NCI Comprehensive Cancer Center designation.

In 2023, Roxana S. Dronca, M.D., was appointed as the Site Deputy Director of the MCCCC in Florida. A distinguished medical oncologist at Mayo Clinic and the Director of the Cancer CARE Beyond Walls (CCBW) program, Dr. Dronca has brought visionary leadership to the forefront of cancer research and care. Under her guidance, Mayo Clinic in Florida is advancing groundbreaking research and elevating patient experience across multiple dimensions of cancer care.

Mayo Clinic in Florida has championed efforts in transforming cancer care delivery by developing innovative, integrated, and patient-centric cancer care models through platform transformation, blending virtual, in-facility, and home-based care throughout a patient's cancer journey. A cornerstone of this initiative is the Cancer CARE Beyond Walls (CCBW) program. Launched as a proof-of-concept clinical pilot in April 2023, CCBW began by serving patients within a 30-mile radius of Mayo Clinic in Florida. Following its demonstrated success and feasibility, the next phase is expanding into Florida's Panhandle, further advancing Mayo Clinic's commitment to providing high-quality cancer care in Florida's most underserved regions. CCBW focuses on capturing patient-reported experiences and preferences for home versus in-clinic treatment, along with quality-of-life assessments, safety metrics, and healthcare utilization. By generating critical data to inform future models of home-based cancer care, CCBW has the potential to serve as a national blueprint for virtual oncology services, positioning Mayo Clinic as a leader in delivering transformative, patient-centered cancer treatment.

Mayo Clinic in Florida continues to expand its research infrastructure with the development of advanced biomanufacturing capabilities, enhanced imaging technologies, and the bringing the First Carbon Ion Facility in the Americas to the State of Florida – The Duan Family Building. The Duan Family Building is a 225,000 square foot state of the art facility that houses advanced imaging and treatment areas, three linear accelerators, two proton gantries, a fixed beam room, and the first carbon ion beam in the Americas. Purposefully designed to integrate carbon ion therapy, proton beam therapy, and conventional radiation therapy within a single location, the facility will provide patients with seamless access to the most advanced and comprehensive radiation treatment options available. These strategic investments significantly improve precision therapies, accelerate the availability of cutting-edge treatments, and provide new hope for patients with challenging cancer diagnoses.

Mayo Clinic in Florida continues to attract and support exceptional physicians and scientists. By providing resources for recruitment and long-term professional success, these efforts help establish Mayo Clinic as a leader in cancer research, fostering innovation and strengthening the impact of discoveries on patient care worldwide. Recent recruits include:

• Oluwaseun O. Akinduro, MD	Brown University	Providence, RI
• Albert N. Attia, MD	Vanderbilt University	Nashville, TN
• Anders Berglund, PhD	Moffitt Cancer Center	Tampa, FL
• Rishitha Bollam, MD	NYU Langone Health Fellow	New York, NY
• Victoria E. Clark, MD, PhD	MD Anderson Cancer Center	Houston, TX
• Christine A. Cordova, MD	Cleveland Clinic	Cleveland, OH
• Michelle F. DeLeon, MD	Einstein HC Network	Philadelphia, PA
• Loic P. Deleyrolle, PhD	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL
• Kunle I. Elegbede, MD, PhD	MD Anderson Cancer Center	Houston, TX
• Lauren E. Haydu, PhD	United States Air Force – Joint Base San Antonio	San Antonio, TX
• Adam L. Holtzman, MD	University of Florida Proton Therapy Institute	Gainesville, FL
• James W. Jakub, MD	Mayo Clinic Rochester	Rochester, MN
• Adam M. Kase, MD	Mayo Clinic Fellow	Jacksonville, FL
• Sungjune Kim, MD, PhD	Moffitt Cancer Center	Tampa, FL
• Daniel M. Koffler, MD	Northwell Health	Lake Success, NY
• Shenduo Li, MD, PhD	Mayo Clinic Fellow	Jacksonville, FL
• Bo Lu, PhD	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL
• Homan Mohammadi, MD	Dana Farber Cancer Institute	Boston, MA

• Conor D. O'Donnell, MB, BCh, BAO	Mayo Clinic Fellow	Rochester, MN
• Oluwadamilola T. Oladeru, MD, MBA	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL
• Chunjoo Park, PhD	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Hospital (UTSW)	Dallas, TX
• Katherine Poruk, MD	Cancer Treatment Centers of America	Atlanta, GA
• Michael S. Rutenberg, MD, PhD	University of Florida Proton Therapy Institute	Gainesville, FL
• Deepak K. Shrestha, PhD	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Hospital (UTSW)	Dallas, TX
• Michael D. Story, PhD	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Hospital (UTSW)	Dallas, TX
• Jun Tan, PhD	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Hospital (UTSW)	Dallas, TX
• Sridhar Yaddanapudi, PhD	Washington University in St. Louis	St. Louis, MO

Mayo Clinic in Florida is resolutely committed to advancing cancer education, research, and patient care by developing the next generation of biomedical researchers and healthcare professionals. Through initiatives like the Cancer Research Training and Education Coordination Office (CRTEC), led by Associate Director John A. Copland III, Ph.D., and the Science Program for the Advancement of Research Knowledge (SPARK), Mayo Clinic in Florida fosters early talent development by providing high-achieving students in Jacksonville with hands-on research experiences, mentorship, and leadership opportunities. SPARK continues to demonstrate remarkable success, with 7 of 9 scholars earning awards at the 2025 Florida State Science Fair, including SPARK's first-ever overall State Champion and three SPARK scholars advancing to the International Science Fair (ISEF) in Columbus, Ohio.

THREE YEAR TRENDS

PEER REVIEWED FUNDING

The four centers have sustained their peer-reviewed funding for direct costs for Reporting Periods 2023 to 2025. Together, the centers have been awarded over $480M to directly fund innovative cancer research and are primarily from NCI and other NIH institutes. (**Fig. 1**; next page).

To provide better context, of the $147.4M in grants awarded to organizations in Florida from NCI FY2024 (the most recently completed NIH fiscal year), 85.4% of the funds were awarded to FACCA members (**Fig. 2**). These awards fund 346 research projects across the four centers and demonstrate significant leadership in conducting nationally recognized cancer research in the State of Florida.

Based on NCI grants (FY24 Reporter data), Florida holds steady as the 14th highest funded state, the same rank as reported in 2023. As the nation's 3rd most populous state, with the Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program providing critical support and investment, the four FACCA institutions are best equipped to further increase cancer related grant funding to the State.

FACCA members were also highly successful in competing for the peer-reviewed Florida Biomedical research grant programs (Bankhead Coley, James & Esther King, and Live Like Bella). Of the 33 grants in FY24, FACCA members were awarded 26 of them (78.8%).

Moffitt Cancer Center

For 2025 reporting period, Moffitt's overall peer-reviewed awards totaled $62.1M, which is up 28.8% from the last report ($48.2M). This represents 337 research projects being conducted by Moffitt investigators. Moffitt's NCI funding increased slightly to $28.7M, with

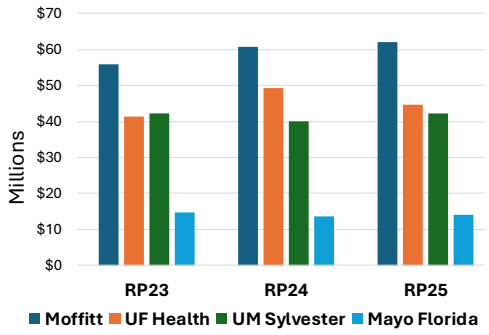


Figure 1. Peer-reviewed funding levels for Reporting Period (RP) 2023-2025 based on FACCA guiding principles for annual reporting. Peer-reviewed funding defined as annual direct costs of cancer-related awards to each institution based on sponsors considered by the NCI Office of Cancer Centers as peer-reviewed.

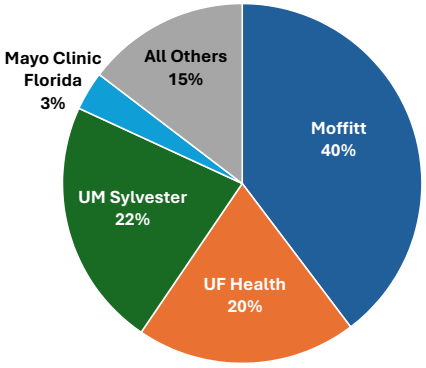


Figure 2. Percent funding to the three cancer centers from the NCI in FY2024. Data is based on NIH RePORT data filtered by most current completed NIH FY2024 and limited to NCI funding in annual total costs to demonstrate 100% cancer focus across all Florida-based organizations.

the majority of funding increases coming from other NIH, Department of Defense and other peer-reviewed sponsors, indicating a healthy, sustainable, and diversified funding portfolio.

UF Health Cancer Center

In the 2025 reporting period, UF Health investigators conducted 201 peer-reviewed research projects totaling $44.53M in awards. While this represents a 10% decrease from the previous year, the decline reflects the natural variability in the research funding cycle, including the conclusion of several large grants and faculty transitions. Notably, NCI funding accounted for $17.97M in annual direct costs—over 40% of UF Health's total peer-reviewed research portfolio—underscoring the continued strength of our cancer research enterprise.

UM Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

UM Sylvester's annual direct cost NCI-funding base has also grown from $14.5M to $21.1M between Reporting Period 2023 and Reporting Period 2025, while the total peer-reviewed funding was maintained at $42.2M, despite national reductions in federal grant programs. In FY 2024 alone, UM Sylvester investigators were awarded 44 new cancer-related grants and contracts. Of these grants, seven were received by UM Sylvester faculty in leadership. UM Sylvester also reported continued success with multi-PI grants during the reporting period with award funding increasing 12% from $18.4M in Reporting Period 2023 to $20.6M in Reporting Period 2025.

Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center in Florida

In 2025, Mayo Clinic in Florida demonstrated substantial growth in its research portfolio, with total peer-reviewed awards reaching $13.9 million, representing a 60.5% increase since 2022. This growth supports 72 active research projects, marking a 38.5% increase in investigator-led initiatives. NCI funding also increased by 35.7%, with awards totaling $5.7 million. Much of this growth reflects expanded support from the NIH and other peer-reviewed sponsors, highlighting Mayo Clinic in Florida's robust, diversified, and sustainable research enterprise.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Investigators at all four cancer centers remain highly productive, having published 7,046 peer-reviewed articles combined between 2022 and 2024 with 301 of the articles having at least one collaboration between Moffitt, UF Health, UM Sylvester, and/or Mayo Clinic in Florida researchers (see ***Collaborations*** section for more details).

Moffitt Cancer Center

Researchers at Moffitt published 2,514 peer-reviewed articles over the last three years with 27% appearing in high impact journals such as *Nature*, *Science*, *Cancer Cell*, and the *New England Journal of Medicine*. The average impact factor across this period was 11.484, which has remarkably increased by 60% from the last report. Its membership remains highly collaborative with 26% of articles having intra-programmatic collaborations and 21% having inter-programmatic collaborations.

UF Health Cancer Center

UF Health researchers published a total of 1,554 peer-reviewed articles since 2023. Of the total publications, 28% were intra-programmatic, 14% were inter-programmatic and 75% of all publications were inter-institutional that included 181 collaborative publications with researchers at Moffitt and UM Sylvester.

UM Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

UM Sylvester investigators published a total of 1,930 peer-reviewed cancer relevant journal articles from CY2022 to CY2024; 482 of the publications are published in journals with an impact factor greater than 10 and represent a high degree of collaboration among UM Sylvester's investigators. The percentage of publications between UM Sylvester Research Programs (inter-programmatic publications) across the three-year period was 23% while collaboration within Research Programs (intra-programmatic publications) was 29%. Inter-institutional collaboration (with other NCI centers) accounted for 62% of the articles. Sylvester collaborated with Moffitt, UF Health, and/or Mayo on 154 of these 1,930 publications.

Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center in Florida

Mayo Clinic in Florida conducts and disseminates high-quality peer-reviewed research in numerous cancer-focused areas. The scope of research activities includes basic, translational, clinical, population sciences, healthcare delivery science, and cancer control and prevention. Mayo Clinic in Florida is a robust and dynamic

enterprise, comprising 55 distinguished members across 16 departments, 6 interdisciplinary research programs, and 6 shared resources. From 2022 to 2024, members published 1,048 peer-reviewed manuscripts, with 20% appearing in journals with an Impact Factor>10. The Membership is highly connected with 14% of publications being intra-collaborative, 13% being inter-collaborative, and 44% being external collaborations with other NCI Cancer Centers.

REPORTABLE CASES & INTERVENTIONAL TRIALS

Over the last three Reporting Periods, the FACCA centers served 79,480 new patients (analytic cases) combined (**Fig. 4**) and accrued 31,942 patients to investigator-initiated interventional trials. The accrual is remarkably over 40% of the new cases. (**Fig. 5**).

