

UVA Cancer Center's Goal to Become an NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center

Comprehensive Cancer Centers demonstrate reasonable depth and breadth of cancer research activities in each of three major areas: basic laboratory; clinical; and prevention, control and population-based science. Comprehensive Cancer Centers also have substantial transdisciplinary research that bridges these scientific areas. They are effective in serving their catchment area, as well as the broader population, through the cancer research they support. They integrate training and education of biomedical researchers and community health care professionals into programmatic efforts to enhance the scientific mission and potential of the Center (*from the NCI guidelines*).

Basic Facts:

- There are 68 NCI-designated Cancer Centers, of which 41 have Comprehensive status.
- In Virginia, Massey and UVA are the only two NCI-designated Cancer Centers.
- Virginia does NOT have a NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. However, both Massey and UVA are striving to obtain this designation.
- NCI designation is the result of a peer-review grant process; the Cancer Center Support Grant is reviewed and renewed every 5 years.
- NCI Comprehensive Cancer Centers are recognized as leaders in cancer treatment and research by their peers and funders.
- Although Comprehensive designation does not provide additional direct funding from NCI, its value is realized in the ability to draw patients and attract stellar faculty.
- UVA currently receives \$2.3M/year from in federal funding from the NCI for their Cancer Center Support Grant.

The Goal:

- Dr. Loughran has established the goal to obtain NCI comprehensive status by 2020.
- The key areas of investment include:
 - Cancer Prevention and Control Population Science
 - Nanotechnology
 - Clinical Trials, including a network
 - Drug discovery/Therapeutics
 - Personalized Medicine/Genomics
 - Immunotherapy/Stem Cell Transplant
- Building the program under each of these areas will require:
 - Faculty Recruitment
 - Infrastructure (equipment, centralized clinical trials, telemedicine)
 - Project funds (pilot projects, team science, public-private collaborations)