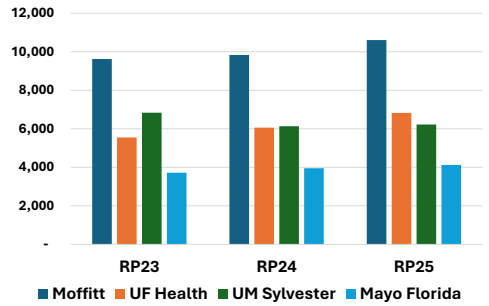


Figure 4. Reportable registry cases for Reporting Period (RP) 2023-2025 based on FACCA guiding principles for annual reporting. Data derived from center specific cancer registries.

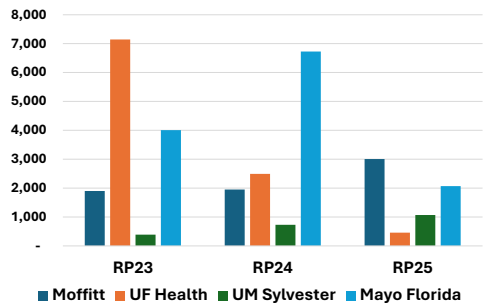


Figure 5. Accrual to investigator-initiated interventional trials for Reporting Period (RP) 2023-2025 based on FACCA guiding principles for annual reporting. These include trials involving treatments and other interventions.

Moffitt Cancer Center

Moffitt primarily serves Floridians with almost 97% of its patients coming from all 67 counties in the state and is reflected in the 30,060 cumulative new analytic cases reported over the last three reporting periods. Further, the demand for care at Moffitt reflects the numerous opportunities to participate in cutting edge clinical studies and experience the resulting superior outcomes. As such, Moffitt accrued 6,856 individuals to investigator-initiated interventional studies since the last report, which encompassed protocols of all types including treatment, screening, and prevention. Moffitt also continues to grow its reach and provided care for 11,553 admissions; 668,385 outpatient visits; 13,961 surgeries; 30,903 new patients (non-analytic + analytic cases), and 1,088 in the most recently completed fiscal year (FY24). Additionally, Moffitt continued to reach the community with 314 total health education events.

UF Health Cancer Center

Since the prior report, the UF Health Cancer Center (UFHCC) enrolled a total of 964 patients to interventional treatment trials, with annual accruals rising from 260 in 2022 to 315 in 2023 and reaching 389 in 2024, a 50% increase over the three-year period. Enrollment to IITs totaled 10,132 across the same period, including a peak in 2022 driven by a large, multi-year cancer prevention study. Following its completion, IIT enrollment declined to 2,491 in 2023 and 496 in 2024, a temporary dip UFHCC is actively addressing through a new wave of IIT activations. These include a trial evaluating modernized at-home care instructions to improve treatment compliance and reduce complications (PI: Hitchcock), a tobacco cessation intervention for cancer survivors and caregivers (PI: LeLaurin), and a lung cancer screening uptake initiative (PI: Wollney). The center's commitment to advancing investigator-led treatment studies is further demonstrated through targeted pilot awards aimed at addressing critical gaps in women's cancers and surgical innovation. Funded projects over the past three years include a novel technique to improve lymphatic drainage following mastectomy (PI: Spiguel), an innovative cavity-marking method to optimize post-resection radiation planning (PI: Spiguel), a suture-less partial nephrectomy approach for renal masses (PI: O'Malley), and a smoking cessation intervention tailored to women undergoing breast reconstruction (PI: Fieber). As of 2024, 70% of all treatment enrollments and 77% of all interventional accruals were to IITs, underscoring UFHCC's continued investment in homegrown, practice-informing research.

UM Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

Between Reporting Period 2023 and Reporting Period 2025, UM Sylvester treated 19,187 newly diagnosed cancer patients (analytic cases) and significantly expanded access to cutting edge research. Enrollment in investigator-initiated interventional clinical trials grew by 175%, from 389 patients in Reporting Period 2023 to 1,070 in Reporting Period 2025—a record total of 2,190 patients across the 3-year period, representing 11% of

newly diagnosed cases. As part of UM Sylvester's 2024-2028 Strategic Plan, the Center is focused on expanding trial access across its network, with eight regional locations now offering open protocols: Aventura, Coral Springs, Doral, Deerfield Beach, Hollywood, Kendall, Lennar, and Plantation. As of December 31, 2024, 68% of all Sylvester's open interventional protocols were available at one or more network location, expanding access to lifesaving clinical trials across South Florida. Enrollment to Phase I clinical trials, the first step in evaluating new cancer therapies, also increased during this period (from 111 to 251) reflecting UM Sylvester's growing role of advancing innovative treatment options.

Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center in Florida

Mayo Clinic in Florida cared for 11,795 newly diagnosed cancer patients (Cancer Registry analytic cases) and enrolled 12,801 participants in investigator-initiated interventional clinical trials (IITs). As an integral part of a multidisciplinary and patient-centered care model, Mayo Clinic in Florida delivers comprehensive cancer care across 50 medical and surgical specialties and subspecialties. This work is supported by a dedicated workforce of 9,219 professionals, including 7,996 allied health staff and 1,223 physicians, scientists, residents, and fellows. Together, they advance Mayo Clinic's mission to transform cancer care through excellence in clinical practice, groundbreaking research, and world-class education.

CANCER MORTALITY RATES

Each Center tracks mortality rates within their geographic catchment areas and how they compare with those in the State of Florida. Please see ***Appendix A*** for detailed mortality rate information for each Center.

FLORIDA CANCER CENTER COLLABORATIONS

FACCA PILOT PROJECTS

Since its inception in 2015, the original three centers have cumulatively invested $3.2M and have awarded 23 collaborative pilot grants to 58 researchers across the four cancer centers. With Mayo joining in the program in 2023, additional investment is planned in coming years.

The FACCA Pilot Program collects outcomes for up to 5 years past the project period of the award. Thus, this report focuses on the outcomes of the last 5 years (pilot cycles 2019 – 2022), which consists of 9 pilot awards and represents a total investment of $1.35M by Moffitt, UF Health, and UM Sylvester. The investigators of these projects have been highly productive, remarkably returning $19.5M in extramural funding with 88% of awards stemming from peer-reviewed sponsors. Further, these pilot awards have resulted in 20 peer-reviewed publications and 2 patent applications. A summary of each center's return on investment is provided below. See ***Appendix B*** for detailed outcome information for each award.

Moffitt Cancer Center

Since 2015, Moffitt invested $1M in funds across 17 pilot awards to 18 distinct Moffitt investigators. Of these awards, 12% were collaborations between UF Health and Moffitt, 35% between Moffitt and UM Sylvester, and 53% were collaborations between all three centers.

Over the last 5 years, Moffitt invested $450,000 in funds across 7 pilot awards to 7 Moffitt investigators. Of these awards, 57% were collaborations between Moffitt and UM Sylvester and 43% were collaborations between all three centers. These pilot awards returned $9.4M in extramural funding (80% peer-reviewed) and 11 peer-reviewed publications.

UF Health Cancer Center

Since 2015, UF Health has invested $1M in funds across 17 pilot awards to 17 distinct UF Health investigators. Of these awards, 12% were collaborations between UF Health and Moffitt, 35% between UF Health and UM Sylvester, and 53% were collaborations between all three centers.

Over the last 5 years, UF Health invested $350,000 across 5 pilot awards to 5 UF Health investigators. Of these awards, 40% were collaborations between UF Health and UM Sylvester, and 60% were collaborations between all three centers. These pilot awards returned $16.3M in extramural funding (100% peer-reviewed) and 16 peer-reviewed publications. Newly awarded, peer reviewed extramural grants where UF Health is the prime institution

include NCI U01CA274970 (MPIs: Krieger & Carrasquillo), NIGMS RM1GM139690 (MPIs: Moldawer, Efron, Kladde, & Mathews), and DoD USAMRA HT94252410275 (PI; Clanton).

UM Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

Since 2015, UM Sylvester invested $1.2M in funds across 21 pilot awards to 23 distinct UM Sylvester investigators. Of these awards, 28% were collaborations between UM Sylvester and Moffitt, 29% between UF Health and UM Sylvester, and 43% were collaborations between all three centers.

Of the 9 pilot awards that were active between Reporting Periods 2023 and 2025, these projects returned $19.5M in extramural funding (88% peer-reviewed), 20 peer-reviewed publications, and 2 patent applications. Of the $19.5M in extramural funding returned, $3.4M was received by UM Sylvester as the prime institution, highlighting a 6:1 return on investment.

From 2022-2024, UM Sylvester researchers partnered with colleagues at UF Health and Moffitt on three collaborative research projects funded through the FACCA pilot funding mechanism—advancing Sylvester's strategic goals to promote cross-institutional collaboration, drive translational science, and make progress on highly prevalent cancers, including those with disparities in treatment outcomes across Florida. The projects funded during this period include: *Establishing a Multi-site HIV Oncology Research Program in Florida* (Neha Goel and Anna Coghill (Moffitt)); *Target antigen and T cell exhaustion impact outcomes after CAR 19 and post-CAR relapse* (Jay Spiegel and Michael Jain (Moffitt)), and; *Trends and disparities in cervical cancer screening uptake and follow-up among women in Florida* (Matthew Schlumbrecht, Jessica Islam (Moffitt)), and Stephanie Staras (UF Health)). The full impact of these pilot awards will continue to develop over time, as research outcomes often take several years to emerge. A detailed return on investment for all UM Sylvester funded projects is available in ***Appendix B***.

Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center in Florida

As a new member of the Alliance, Mayo Clinic in Florida has not yet had the opportunity to join the pilot project program but is committed to actively participating over the next several years. Mayo Clinic in Florida is particularly looking forward to opportunities to partner with FACCA members to accelerate capabilities to avail cancer care and research to Floridians in rural and underserved areas across the state.

EXTRAMURAL COLLABORATIONS

Collaboration between the FACCA centers emanate from, and extend beyond, the pilot program and reflect the collaborative cultures at all four institutions. Over the last three years (CY22, CY23, and CY24), the centers have generated 301 unique peer-reviewed publications that have at least one collaboration between the centers and 14 unique articles where all four centers have collaborated. Additionally, investigators from the four institutions have collaborated on extramural peer-reviewed research projects. Center specific details are described below.

Moffitt Cancer Center

Over the last three reporting periods, Moffitt investigators published 2,514 peer-reviewed articles. Of those, 380 (15.1%) unique publications had collaborations with researchers from at least once of the other FACCA centers (**Table 1**). Of those articles, Moffitt collaborated on 148 articles with a UF Health investigator; 138 articles with a UM Sylvester investigator; 80 with a Mayo Clinic investigator; and 14 with at least 1 investigator from all three other centers.

Table 1. Collaborative publications involving Moffitt Cancer Center Faculty

Year	Moffitt UF Health	Moffitt UM Sylvester	Moffitt Mayo Clinic	Moffitt UF Health UM Sylvester Mayo Clinic	Total Unique collabs
2022	34	57	24	1	**116**
2023	63	49	32	9	**153**
2024	51	32	24	4	**111**
Total	**148**	**138**	**80**	**14**	**380**

Moffitt researchers collaborate with investigators from UF Health, UM Sylvester, and Mayo Clinic on 26 exciting, funded research projects. A summary of active (as of 4/30/2025) Moffitt collaborative awards and subcontracts that involve FACCA centers are presented in **Table 2**. For example, Moffitt's Dr. Conor Lynch is collaborating with UM Sylvester's Dr. Kerry Burnstein on a mathematical approach to treatment of metastatic prostate cancer to the bone. As another example, Moffitt's Dr. Keiran Smalley works with UF Health's Dr. Jonathan Licht and UM

Sylvester's Dr. Zelia Correa in a long-standing collaboration to understand the underlying epigenetics of uveal melanoma liver metastasis.

Table 2. Moffitt Cancer Center active collaborations on extramural research projects

Moffitt PI	Specific Funding Source	Collaborating Institution(s)	Collaborator	Project Number	Project Title	Moffitt Annual Project DC
Baz R	NHLBI | UF	Univ of Florida	Yan Gong	R01 HL151659	A multi-omic evaluation of carfilzomib-related cardiotoxicity	$72,102
Chern J	US Army CDMRP	Univ of Miami	Marilyn Huang	W81XWH20 10488	A presurgical window of opportunity trial of the effect of aspirin on immunological features of ovarian tumors	$174,246
Cleveland J	NCI | UF	Univ of Florida	Matthew Disney	R01 CA249180-04	Targeted degradation of RNAs by using small molecules	$77,073
Gonzalez B	NCI	Univ of Miami	Frank Penedo	R01 CA242742-05	Identifying and reducing disparities in patient-reported outcomes among understudied prostate cancer survivors	$222,576
Heine J	NCI | UF	Univ of Florida	Lusine Yaghjyan Rulla Tamimi	R01 CA277817	Stroma contributions to breast carcinogenesis	$26,484
Jain M	FBRP	Univ of Miami	Jay Spiegel	23B07	A clinical trial of pirtobrutinib and brexucabtagene autoleucel in patients with relapsed or refractory mantle cell lymphoma	$315,927
Kissil J	NINDS	Univ of Florida	Matthew Pipkin	R01 NS117926-02	Elucidating the epigenetic landscape of neurofibromatosis and development of therapeutic targets	$261,077
Lynch C	NCI	Univ of Miami	Kerry Burnstein	U01 CA244101	Defining bone ecosystem effects on metastatic prostate cancer evolution and treatment response using an integrated mathematical modeling approach	$293,838
Lynch C	DoD | UM	Univ of Miami	Kerry Burnstein	HT94252310 389	Proprietary arginine vasopressin receptor type 1a (AVPR1a) antagonists for treatment of lethal prostate cancer	$44,510
Monteiro A	BCRF	Mayo Clinic	Fergus Crouch	PPI-23-002	Refining risk stratification for BRCA1/2 carriers: The challenge of intermediate risk variants	$229,996
Padron E	LLS	Mayo Clinic	Mrinal Patnaik Moritz Binder Aref Al-Kali Antoine Saliba	8043-24	Advancing the therapeutic landscape for chronic myelomonocytic leukemia (CMML)	$250,937
Padron E	NCI	Univ of Florida Mayo Clinic	Meghan Ferrell-Fairbanks Mrinal Patnaik	R01 CA278300-01	The impact of inflammation on HSPC composition and disease progression in chronic myelomonocytic leukemia	$366,504
Permuth J	FBRP	Univ of Florida	Andrew Judge	24K03	Comparing the morphology and molecular profile of skeletal muscle tissue and the influence of tobacco and obesity on pancreatic cancer outcomes in a broad cohort of Floridians	$121,617
Permuth J Jeong D	NCI	Univ of Florida Univ of Miami	Jose Trevino Nipun Merchant	R37 CA229810-06	Using radiogenomics to noninvasively predict the malignant potential of intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasms of the pancreas and uncover hidden biology	$245,173
Sawyer W	Alcon Research | UF	Univ of Florida	Brent Summerlin	23VA016	Synthetic mucins as a mitigation strategy for anticancer therapeutic associated ocular toxicity	$399,238
Sawyer W	FDA | UF	Univ of Florida	Elias Sayour	FD007268-01	A phase 1 study of RNA-lipid particle vaccines for newly diagnosed glioblastoma	$80,089

Table 2. Moffitt Cancer Center active collaborations on extramural research projects						
Moffitt PI	**Specific Funding Source**	**Collaborating Institution(s)**	**Collaborator**	**Project Number**	**Project Title**	**Moffitt Annual Project DC**
Schabath M	FBRP	Univ of Florida	Walter O'Dell	21B12	Non-invasive radiomic biomarkers to predict treatment response for immunotherapy of lung cancer	$148,575
Shaw T	FBRP	Univ of Florida	Jatinder Lamba	23L10	Targeting ER stress in pediatric acute myeloid leukemia	$45,212
Smalley K	NCI | UF	Univ of Florida	Weizhou Zhang Guangrong Zheng	R01 CA290792-01	Proteolysis targeting chimera against nuclear receptor NR4A1 for melanoma therapy	$124,500
Smalley K	NCI	Univ of Florida	Jonathan Licht	R01 CA262483-01A1	Defining and targeting epigenetic plasticity driven drug resistance and immune scape in melanoma	$384,493
Smalley K	NCI	Univ of Florida Univ of Miami	Jonathan Licht Zelia Correa	R01 CA256193-02	Characterization and targeting of the epigenetic state underlying uveal melanoma liver metastasis	$549,220
Soyano Muller A	NHLBI | Mayo Clinic	Mayo Clinic	Nadine Norton	R01 HL169268-02	Individualized medicine to predict and prevent chemotherapy related heart failure	$31,067
Turner K	NIA | UF	Univ of Florida	Ronald Shorr	R01 AG073408-02	De-implementing fall prevention alarms in hospitals	$16,866
Vidrine D	FBRP	Univ of Florida Univ of Miami	Jesse Dallery Tracy Crane	23K01	Creation of an infrastructure to support delivery of mHealth interventions for cancer patients throughout Florida	$349,961
Wang X	FBRP | UM	Univ of Miami	Stephen Schurer	23B16	Next generation biomedical big data platform for cancer research and collaboration across Florida	$30,336
Yin J	NCI | UF	Univ of Florida	Elias Sayour	R01 CA266857-02	Overcoming metastatic spread of osteosarcoma with RNA loaded nanoparticles	$46,966
					Moffitt Funding Total	**$4,908,583**

UF Health Cancer Center

Of the more than 1,537 peer-reviewed articles published by UF Health investigators, 139 have collaborations with researchers from at least one of the three other FACCA centers (**Table 3**). Of these collaborative inter-institutional publications, 14% were with UM Sylvester researchers, 45% were with Moffitt researchers, 46% were with Mayo researchers, and 15% involved researchers at two or more centers.

Table 3. Collaborative publications involving UF Health Faculty					
Year	**UF Health Moffitt**	**UF Health UM Sylvester**	**UF Health Mayo Clinic**	**Moffitt UF Health UM Sylvester Mayo Clinic**	**Total Unique collabs**
2022	26	10	19	1	**56**
2023	16	3	5	9	**33**
2024	24	8	14	4	**50**
Total	**66**	**21**	**38**	**14**	**139**

UF Health investigators collaborated with researchers from Moffitt and UM Sylvester on cutting-edge funded research projects since the last report that developed outside of the FACCA pilot program. A summary of collaborative awards based at UF Health that involve collaborations with FACCA centers as demonstrated through a subcontract is presented in **Table 4**. For example, UF Health's Dr. Matthew Disney works with Moffitt's Dr. John Cleveland in a long-standing collaboration to understand and develop methods for targeted degradation of RNAs using small molecules for the treatment of cancer in an R01 research project funded from the NCI. UF Health's Dr. Benjamin Lok is collaborating on an MPI U01 led by Dr. Janice Krieger at Mayo Clinic in Florida and UM Sylvester's Dr. Olveen Carrasquillo that is investigating the use of precision recruitment of underrepresented individuals onto clinical trials to promote cancer health equity across Florida populations. Finally, UF Health's Drs. Weizhou Zhang and Guangrong Zheng are collaborating with Moffitt's Dr. Kieran Smalley to establish a new therapeutic target for melanoma.

Table 4. UF Health active collaborations on extramural research projects						
UFHCC PI	**Funding Source**	**Project Number**	**Project Title**	**Collaborating Institution(s)**	**Collaborating Investigator(s)**	**UF Health Funding**
Disney M	NIH | NCI	R01CA249180	Targeted degradation of RNAs by using small molecules	Moffitt	John Cleveland	$635,211
Licht J	NIH | NCI	R01CA256193	Characterization and targeting of the epigenetic state underlying uveal melanoma liver metastasis	Moffitt UM Sylvester (formerly)	Keiran Smalley (MPI) James Harbour (MPI)	$803,981
Licht J	NIH | NCI	R01CA262483	Defining and targeting epigenetic plasticity-driven drug resistance and immune escape in melanoma	Moffitt UM Sylvester (formerly)	Keiran Smalley (MPI) James Harbour	$674,146
Lok B	NIH | NCI	U01CA274970	Precision Clinical Trial Recruitment to Promote Cancer Health Equity Across Florida	UM Sylvester Mayo Clinic Jacksonville	Olveen Carrasquillo (MPI) Janice Krieger (MPI)	$733,741
O'Dell W	FBRP | Bankhead Coley	21B12	Non-invasive radiomic biomarkers to predict treatment response for immunotherapy of lung cancer	Moffitt	Matthew Schabath	$285,327
Wang Y	NIH | NCI	U01CA286810	Assessing Benefits and Harms of Medical Cannabis and Cannabinoid Use in Breast Cancer Patients During and After Treatments	UM Sylvester	Jennifer Hu (PI)	$689,110
Zhang W Zheng G	NIH | NCI	R01CA290792	Proteolysis targeting chimera against nuclear receptor NR4A1 for melanoma therapy	Moffitt	Keiran Smalley (MPI) Emily Moser	$804,678
					UF Health Funding Total	**$4,626,194**

UM Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

During the reporting period, UM Sylvester researchers published a total of 1,930 peer-reviewed publications, of which 154 were collaborators at Moffitt, UF Health, and Mayo. Of these collaborative inter-institutional publications, 20% were with UF researchers, 81% were with Moffitt researchers, and 11% were with Mayo researchers. **Table 5** summarizes the publications between CY2022 and CY2024.

Table 5. Collaborative publications involving UM Sylvester faculty					
Year	**UM Sylvester Moffitt**	**UM Sylvester UF Health**	**UM Sylvester Mayo Clinic**	**UM Sylvester Moffitt UF Health Mayo Clinic**	**Total**
2022	51	6	2	1	**60**
2023	30	7	4	9	**50**
2024	29	9	2	4	**44**
Total	**110**	**22**	**8**	**14**	**154**

UM Sylvester collaborated with researchers from Moffitt and UF Health on several innovative peer-reviewed grant awards that formed within and outside of the FACCA pilot program. A summary of these awards as demonstrated by either an inflowing or outflowing subcontract is presented in **Table 6**. For example, UM Sylvester's Dr. Zelia Correa collaborates with Moffitt's Dr. Keiran Smally and UF Health's Dr. Jonathan Licht on an R01 NCI-funded research project focused on uncovering how mutant Gαq signaling and BAP1 loss drive liver metastasis in uveal melanoma by altering tumor cell states and interactions with the liver microenvironment, with the goal of identifying new therapeutic strategies targeting these mechanisms. Additionally, UM Sylvester's Dr. Tracy Crane collaborates with Moffitt's Dr. Damon Vidrine on a James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program-funded project aiming to develop a statewide mHealth (mobile health) infrastructure to support tobacco-related research in cancer care and testing its utility through three demonstration smoking cessation projects across Florida.

Table 6. UM Sylvester active collaborations on extramural research projects						
UM Sylvester PI	**Funding Source**	**Project Number**	**Project Title**	**Collaborating Institute(s)**	**Collaborating Investigator(s)**	**UM Sylvester Funding**
Burnstein, K	DOD	HT94252310389	Proprietary Arginine Vasopressin Receptor Type 1a (AVPR1a) Antagonists for Treatment of Lethal Prostate Cancer	Moffitt	Lynch, C	$267,071
Burnstein, K	NIH | NCI	U01CA244101	Defining Bone Ecosystem Effects on Metastatic Prostate Cancer Evolution and Treatment Response Using an Integrated Mathematical Modeling Approach	Moffitt	Lynch, C	$9,642
Carrasquillo, O	NIH | NCI	U01CA274970	Precision Clinical Trial Recruitment to Promote Cancer Health Equity Across Florida	UF Health	Krieger, J (MPI)	$130,862
Correa, Z	NIH | NCI	R01CA256193	Characterization and Targeting of the Epigenetic State Underlying Uveal Melanoma Liver Metastasis	Moffitt	Smalley, K	$102,134
Crane, T	FBRP | James and Esther King	23K01	Creation of an Infrastructure to Support Delivery of mHealth Interventions for Cancer Patients Throughout Florida	Moffitt	Vidrine, D	$57,694
Dhir, Aditi	Nat Pediatric CA Fdn	MCC20320	Blood-Based Biomarkers for Minimal Residual Detection in Pediatric Sarcomas	Moffitt	Metts, J	$0 (NCE)
Merchant, N	US Army | CDMRP	W81XWH2211021	Evaluating Obesity-Mediated Mechanisms of Pancreatic Carcinogenesis in Minority Populations	Moffitt	Permuth, J	$22,800
Pollack, A	PCORI	NCT03561220	A Prospective Comparative Study of Outcomes with Proton and Photon Radiation in Prostate Cancer (COMPPARE)	UF Health	Mendenhall, N	$10,767
Spiegel, J	FBRP | Bankhead Coley	23B07	A Clinical Trial of Pirtobrutinib and Brexucabtagene Autoleucel in Patients with Relapsed if Refractory Mantle Cell Lymphoma	Moffitt	Jain, M	$58,118
Zuchner, S Carrasquillo, O	NIH | OD	OT2OD037907	South-East Enrollment Center (SEEC)	UF Health	Liu, M	$1,643,441
Zuchner, S Carrasquillo, O	NIH | OD	OT2OD026551-S5	South-East Enrollment Center (SEEC)	UF Health	Liu, M	$203,583
					UM Sylvester Health Funding Total	**$2,506,112**

Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center in Florida

During the reporting period, investigators from Mayo Clinic in Florida authored a total of 1,048 peer-reviewed manuscripts, reflecting the depth and breadth of the Center's research enterprise. Of these, 114 publications were the result of collaborative efforts with researchers from Moffitt, UF Health, and UM Sylvester. Notably, 82% of these collaborations were with Moffitt, 29% with UM Sylvester, and 1% with UF Health. This robust collaborative engagement underscores Mayo Clinic's commitment to advancing cancer research through strategic partnerships across Florida's leading academic cancer centers. A detailed summary of these inter-institutional publications from CY2022 through CY2024 is provided in **Table 7**.

Table 7. Collaborative publications involving Mayo Clinic Florida faculty					
Year	**MCF Moffitt**	**MCF UF Health**	**MCF UM Sylvester**	**UM Sylvester Moffitt UF Health MCF**	**Total**
2022	24	0	2	1	**27**
2023	32	0	9	9	**50**
2024	24	1	8	4	**37**
Total	**80**	**1**	**19**	**14**	**114**

Mayo Clinic in Florida continues to demonstrate its leadership in advancing collaborative, high-impact cancer research across the state through strategic partnerships with other Florida Academic Cancer Center Alliance (FACCA) institutions that maybe seen in **Table 8**. Several innovative, peer-reviewed, and externally funded research projects have emerged during the reporting period, underscoring Mayo Clinic in Florida's commitment to fostering statewide collaborations that drive scientific discovery and promote cancer health equity. Among

these efforts, Mayo Clinic in Florida serves as a lead partner on an NCI-funded U01 project focused on precision clinical trial recruitment to advance cancer health equity, working alongside collaborators from UF Health and UM Sylvester. Additional partnerships include DOD funded research addressing chemotherapy-related cardiomyopathy in women, as well as the development of novel vaccines to prevent progression of triple-negative breast cancer. Mayo Clinic in Florida is also engaged in efforts to improve cancer literacy and screening awareness among incarcerated populations through a Radiation Oncology Institute-funded initiative with UF Health. Complementing these activities are NIH-funded collaborations targeting chemotherapy-related heart failure, glioblastoma progression, and cancer care for underserved populations across Florida.

Table 8. Mayo Clinic Florida active collaborations on extramural research projects

MCF PI	Funding Source	Project Number	Project Title	Collaborating Institute(s)	Collaborating Investigator(s)	MCF Annual Project DC
Advani, Pooja	DOD	W81XWH-22-1-0289	Characterization of TRPC6 to Predict and Prevent Chemotherapy-Related Cardiomyopathy and Heart Failure in Women	UF Health	K. A. Bruno	$410,175
Ruddy, Kathryn	DOD	W81XWH-15-1-0292/0293 (NCE)	Folate Receptor Alpha Vaccines for Preventing Progression of TNBC Following First Line Conventional Therapy	Sylvester	C. Calfa	$179,906
Oladeru, Oluwadamilola	Radiation Oncology Institute	ROI2020-9112 (NCE)	Improving Prison Health Equity through Cancer Literacy and Screening Awareness in Florida	UF Health	Y-R. Hong	$41,923
Norton, Nadine	NHLBI	R01HL169268-02	Individualized Medicine to Predict and Prevent Chemotherapy-Related Heart Failure	Moffitt	A. Muller	$366,206
Krieger, Janice	NCI	U01CA274970-04	Precision Clinical Trial Recruitment to Promote Cancer Health Equity Across Florida	Sylvester UF Health	O. Carrasquillo B. Lok	$88,592
Rosenfeld, Steven	NINDS	R01NS118513-05	Targeting Go and Grow in Glioblastoma	UF Health	C. A. Miller	$233,882
Odedina, Folakemi	DOD	W81XWH-22-1-0968-02 (NCE)	Establishment of an Inclusive Cancer Care Research Equity (iCCaRE) for Black Men Consortium	UF Health	K. C. Balaji	*$0
Mayo Clinic Florida Funding Total						**$1,320,684**

FACCA COLLABORATIVE MEETINGS

The four centers regularly collaborate through recurring meetings, conferences, and retreats, which facilitates ongoing and new partnerships among the research communities across the centers. This level of collaboration demonstrates state-wide progress in addressing the needs of Florida citizens and develops a destination for medical tourism for cancer patients.

Figure 6. Cancer physicians and researchers from Moffitt, UF Health, UM Sylvester, and Mayo Clinic in Florida gather at the 2024 FACCA Retreat, celebrating statewide collaboration and a shared commitment to advancing cancer research and care across Florida.

Since the last report, UM Sylvester hosted a FACCA retreat in March 2023 and UF Health hosted a retreat in April 2024 (**Fig. 6**). The FACCA retreat serves as a vital forum for fostering collaboration among Florida's cancer centers, bringing together researchers to share knowledge, spark new partnerships, and align efforts around innovative, high-impact cancer research. This annual event strengthens the statewide cancer research ecosystem, accelerates progress

toward shared scientific goals, and provides a forum to share best practices and ultimately impact the delivery of patient care. The next retreat will be hosted by Moffitt and is being planned for Fall of 2025. **Table 9** illustrates the active work among the centers to ensure opportunities are available to foster inter-institutional collaborations. In addition to the retreats and Director's meetings, the research administration teams from each center meet monthly to discuss ongoing and emergent items related to FACCA. Detailed retreat agendas are provided in ***Appendix C***.

Table 9. FACCA collaborative meetings and retreats

Retreat	Date	Location	Organizing Center
2022 Annual FACCA Retreat	January 18 – 19, 2022	Virtual	Moffitt
2023 Annual FACCA Retreat	March 27 – 28, 2023	Miami, FL	UM Sylvester
2024 Annual FACCA Retreat	April 1 – 2, 2024	Orlando, FL	UF Health
Director's Meetings			
Director's Meeting	March 27, 2023	Miami, FL	All Centers
Director's Meeting	September 30, 2023	Washington DC	All Centers
Director's Meeting	April 2, 2024	Orlando, FL	All Centers
Director's Meeting	October 19, 2024	Chicago, IL	All Centers

SUMMARY

The State of Florida, as well as each participating cancer center, continue to realize transformative benefits from the Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program. This critical investment has provided vital resources for reaching the program's overarching goal of achieving and maintaining four NCI designated centers, most notably the designation of UF Health in 2023 and the addition of Mayo Clinic Florida in 2024. By establishing a robust, statewide network of cancer innovation hubs, the program amplifies each center's strengths to drive breakthrough discovers, expand access to cutting-edge therapies, and foster high-impact scientific collaboration. Through sustained support, Florida is poised to lead the nation in cancer research, prevention, and care, ultimately leading to better cancer care and improved outcomes for patients throughout Florida. With annual reporting moving forward, FACCA will continue to demonstrate impact and success, bringing the best and brightest to Florida to lead the nation in cancer research, prevention, and translation and improve the health of all residents across the state.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A | MORTALITY RATES

NOTE: Each Center's mortality rates intentionally begin on a new page

Moffitt Cancer Center

Moffitt's geographic region ("catchment area") is defined as 23 contiguous counties in west and central Florida, which encompasses the county of origin for more than 90% of patients seen and treated at Moffitt and represents more than 11 million Floridians. These counties include: Brevard, Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Marion, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Polk, Pinellas, Sarasota, Seminole, and Sumter. The requested age-adjusted mortality rates for the cancers listed within the statute (lung, pancreatic, sarcoma, melanoma, leukemia and myelodysplastic syndromes, brain, and breast) is described in the tables below.

Age-adjusted mortality rates by cancer type and geographic region (including overall rates) per 100,000 people. The dash indicates where we do not have data available or it is not estimable.

Cancer Type	Catchment Area	Florida	US
Overall	200.0	201.1	217.2
Brain	5.3	-	-
Breast	13.8	13.9	15.6
Leukemia / MDS	7.7	7.8	8.6
Lung & Bronchus	50.3	48.7	54.0
Melanoma	3.3	3.0	3.2
Pancreas	13.8	14.2	15.5
Sarcoma	2.4	-	-

Age-adjusted mortality rates by cancer type and age group per 100,000 people are presented below. The values below reflect the mortality rates in our 23 county catchment area.

	Age Groups													
Cancer	**20-24**	**25-29**	**30-34**	**35-39**	**40-44**	**45-49**	**50-54**	**55-59**	**60-64**	**65-69**	**70-74**	**75-79**	**80-84**	**85+**
Brain	0.5	0.8	1.4	1.3	2.2	3.8	5.2	7.5	10.2	13.9	13.9	17.0	18.6	17.9
Breast	0.0	0.6	1.6	4.0	6.2	9.4	14.5	19.7	26.1	28.7	33.4	37.9	49.0	87.5
Leukemia	0.9	0.6	1.0	1.5	1.7	2.2	3.8	5.0	9.0	14.6	20.6	34.1	46.3	74.0
Lung	0.0	0.3	0.4	1.4	3.7	11.2	29.1	63.1	101.3	134.9	179.4	231.6	266.6	285.8
Melanoma	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.8	1.6	1.7	2.9	3.5	4.3	6.4	7.0	12.2	18.2	22.3
Pancreas	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.7	1.3	3.9	9.0	16.5	23.6	34.5	46.7	61.5	77.4	90.6
Sarcoma	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.4	1.9	2.8	3.7	3.8	5.7	7.6	10.2	15.0

UF Health Cancer Center

This report includes patients treated at the UF Health Cancer Center, from the year 2020 up to 6/30/2024, with the following cancers: Brain, Leukemia, Lung, Melanoma, Myelodysplastic Syndromes, Pancreatic, Sarcoma Bone, and Sarcoma Soft Tissue.

A cancer mortality rate is the number of deaths, with cancer as the underlying cause of death, occurring in a specified population during a year. Cancer mortality is usually expressed as the number of deaths due to cancer per 100,000 population. That is, Mortality Rate = (Cancer Death Cases/Reference Population) × 100,000. (Ref: https://seer.cancer.gov/statistics/types/mortality.html#)

Population information was obtained from 5-year American Community Survey APIs. Note that census data for 2024 is not available yet, thus 2023 population were used for 2024.

Age Adjusted Mortality Rate Calculation: We take the crude rate of mortality incidence of each age group and multiply it by the proportion of the US 2000 Standard Population in that age group. We then sum up these values to get the age-adjusted rate. The US 2000 Standard Populations were used to calculate the Age-Adjusted Mortality. Florida Age Adjusted Mortality Rates were calculated using Florida Cancer Data System (FCDS) data.

Cancer Mortality by Year and Cancer Site (Using UFHCC Catchment Area as Reference Population)

The UF Health Cancer Center's age-adjusted cancer mortality rate in each year/cancer site represents as death cases per 100,000 people in the catchment area population. This rate is standardized to the US 2000 population to allow fair comparisons across different age groups.

The UF Health Cancer Center's age-adjusted cancer diagnosis rate in each year/cancer site represents as new diagnosis cases per 100,000 people in the catchment area population. This rate is standardized to the US 2000 population to allow fair comparisons across different age groups.

Cancer Site	Year	Diagnosed Cases	UFHCC: Age Adjusted Diagnosis Rate	Cancer Related Death Cases	Population at Risk	UFHCC: Age Adjusted Mortality Rate
Brain	2020	278	11.277	46	4,834,675	1.641
Brain	2021	262	10.569	43	4,909,139	1.436
Brain	2022	275	10.718	35	4,992,938	1.259
Brain	2023	263	10.323	18	5,081,737	0.605
Brain	2024	167	6.751	3	5,081,737	0.117
Leukemia	2020	277	10.684	24	4,834,675	0.76
Leukemia	2021	310	11.536	29	4,909,139	0.984
Leukemia	2022	291	10.493	19	4,992,938	0.59
Leukemia	2023	299	10.582	37	5,081,737	1.201
Leukemia	2024	201	7.306	7	5,081,737	0.23
Lung	2020	325	9.894	86	4,834,675	2.588
Lung	2021	306	9.404	81	4,909,139	2.163
Lung	2022	312	9.381	71	4,992,938	1.902
Lung	2023	332	10.046	92	5,081,737	2.311
Lung	2024	246	6.749	31	5,081,737	0.761
Melanoma	2020	358	12.945	13	4,834,675	0.417
Melanoma	2021	356	12.31	9	4,909,139	0.293
Melanoma	2022	384	13.119	13	4,992,938	0.371
Melanoma	2023	340	11.222	13	5,081,737	0.357
Melanoma	2024	260	8.147	7	5,081,737	0.184
Myelodysplastic Syndromes	2020	146	4.741	4	4,834,675	0.129
Myelodysplastic Syndromes	2021	152	4.831	3	4,909,139	0.086
Myelodysplastic Syndromes	2022	149	4.302	5	4,992,938	0.12
Myelodysplastic Syndromes	2023	153	4.454	2	5,081,737	0.047

Cancer Site	Year	Diagnosed Cases	UFHCC: Age Adjusted Diagnosis Rate	Cancer Related Death Cases	Population at Risk	UFHCC: Age Adjusted Mortality Rate
Pancreatic	2020	176	5.516	21	4,834,675	0.556
Pancreatic	2021	195	5.863	21	4,909,139	0.591
Pancreatic	2022	214	6.261	28	4,992,938	0.76
Pancreatic	2023	218	6.14	18	5,081,737	0.477
Pancreatic	2024	135	3.511	5	5,081,737	0.166
Sarcoma Bone	2020	197	7.343	3	4,834,675	0.113
Sarcoma Bone	2021	241	8.964	6	4,909,139	0.223
Sarcoma Bone	2022	215	7.945	6	4,992,938	0.207
Sarcoma Bone	2023	219	7.961	3	5,081,737	0.111
Sarcoma Bone	2024	119	4.109	2	5,081,737	0.068
Sarcoma Soft Tissue	2020	285	10.886	13	4,834,675	0.467
Sarcoma Soft Tissue	2021	283	10.233	10	4,909,139	0.378
Sarcoma Soft Tissue	2022	291	10.274	13	4,992,938	0.318
Sarcoma Soft Tissue	2023	283	9.782	8	5,081,737	0.257
Sarcoma Soft Tissue	2024	173	5.829	3	5,081,737	0.095

Cancer Mortality by Year and Cancer Site at UFHCC (Using Whole Florida as Reference Population)

The UF Health Cancer Center's age-adjusted cancer mortality rate in each year/cancer site represents as death cases per 100,000 Florida residents. This rate is standardized for the US 2000 population to allow fair comparisons across different age groups.

Cancer Site	Year	Diagnosed Cases	Cancer Related Death Cases	Population at Risk	UFHCC: Age Adjusted Mortality Rate	Florida: Age Adjusted Mortality Rate
Brain	2020	278	46	21,216,924	0.176	3.98
Brain	2021	262	43	21,339,762	0.159	2.4
Brain	2022	275	35	21,634,529	0.136	
Brain	2023	263	18	21,928,881	0.067	
Brain	2024	167	3	21,928,881	0.013	
Leukemia	2020	277	24	21,216,924	0.085	
Leukemia	2021	310	29	21,339,762	0.109	
Leukemia	2022	291	19	21,634,529	0.068	
Leukemia	2023	299	37	21,928,881	0.135	
Leukemia	2024	201	7	21,928,881	0.026	
Lung	2020	325	86	21,216,924	0.288	30.06
Lung	2021	306	81	21,339,762	0.25	17.33
Lung	2022	312	71	21,634,529	0.217	
Lung	2023	332	92	21,928,881	0.268	
Lung	2024	246	31	21,928,881	0.091	
Melanoma	2020	358	13	21,216,924	0.045	
Melanoma	2021	356	9	21,339,762	0.032	
Melanoma	2022	384	13	21,634,529	0.042	
Melanoma	2023	340	13	21,928,881	0.041	
Melanoma	2024	260	7	21,928,881	0.022	
Myelodysplastic Syndromes	2020	146	4	21,216,924	0.014	
Myelodysplastic Syndromes	2021	152	3	21,339,762	0.009	
Myelodysplastic Syndromes	2022	149	5	21,634,529	0.014	
Myelodysplastic Syndromes	2023	153	2	21,928,881	0.006	

Cancer Site	Year	Diagnosed Cases	Cancer Related Death Cases	Population at Risk	UFHCC: Age Adjusted Mortality Rate	Florida: Age Adjusted Mortality Rate
Pancreatic	2020	176	21	21,216,924	0.064	
Pancreatic	2021	195	21	21,339,762	0.068	
Pancreatic	2022	214	28	21,634,529	0.085	
Pancreatic	2023	218	18	21,928,881	0.054	
Pancreatic	2024	135	5	21,928,881	0.017	
Sarcoma Bone	2020	197	3	21,216,924	0.012	
Sarcoma Bone	2021	241	6	21,339,762	0.025	
Sarcoma Bone	2022	215	6	21,634,529	0.022	
Sarcoma Bone	2023	219	3	21,928,881	0.014	
Sarcoma Bone	2024	119	2	21,928,881	0.007	
Sarcoma Soft Tissue	2020	285	13	21,216,924	0.051	
Sarcoma Soft Tissue	2021	283	10	21,339,762	0.04	
Sarcoma Soft Tissue	2022	291	13	21,634,529	0.038	
Sarcoma Soft Tissue	2023	283	8	21,928,881	0.028	
Sarcoma Soft Tissue	2024	173	3	21,928,881	0.011	

UM Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

UM Sylvester's geographic region ("catchment area") is defined as 4 contiguous counties in South Florida, which encompasses the county of origin for 85% of patients seen and treated at UM Sylvester and represents more than 6.5 million Floridians. These counties include: Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Monroe. The requested age-adjusted mortality rates for the cancers listed within the statute (lung, pancreatic, sarcoma, melanoma, leukemia and myelodysplastic syndromes, brain, and breast) are described in the tables below.

Cancer Type	Catchment Area	Florida	US
All Cancers	183.20	201.1	217.2
Brain	5.20	---	---
Breast	13.42	13.9	15.6
Leukemia / MDS	7.70	7.8	8.6
Lung & Bronchus	36.29	48.7	54.0
Melanoma	2.15	3.0	3.2
Pancreas	14.71	14.2	15.5
Sarcoma	1.92	---	---

Age-adjusted mortality rates by cancer type and geographic region (including overall rates) per 100,000 people. The dash indicates where we do not have data available or it is not estimable.

	Age Groups													
Cancer	**20-24**	**25-29**	**30-34**	**35-39**	**40-44**	**45-49**	**50-54**	**55-59**	**60-64**	**65-69**	**70-74**	**75-79**	**80-84**	**85+**
Brain	0.45	0.38	0.96	1.19	2.08	3.33	4.72	6.23	9.47	13.33	16.17	16.97	20.23	20.85
Breast	0.06	0.48	1.58	4.15	5.89	8.29	14.11	18.91	24.18	28.50	33.14	39.90	50.50	81.19
Leukemia	0.83	1.15	1.24	0.89	1.98	2.72	3.27	6.23	6.37	14.19	21.99	36.87	50.11	65.30
Lung & Bronchus	0.17	0.14	0.53	1.14	2.57	6.04	16.51	37.27	66.17	95.01	135.76	181.97	202.52	230.92
Melanoma	0.00	0.19	0.34	0.49	0.84	1.03	1.77	1.72	3.16	3.95	5.90	8.44	10.70	16.35
Pancreas	0.00	0.10	0.43	0.79	2.28	3.23	8.80	15.94	23.27	37.76	49.82	67.96	85.60	97.20
Sarcoma	1.06	0.48	0.91	0.89	0.79	0.75	1.50	2.18	2.35	3.76	4.95	4.83	8.35	10.25

Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center in Florida

Using Mayo Clinic in Florida's unique patients for 2023, associated with the hierarchical grouping of like conditions, a mortality rate was determined. Data used for the calculation was derived from census.gov for Florida and US populations. Patients must reside in a zip code within Florida to be included in the calculation.

Adjusted rate is determined by breaking death counts into age groups: 0-4, 5-9, 10-15……, 80-84, 85+ (count/population) and determining the crude rate for each age group. Summing the normalized rate for each age group yields the overall age adjusted mortality rate.

Overall Age Adjusted Rate (see methodology above)

Cancer Type	Rate per 100k	Total Incidence	Trend (2024)
Brain/CNS	0.4581	124	Decreasing
Breast	0.218	56	Decreasing
Leukemia	0.235	63	Decreasing
Lung and Thoracic	0.568	151	Decreasing
Melanoma	0.065	17	Decreasing
Pancreatic Cancer	0.289	77	Decreasing
Sarcoma and Skeletal	0.429	113	Decreasing

Overall Crude Rate (Number of Deaths / Florida Population)

Cancer Type	Rate per 100k	Total Incidence	Trend (2024)
Brain/CNS	5.483	124	Decreasing
Breast	2.476	56	Decreasing
Leukemia	2.785	63	Decreasing
Lung and Thoracic	6.676	151	Decreasing
Melanoma	0.752	17	Decreasing
Pancreatic Cancer	3.404	77	Decreasing
Sarcoma and Skeletal	4.996	113	Decreasing

>= 65 Age Adjusted Rate

Cancer Type	Rate per 100k	Total Incidence	Trend (2024)
Brain/CNS	1.48	73	Decreasing
Breast	0.672	33	Decreasing
Leukemia	0.944	47	Decreasing
Lung and Thoracic	2.061	103	Decreasing
Melanoma	0.239	12	Decreasing
Pancreatic Cancer	1.088	54	Decreasing
Sarcoma and Skeletal	1.499	74	Decreasing

>= 65 Crude Rate

Cancer Type	Rate per 100k	Total Incidence	Trend (2024)
Brain/CNS	1.485	73	Decreasing
Breast	0.671	33	Decreasing
Leukemia	0.956	47	Decreasing
Lung and Thoracic	2.095	103	Decreasing
Melanoma	0.244	12	Stable
Pancreatic Cancer	1.098	54	Decreasing
Sarcoma and Skeletal	1.505	74	Decreasing

< 65 Age Adjusted Rate

Cancer Type	Rate per 100k	Total Incidence	Trend (2024)
Brain/CNS	0.266	51	Decreasing
Breast	0.12	23	Decreasing
Leukemia	0.083	16	Increasing
Lung and Thoracic	0.247	48	Decreasing
Melanoma	0.027	5	Decreasing
Pancreatic Cancer	0.118	23	Decreasing
Sarcoma and Skeletal	0.199	39	Decreasing

< 65 Crude Rate

Cancer Type	Rate per 100k	Total Incidence	Trend (2024)
Brain/CNS	0.288	51	Decreasing
Breast	0.130	23	Decreasing
Leukemia	0.090	16	Increasing
Lung and Thoracic	0.271	48	Increasing
Melanoma	0.028	5	Increasing
Pancreatic Cancer	0.130	23	Decreasing
Sarcoma and Skeletal	0.220	39	Decreasing

APPENDIX B | FACCA Pilot Program Return on Investment by Project

Award Number Project Period	Principle Investigators	Institutions	Amount	Project Title
FACCA-2018-01 10/1/18 – 8/31/20	Pierce, C Jobin, C Abreu, M	Moffitt UF Health UM Sylvester	$300,000	Role of intestinal microbiota in lung cancer therapy
Newsome R, et al. (2022); Interaction of Bacterial Genera Associated with Therapeutic Response to Immune Checkpoint PD-1 Blockade in a United States Cohort. *Genome Med*; 14(1); PMID: 35346337 NIH/NCI R01CA292532 (PI: Jobin) *"Role of Bacterial-Derived Small Molecules in Immunotherapy"* (2025-2030); $2,639,220 Application (Inventor: Jobin) "*Bacterial Compositions for Cancer Treatment"*				
FACCA-2018-02 10/1/18 – 8/31/20	Vadaparampil, S Wilkie, D Kobetz, E	Moffitt UF Health UM Sylvester	$300,000	FACCA disparities Think Tank
Dyal, BW. et al. (2022); Developing the Florida Academic Cancer Center Alliance Health Disparities Common Measure: The Florida Health and Ancestry Survey. *Cancer Control*; PMID: 35758601 Cooks, EJ. et. al. (2022); What did the pandemic teach us about effective health communication? Unpacking the COVID-19 infodemic. *BMC Public Health*; PMID: 36514047 Koenig, MR. et al. (2023); Feasibility of mail-based biospecimen collection in an online perception cohort study. *Front Reprod Health;* PMID: 36699143 Dyal, BW; et al. (2024); Perceptions of Palliative Care: Demographics and Health Status Among the General Population in Florida and the United States. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*; PMID: 37379569; PMCID: PMC10783876 Baeker Bispo, JA. et al. (2024); Does Neighborhood Social Cohesion Influence Participation in Routine Cancer Screening? Findings from a Presentative Sample of Adults in South Florida. *Fam Community Health*; PMID: 38372330 Herbach, E; et al. (2024); Everyday Discrimination and Cancer Screening: A Cross-Sectional Analysis; *Preventive Oncology & Epidemiology*; https://doi.org/10.1080/28322134.2024.2399931 NIH/NCI U01CA274970 (MPIs: Krieger/Carrasquillo) *"Precision Clinical Trial Recruitment to Promote Cancer Health Equity Across Florida"* (2022-2027); $3,474,465				
FACCA-2019-01 7/1/19 – 6/30/20	Davila, M Schatz, J	Moffitt UM Sylvester	$100,000	Determinants of response to CAR-T cellular immunotherapy in aggressive B cell lymphomas
Faramand R, et al. (2020); Tumor Microenvironment Composition and Severe Cytokine Release Syndrome (CRS) Influence Toxicity in Patients with Large B-Cell Lymphoma Treated with Axicabtagene Ciloleucel. *Clin Cancer Res*; PMID: 32669372; PMCID: PMC7501265. Jain et al. (2022); Whole-genome sequencing reveals complex genomic features underlying anti-CD19 CAR T-cell treatment failures in lymphoma. *Blood*; PMID: 35476848 Faramand R, et al. (2024); Baseline Serum Inflammatory Proteins Predict Poor CAR T Outcomes in Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma. *Blood*; PMID: 38194367; PMCID: PMC10905320 DoD (PI: Schatz) *"The Role of Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma Genoma Complexity in Shaping Immune Response to Anti-CD 19 Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-Cell Therapies"* (2023-2026; $1,534,998				
FACCA-2019-02 7/1/19 – 6/30/20	Kladde, M Ayad, N	UF Health UM Sylvester	$100,000	Epigenetic basis of glioblastoma chemoresistance
Knight, P. et. al. (2021); Methylscraper: An R/Shiny App for Joint Visualization of DNA Methylation and Nucleosome Occupancy in Single-Molecule and Single-Cell Data; *Bioinformatics*; PMID: 34125875 Zhou, M. et al. (2024); Single-Molecular Long-Read Methylation Profiling Reveals Regional DNA Methylation Regulated by Elongator Complex Subunit 2 in *Arabidopsis* roots Experiencing Spaceflight. *Biol. Direct*; PMID: 38689301 NIH/NIGMS RM1GM139690 (MPIs: Moldawer/Efron/Kladde/Mathews) *"Dysfunctional Myelopoiesis and Myeloid-Derived Suppressor Cells in Sepsis Pathobiolog"* (2022-2026); $8,282,353 DoD/USAMRA HT94252410275 (PI: Clanton) *"Accessible Epigenetic Biomarkers for 'Climate Readiness': From Mouse to Human"* (2024-2027); $1,720,536 Application (Inventor: Kladde) *"Methods and Kits for Targeted Cleavage and Enrichment of Nucleic Acids for High-Throughput Analyses of User-Defined Genomic Regions"*				

Award Number Project Period	Principle Investigators	Institutions	Amount	Project Title
FACCA-2019-03 7/1/19 – 6/30/20	Lele, T Xu, M	UF Health UM Sylvester	$100,000	Nuclear envelope defect and generation of micronuclei in ovarian cancer development and immune therapy
Smith, ER, et. al. (2021); Nuclear Lamin A/C Expression is a Key Determinant of Paclitaxel Sensitivity. *Mol Cell Biol.* 2021; PMID: 33972393 Smith, ER, et al. (2021); Breaking malignant nuclei as a non-mitotic mechanism of taxol/paclitaxel. *J Cancer Biol;* PMID: 35048083 Smith, ER, et. al. (2022); Rationale for Combination of Paclitaxel and CDK4/6 Inhibitor in Ovarian Cancer Therapy - Non-mitotic Mechanisms of Paclitaxel. *Front Oncol*; PMID: 36185294 Smith, ER, et. al. (2022); Paclitaxel Resistance Related to Nuclear Envelope Structural Sturdiness. *Drug Resist Updat*; PMID: 36368286 Smith, ER, et. al. (2024); Reassessing Specificity/Selectivity of Taxane-Based Chemotherapy. *Cancer Insight*. doi.org/10.58567/ci03010002 Xu, AP, et al. (2023); Cell Death in Cancer Chemotherapy Using Taxanes. *Front. Pharmacol*; doi: 10.3389/fphar.2023.1338633 Xu, AP, et. al. (2024); Cancer Nuclear Envelope Rupture and Repair in Taxane Resistance. *Medical Review; doi.org/10.1515/mr-2024-0019* NIH/NCI R01CA230916-03S1 (MPIs: Xu) *"Ovarian Epithelial Cancer Progenitor Cell Population"* (2020-2021); $157,823				
FACCA-2019-04 7/1/19 – 6/30/20	Smalley, K Wang, G	Moffitt UM Sylvester	$100,000	Epigenetically reversing BRAF inhibitor resistance in melanoma by vitamin C
Gan L, et. al. (2019) Vitamin C Inhibits Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Metastasis by Affecting the Expression of YAP1 and Synaptopodin 2. *Nutrients*; PMID: 31817810 US Army/CDMRP (PI: Wang) *"Expanding the Therapeutic Window of PI3K Inhibitors to Treat Triple Negative Breast Cancer"* (2022-2024); $1,531,941				
FACCA-2022-01 9/15/22 – 6/30/23	Coghill, A Goel, N	Moffitt UM Sylvester	$100,000	Establishing a Multi-Site HIV Oncology Research Program in Florida
ROI Pending				
FACCA-2022-02 9/15/22 – 6/30/23	Islam, J Staras, S Schlumbrecht, M	Moffitt UF Health UM Sylvester	$150,000	Trends and Disparities in Cervical Cancer Screening Uptake and Follow-Up Among Women in Florida
ROI Pending				
FACCA-2022-03 9/15/22 – 6/30/23	Jain, M Spiegel, J	Moffitt UM Sylvester	$100,000	Target Antigen Density and T Cell Exhaustion Impact Outcomes After CAR19 and Post-CAR Relapse
V Foundation DEC2024-009 (PI: Spiegel) *"Multi-Modality Multi-Targeted Immunotherapy for Treatment of Aggressive Large B-Cell Lymphomas"* (2024 - 2026); $200,000				

APPENDIX C | FACCA RETREAT AGENDAS

Retreat agendas for each of the three retreats are cataloged in the following pages.

Florida Academic Cancer Center Alliance Retreat
January 18 - 19, 2022

Link to Gather Town FACCA Retreat: https://gather.town/app/ZvVd6CjcraQfONaS/FACCA

Day 1: Tuesday, January 18: 12:00 pm – 5:30 pm

12:00 – 12:05 **Moffitt Center Director Welcome** ***(Location: Zoom/Webinar)***

John C. Cleveland, PhD (MCC)

12:05 – 12:30 **Opening Remarks – State Update**

John Cleveland, PhD (MCC)
Jonathan Licht, MD (UF)
Stephen Nimer, MD (SCCC)

12:30 – 1:00 **Session 1: Cancer & Aging** ***(Location: Zoom/Webinar)***

Moderator: Justin Taylor, MD (SCCC)

Presentation: Cancer & Aging from a Population Science Perspective
Tracy Crane, PhD (SCCC)

Presentation: Clonal Hematopoiesis Research at Moffitt Cancer Center: From Bedside to Big Data and Back
Nancy Gillis, PharmD, PhD (MCC)

Presentation: Modeling clonal hematopoiesis in solid tumors
Olga Guryanova, MD, PhD (UF)

1:00 – 1:30 **Concurrent Breakout Sessions** ***(Location: Gather Town Breakout Rooms)***

Breakout Room A: Cancer & Aging from a Population Science Perspective
Tracy Crane, PhD (SCCC)

Breakout Room B: Mechanisms and implications of clonal hematopoiesis
Olga Guryanova, MD, PhD (UF)
Nancy Gillis, PharmD, PhD (MCC)

1:30 – 2:00 **Session 2: Cancer Prevention, Care Delivery & Survivorship** ***(Zoom/Webinar)***

Moderator: Jenny Vidrine, PhD (MCC)

Presentation: mHealth and community-based cancer prevention: Reaching and treating smokers
Damon Vidrine, DrPH (MCC)

Presentation: Psychosocial Impact of Cancer on Patients and Families: Patient and Family Focused Research and Care
Youngmee Kim, PhD (SCCC)

Presentation: Using Computational Modeling to Enhance Cancer Care Delivery
Wesley Bolch, PhD (UF)

2:00 – 2:30 **Concurrent Breakout Sessions** ***(Location: Gather Town Breakout Rooms)***

Breakout Room A: mHealth Approaches to Community-based Cancer Prevention
Damon Vidrine, PhD (MCC)

Breakout Room B: Psychosocial Impact of Cancer on Patients and Families
Youngmee Kim, PhD (SCCC)

Breakout Room C: Using Computational Modeling to Enhance Cancer Care Delivery
Wesley Bolch, PhD (UF)

2:30 – 3:30 **Updates from FACCA-funded Projects** ***(Location: Zoom/Webinar)***

Florida Pancreas Collaborative Cycle 2015 & 2017 Renewal)
Jenny Permuth, PhD (MCC)
Defining and targeting the aberrant chromatin function in uveal melanoma (Cycle 2016)
Jonathan D. Licht, MD (UF)
Richard Bennett, PhD (UF)
Developing provider-focused LGBT communication skills for oncologists (Cycle 2017)
Matthew Schabath, PhD (MCC)

3:30 – 4:00 **Session 3: Metabolism** ***(Location: Zoom/Webinar)***

Moderator: Scott Welford, PhD (SCCC)

Presentation: Adipokine-driven metabolic rewiring in clear cell Renal Cell Carcinoma
Scott Welford, PHD (SCCC)
Presentation: Diet, the human microbiome, and cancer risk: setting the stage for innovative studies to address cancer disparities
Doratha Byrd, PhD, MPH (MCC)
Presentation: Metabolomics, lipidomics and AI in cancer diagnostics
Timothy Garrett, PhD (UF)

4:00 – 4:30 **Breakout Session** ***(Location: Gather Town Breakout Room D via Zoom Link)***

Breakout Room D: Identifying & overcoming barriers to cancer metabolism research in Florida
Scott Welford, PHD (SCCC)
Doratha Byrd, PhD, MPH (MCC)
Timothy Garrett, PhD (UF)

4:30 – 5:30 **Concurrent Poster & Networking Sessions** ***(Location: Gather Town)***

Poster Session: Please proceed to the Poster Room to view poster presentations. Each Center will have a poster covering unique Shared Resources.

Networking: Feel free to use the designated seating areas in the main lobby, any areas in the Keynote Hall* or any of the three breakout rooms if you want to have private conversations.

*Reminder: Conversations in the Keynote Room can be heard by anyone "standing" close together, just like in a live setting. Therefore, multiple groups can use the Keynote Room for networking.

Day 2 Agenda Continued Next Page

Day 2: Wednesday, January 19: 8:30 am – 11:30 am

8:30 – 9:00 **Session 4: Tumor Immunology and Immunotherapy** ***(Zoom/Webinar)***

Moderator: Elias Sayour, MD, PhD (UF)

Presentation: Overcoming Immunotherapeutic Obstacles for Effective Antitumor Response.
Jianping Huang, MD, PhD (UF)

Presentation: Mechanisms for lymphoma resistance to CAR T cell therapy
Marco Davila, MD, PhD (Moffitt)

Presentation: Promoting an anti-tumoral myelopoiesis
Paolo Serafini, PhD (SCCC)

9:00 – 9:30 **Concurrent Breakout Sessions** ***(Location: Gather Town Breakout Rooms)***

Breakout Room A: Cancer Immunotherapy
Jianping Huang, MD, PhD (UF)
Marco Davila, MD, PhD (Moffitt)

Breakout Room B: Cancer Immunology and Immunoregulation
Paolo Serafini, PhD (SCCC)

9:30 – 10:00 **Session 5: Virus and Cancer (HPV & HIV)** ***(Location: Zoom/Webinar)***

Moderator: Anna Coghill, PhD

Presentation: The Impact of Comorbid HIV on Breast Cancer Treatment and Outcomes
Dan O'Neil, MD, MPH (SCCC)

Presentation: Adapting a human papillomavirus vaccine education resource for Spanish speaking young adult men who have sex with men
Shannon Christy, PhD (MCC)

Presentation: Insights into DNA repair, epigenetic silencing, and the inflammasome through Epstein-Barr virus
Sumita Bhaduri-McIntosh, MD, PhD (UF)

10:00 – 10:30 **Concurrent Breakout Sessions** ***(Location: Gather Town Breakout Rooms)***

Breakout Room A: HIV and Cancer Infrastructure across FACCA
Anna Coghill, PhD (MCC)

Breakout Room B: Grant Opportunities for HPV-related cancer prevention
Shannon Christy, PhD (MCC)

Breakout Room C: Identifying researchers interested in Herpes virus work across FACCA
Zsolt Toth, PhD (UF)
Zhe Ma, PhD (UF)
Rolf Renne, PhD (UF)
Michael McIntosh,PhD (UF)

10:30 – 11:15 **Networking Session** ***(Location: Gather Town)***

Please feel free to use the designated seating areas in the entrance hall, any areas in the Keynote Hall or any of the three breakout rooms.

11:15 – 11:30 **Closing Remarks** ***(Location: Zoom/Webinar)***

Stephen Nimer, MD [SCCC]
John Wingard, MD (UF)
John Cleveland, PhD [Moffitt]

Florida Academic Cancer Center Alliance

Moffitt Cancer Center
Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of Florida Health Cancer Center

2023 Annual Retreat

DAY 1: Monday, March 27, 2023

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM **Registration** **Foyer Outside Grand Doral Ballroom**

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM **Director's Welcome & Lunch** **Grand Doral Ballroom**

Stephen Nimer, MD, Director, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
John Cleveland, PhD, Director, Moffitt Cancer Center
Jonathan Licht, MD, Director, UF Health Cancer Center

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM **Plenary Session – Population Science** **Grand Doral Ballroom**

Moderator: Sabita Roy, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

Heather Jim, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center
Energize: Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy for Cancer-Related Fatigue

Tracy E. Crane, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
Integrating patient generated health data in cancer care to improve outcomes

Ramzi G. Salloum, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center
Sustainability and Health Equity in Implementing Tobacco Treatment Programs in Cancer Care

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM **BREAK**

2:45 PM – 4:00 PM **Concurrent Sessions**
These sessions will each have a series of brief presentations focused on a theme.

Session 1A: Population Science **Magnolia**

Moderator: Luisel Ricks-Santi, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center

Matthew Schlumbrecht, MD, MPH, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
New perspectives on disparities in women with endometrial cancer

Janice Krieger, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center
Communication, community, and co-design: A precision message intervention delivered by virtual health assistants to increase clinical trials referrals.

Vani N. Simmons, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center
Smoking Cessation among Spanish-Speaking Adults

Heather Jim, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center
Research Updates from Population Science at Moffitt

Session 1B: Tumor Microenvironment **Acacia 2**

Moderator: Weizhou Zhang, MD, UF Health Cancer Center

Zhipeng Meng, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
Roles of Mechanotransduction and Hippo Signaling in Tissue Growth Control and Carcinogenesis

Christian Jobin, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center
Colorectal tumors display evidence of bacterial-mediated mutations

Thordur Oskarsson, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center
Stress-induced metastatic niches in breast cancer

Sessions 1C and 1D on next page

Session 1C: Cancer Epigenetics & Tumor Biology — **Acacia 3**

Moderator: Rolf Renne, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center

Mingyi Xie, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center
Small non-coding RNA regulation in Cancer

Eric Lau, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center
The trouble with testosterone: a sugary story about sex and disparate melanoma invasiveness

Lluis Morey, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
Methylation of histone H3 lysine 36 is a barrier for therapeutic interventions of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma

Session 1D: Precision Oncology and Immunotherapy — **Jacaranda**

Moderator: Shanta Dhar, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

John A. Ligon, MD, UF Health Cancer Center
Overcoming metastatic spread of osteosarcoma with RNA-loaded nanoparticles

Anna Lasorella, MD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
Multi-omics integration for precision cancer medicine

Andriy Marusyk, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center
Impact of stromal sheltering on therapy responses

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM **Breakout Sessions**
These sessions allow discussion and collaboration with the presenters from the concurrent sessions and colleagues from other FACCA institutions.

Session 1A: Population Science — **Magnolia**

Moderators: Matthew Schlumbrecht (SCCC), Janice Krieger (UFHCC), Vani Simmons (MCC), Heather Jim (MCC)

Session 1B: Tumor Microenvironment — **Acacia 2**

Moderators: Zhipeng Meng, PhD (SCCC), Thordur Oskarsson, PhD (MCC)

Session 1C: Cancer Epigenetics & Tumor Biology — **Acacia 3**

Moderators: Mingyi Xie, PhD (UFHCC), Eric Lau, PhD (MCC)

Session 1D: Precision Oncology and Immunotherapy — **Jacaranda**

Moderators: John A. Ligon, MD (UFHCC) Anna Lasorella, MD (SCCC), Andriy Marusyk, PhD(MCC)

5:00 PM – 5:15 PM **Shared Resources Presentations** — **Grand Doral Ballroom**

Edward Seijo, Moffitt Cancer Center
Moffitt Cancer Center Shared Resources: Snapshot of Cell Therapies Core & Chemical Biology Core

Steven Madore, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center
UFHCC Shared Resources

George S. Grills, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
Sylvester Shared Resources

5:15 PM – 6:15 PM **Poster Session & Reception** — **Acacia 1 & Palm Court**

6:15 PM – 7:45 PM **Dinner** — **Grand Doral Ballroom**

DAY 2: Tuesday, March 28, 2023

7:45 AM – 8:15 AM **Breakfast** **Grand Doral Ballroom**

8:15 AM – 9:45 AM **Plenary Session – Tumor Microenvironment** **Grand Doral Ballroom**

Moderator: Alejandro Villarino, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

Zhijian Qian, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center
Molecular regulation of leukemia stems cells in AML.

Jashodeep Datta, MD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
Deconstructing Cancer Cell-Neutrophil Circuitry that Sustains Immunosuppressive Networks in Pancreatic Cancer

Brian Ruffell, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center
Therapeutic targeting of tumor dendritic cells

9:45 AM – 10:00 AM **BREAK**

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM **Concurrent Sessions**
These sessions will each have brief presentations focused on a theme.

Session 2A: Population Science **Magnolia**

Moderator: David Lombard, MD, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

Youngmee Kim, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
My Health, Our Health: Interpersonal approach to cancer survivorship

Carma L. Bylund, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center
Clinician-patient communication and online cancer (mis)information

Tiffany L. Carson, PhD, MPH, Moffitt Cancer Center
Obesity and Cancer: Associations Across the Cancer Continuum

Peter A. Kanetsky, MPH, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center
Motivating skin cancer prevention by feedback of genetic risk information

Session 2B: Tumor Microenvironment **Acacia 2**

Moderator: Priyamvada Rai, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

Weizhou Zhang, MD, UF Health Cancer Center
Single-cell RNAseq-based identification of targetable molecules in tumor-infiltrating regulatory T cells

Alex M. Jaeger, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center
Decoding patterns of antigen presentation in the tumor microenvironment

Scott Welford, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
Microenvironmental control of cancer lipid metabolism

Session 2C: Cancer Epigenetics & Tumor Biology **Acacia 3**

Moderator: Lixin Wan, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center

Luisa Cimmino, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
The role of one-carbon metabolism in the pathogenesis of myeloid malignancy

Joe Kissil, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center
Elucidating the functions of YAP in neurofibromatosis type 2

Lizi Wu, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center
Aberrant CRTC Activation in Cancer

Session 2D on next page

Session 2D: Precision Oncology and Immunotherapy — **Jacaranda**

Moderator: John Ligon, MD, UF Health Cancer Center

Shanta Dhar, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
Metabolic Plasticity Modulation with a combination Therapeutic Nanoparticle for Glioblastoma

Brian Czerniecki, MD, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center
Using Immunotherapy to replace chemotherapy in breast cancer

Paul Castillo, MD, UF Health Cancer Center
Leveraging T cell Immunity for Refractory Malignancies

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM **Breakout Sessions**
These sessions allow discussion and collaboration with the presenters from the concurrent sessions and colleagues from other FACCA institutions.

Session 2A: Population Science — **Magnolia**

Moderators: Youngmee Kim, PhD (SCCC), Carma Bylund, PhD (UFHCC), Tiffany Carson, PhD, MPH (MCC), Peter Kanetsky, PhD (MCC)

Session 2B: Tumor Microenvironment — **Acacia 2**

Moderators: Weizhou Zhang, MD (UFHCC), Alex M. Jaeger, PhD (MCC), Scott Welford, MD (SCCC)

Session 2C: Cancer Epigenetics & Tumor Biology — **Acacia 3**

Moderators: Luisa Cimmino, PhD (SCCC), Joe Kissil, PhD (MCC), Lizi Wu, PhD (UFHCC)

Session 2D: Precision Oncology and Immunotherapy — **Jacaranda**

Moderators: Paul Castillo, MD (UFHCC), Brian Czerniecki, MD, PhD (MCC), Shanta Dhar, PhD (SCCC)

12:15 PM – 12:30 PM **BREAK**

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM **Lunch and Closing Remarks** — **Grand Doral Ballroom**

Stephen Nimer, MD, Director, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
John Cleveland, PhD, Director, Moffitt Cancer Center
Jonathan Licht, MD, Director, UF Health Cancer Center

Collaborative Frontiers Facilitating Cancer Innovation Across Florida Communities

Florida Academic Cancer Center Alliance
Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center
Moffitt Cancer Center
Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
UF Health Cancer Center

2024 Annual Retreat
Orlando, FL
April 1-2, 2024

Conference Space Internet Xpodigital: LOGIN: health24 PASSCODE: orlando24

DAY 1: Monday, April 1, 2024

12:00 PM – 12:45 PM	**Registration & Lunch**	**Lake Mizell**
12:45 PM – 1:05 PM	**Directors' Welcome**	**Lake Mizell**

Jonathan Licht, MD, Director, UF Health Cancer Center
Roxana Dronca, MD, Director, Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center
Susan Vadaparampil, PhD, MPH, Associate Center Director for Community, Outreach, and Engagement, Moffitt Cancer Center
Stephen Nimer, MD, Director, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

1:05 PM – 2:20 PM	**Plenary Session 1 – New Cancer Targets, Drug Discovery and Screening**	**Lake Mizell**

Moderator: Rolf Renne, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center

Timothy Spicer, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center - *Partnering for Precision Oncology to Treat Brain Cancer*

Greg Sawyer, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center - *Life in Miniature*

Nima Sharifi, MD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Divergent Human Androgen Phenotypes and Prostate Cancer*

John "Al" Copland, PhD, Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Two Novel Cancer Therapeutic Discoveries Moving Forward to Phase 1 Clinical Trials*

2:20 PM – 2:35 PM	**COFFEE BREAK**	**Foyer**
2:35 PM – 3:50 PM	**Plenary Session 2 – Advancing Cancer Control within Florida's Communities**	**Lake Mizell**

Moderator: Heather Jim, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center

Ramzi Salloum, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center - *Comparative Effectiveness of Mobile Health Interventions for Smoking Cessation in Primary Care and Community Settings*

Jennifer Permuth, PhD, MS, Moffitt Cancer Center - *Reducing Pancreatic Cancer Disparities in Florida through Partnerships, Research, and Education*

Alberto Caban-Martinez, PhD, DO, MPH, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center - *A Total Worker Health Approach to Cancer Control and Prevention in the Firefighter Workforce*

Pooja Advani, MBBS, MD, Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Mitigating Cancer Therapy Related Side Effects: Leveraging Community Partnerships to Increase Clinical Trial Diversity*

3:50 PM – 5:20 PM	**Plenary Session 3 – Clinical Trials and Mechanisms to Bolster Participation in Underserved Communities**	**Lake Mizell**

Moderator: Thomas George, MD, UF Health Cancer Center

Janice Krieger, PhD, Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Utilizing Virtual Community Health Workers to Improve Cancer Health Equity within Cancer Clinical Trials*

Sikander Ailawadhi, MD, Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center – *Equitable Clinical Trial Participation: Healthcare Meets the needs of the Patient*

Dana Rollison, PhD & Susan Vadaparampil, PhD, MPH, Moffitt Cancer Center - *Advancing Clinical Trials: Working through Outreach, Navigation and Digitally Enabled Referral and Recruitment Strategies (ACTWONDER2S)*

Carma Bylund, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center - *Improving Clinical Communication about Cancer Clinical Trials*

Natasha Schaefer Solle, PhD, RN, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Increasing Diversity in Clinical Trials through Workforce Development and Training*

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	**Happy Hour**	**Lake Eola**
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	**Dinner**	**Lake Mizell**

DAY 2: Tuesday, April 2, 2024

7:45 AM – 8:15 AM	**Breakfast**	**Lake Mizell**
8:15 AM – 9:30 AM	**Concurrent Session A1: Cancer Immune Metabolism and the Microbiome**	**Lake Virginia A**

Moderator: Sabita Roy, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

Christian Jobin, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center - *Mining the Microbiota for Therapeutic Molecules Enhancing Immunotherapy Responses*

Timothy Shaw, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center - *Computational Analysis of Metabolic Pathways and Predicting Antigen Presentation within Paired Primary and Metastatic Tumor Samples*

David Lombard, MD, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Suppressing SIRT5 to Subdue Sarcoma*

8:15 AM – 9:30 AM	**Concurrent Session B1: Immune-based and Cellular Therapies**	**Lake Virginia B**

Moderator: Rumela Chakrabarti, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

Elias Sayour, MD, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center - *Advancing Cancer Immunotherapy through Comparative Oncology*

Daniel Abate-Daga, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center - *Clinical Translation of Gamma/Delta CAR-T Cells*

Rumela Chakrabarti, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Overcoming Immunotherapy Resistance in Triple Negative Breast Cancer*

Keith Knutson, PhD, Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Th17 T Cell-Inducing Vaccines for Treatment and Prevention of Ovarian Cancer*

8:15 AM – 9:30 AM	**Concurrent Session C1: Transdisciplinary Approaches to Enhance Cancer Prevention and Early Cancer Detection**	**Lake Louise A**

Moderator: Megan Allyse, PhD, Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center

Chengguo Xing, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center - *Transdisciplinary Research on Kava in Lung Cancer Prevention*

Liang Wang, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center - *Blood-based Liquid Biopsy Assay for Multi-Cancer Early Detection*

Ashutosh Agarwal, **PhD,** Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Engineered Platforms for CTC Caputure, Analysis, and Expansion*

Megan Allyse, PhD, Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Family History Sharing and Genetic Testing for HBOC in Black Communities*

9:45 AM – 10:30 AM	**Breakout Sessions** *These sessions allow discussion and collaboration with the presenters from the concurrent sessions and colleagues from other FACCA institutions.*	

Session A: Innovative Approaches to Integrate Microbiome and Metabolomics Data **Lake Louise A**

Moderators: Sylvia Crowder, PhD (Moffitt)

Session B: Can We Coordinate Bio Specimen and Data Sharing Across Florida? **Lake Louise B**

Moderators: Aziza Nassar, MD, MPH (Mayo)

Session C: New Techniques in Cancer Genomics, Transcriptomics, and RNA Epigenetics **Lake Virginia A**

Moderators: Karen Mann, PhD (Moffitt)

Session D: Novel Technologies for Cancer Outreach and Engagement **Lake Virginia B**

Moderators: Vani Simmons, PhD (Moffitt), Monica Albertie, MHA (Mayo), & Noreen Stephenson, MEd (Mayo)

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM	**Concurrent Session A2: Cancer Epigenomics, Genomics, and RNA Biology**	**Lake Virginia A**

Moderator: Jatinder Lamba, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center & Alejandro Villarino, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

Michalina Janiszewska, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center - *Mapping Genetic and Non-genetic Heterogeneity in Brain Tumors*

Ariosto Silva, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center - *Moffitt's Integrative Approach to Study Progression and Emergence of Drug Resistance in Multiple Myeloma*

Alejandro Villarino, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Comprehensive Molecular Assessment of STAT3-driven T Cell Malignancy*

Nadine Norton, PhD, Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Individualized Medicine to Predict and Prevent Chemotherapy-related Heart Failure*

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM	**Concurrent Session B2: Cancer Data Science in Precision Medicine, Cancer Screening and Outreach**	**Lake Virginia B**

Moderator: Dejana Braithwaite, PhD, MSc, UF Health Cancer Center

Qianqian Song, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center - *Clinicogenomics Insights into Cancer Patients Receiving Immunotherapy*
Ghulam Rasool, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center - *Foundation Models and Their Potential Role in Future Cancer Care*
Stephan Schürer, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Introducing PAC3R: A Novel Platform Catalyzing Collaborative Computational Cancer Research in Florida*
Sam Antwi, PhD, Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center - *Molecular Epidemiology of Metabolic Liver Cancer and Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumors*

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM	**Concurrent Session C2: Priorities for survivorship research: Transformative solutions to address challenges within the catchment area**	**Lake Louise B**

Moderator: Laura Oswald, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center

Yan Wang, PhD, UF Health Cancer Center - *Medical Cannabis and Cannabinoids for Breast Cancer Patients: A New Observational Cohort Study*
Nate Parker, PhD, MPH, Moffitt Cancer Center - *Project Rally: Leveraging a YMCA-Moffitt Partnership to Enhance Cancer Survivorship with Pickleball*
Patricia Moreno, PhD, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center - *fertilit-e: Cultural Attunement and Evaluation of an eHealth Fertility Preservation Decision Aid for Young Adults with Cancer*
Dawn Mussallem, DO, Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center - *A Lifestyle Approach to Survivorship Care*

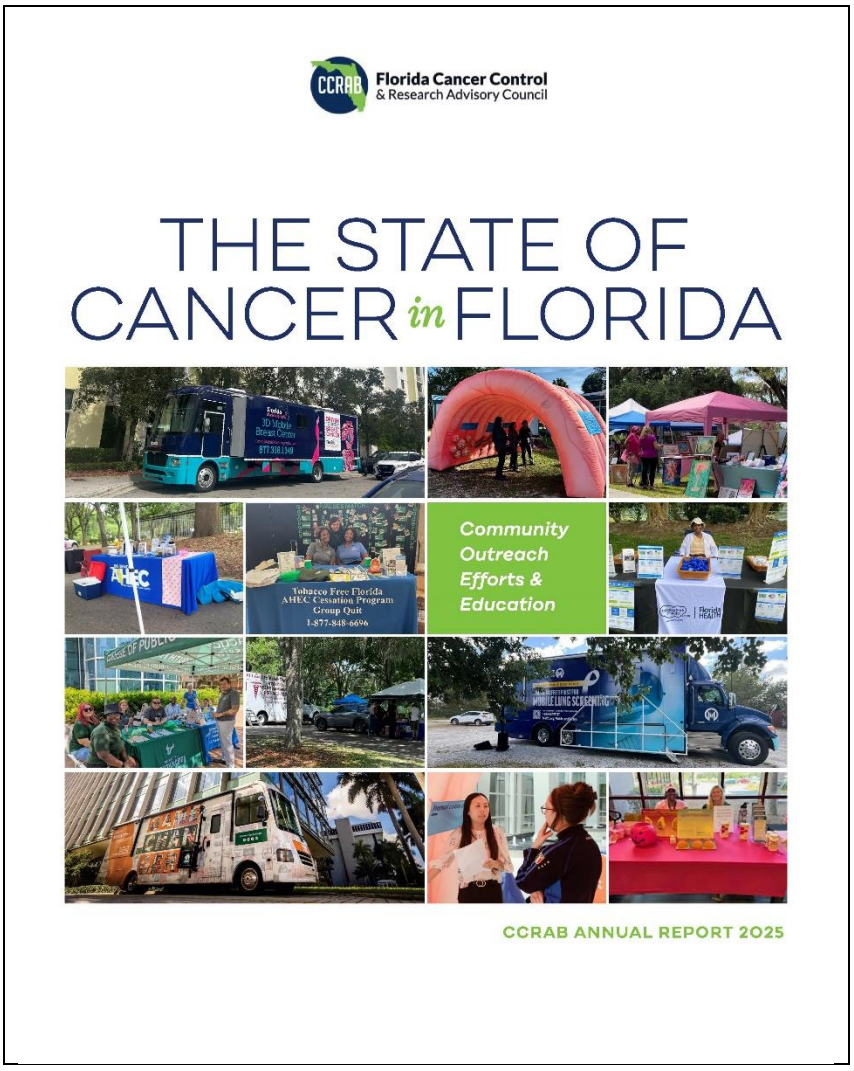
12:15 PM – 12:30 PM	**Closing Remarks**	**Lake Mizell**

Cancer Center Directors

12:30 PM	**Boxed Lunch**	**Lake Mizell**

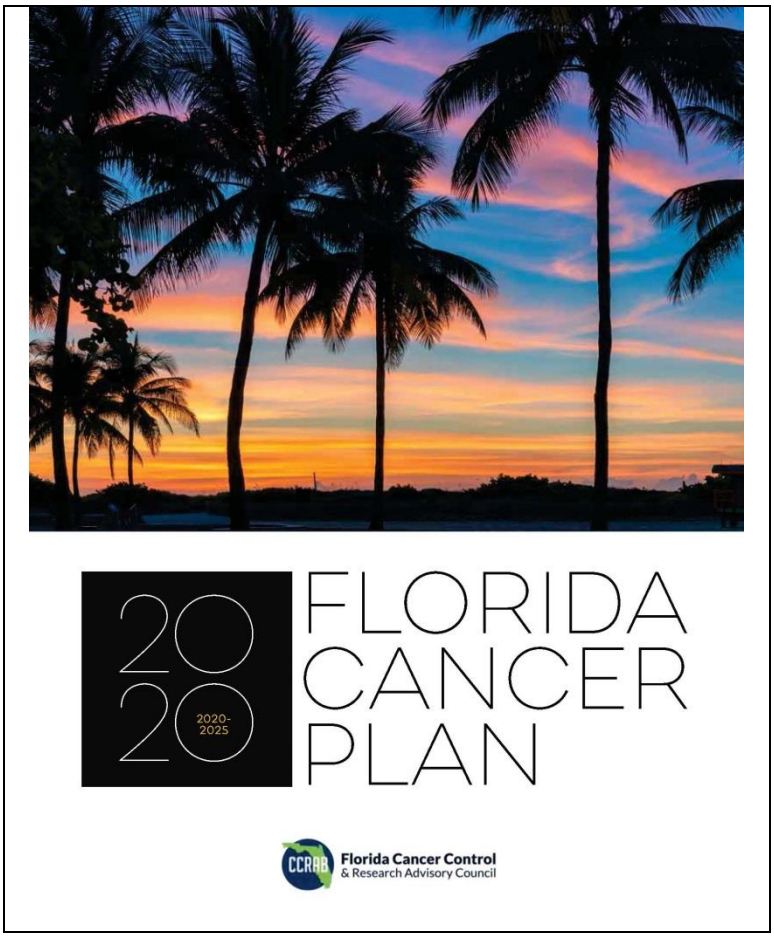
CCRAB Annual Report 2025

Link to download the 2025 Annual Report: https://www.ccrab.org/annual-reports



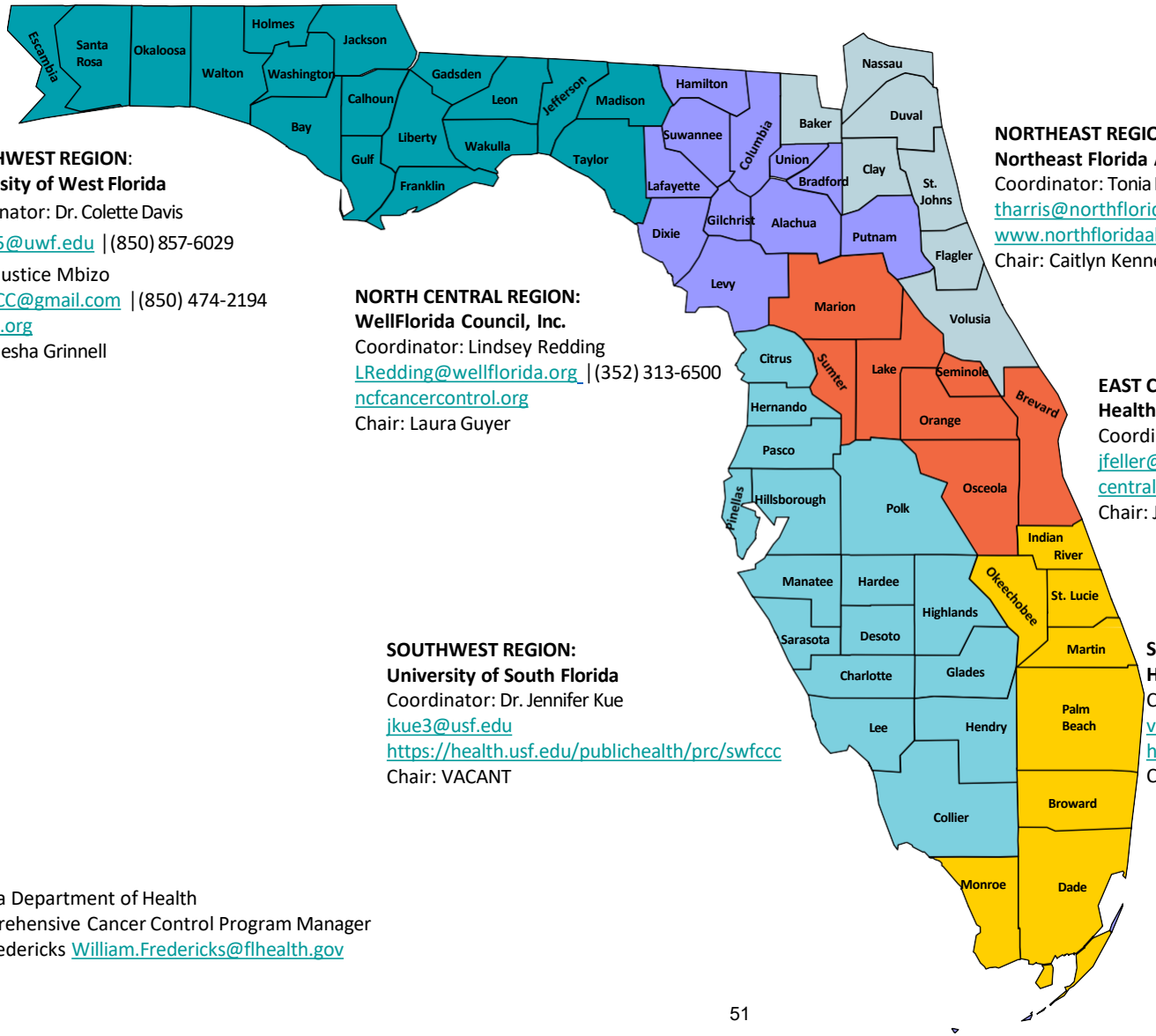
Florida Cancer Plan 2020-2025

Link to download the Cancer Plan: http://www.ccrab.org/cancer-plan



Florida Regional Cancer Control Collaboratives:

Reducing the Cancer Burden through Collaboration



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Chair: Iesha Grinnell

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Chair: Laura Guyer

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Updated June 2025