

# HALTING PANCREATIC CANCER IS URGENT: INCREASE FEDERAL FUNDING FOR INNOVATIVE RESEARCH



## Five-Year Relative Survival Rates<sup>1</sup>

Reported in 2018



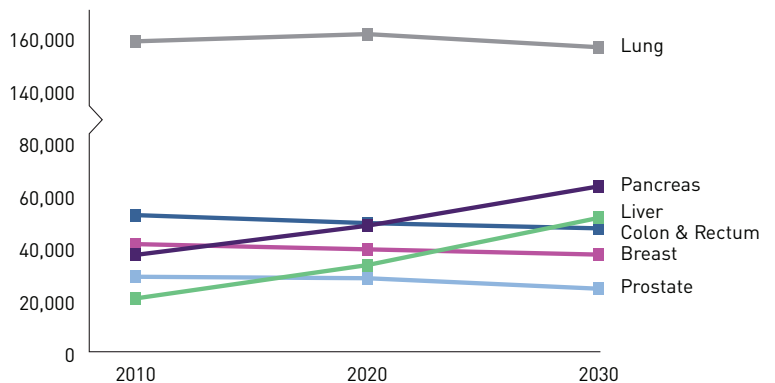
## PANCREATIC CANCER IS THE NO. 3 LEADING CAUSE OF CANCER-RELATED DEATH.

Pancreatic cancer has the lowest survival rate of the top five cancer killers. In 2016, pancreatic cancer surpassed breast cancer as the third leading cause of cancer-related death in the United States. Another of the deadliest, or recalcitrant, cancers, liver cancer, became the fifth leading cause of cancer-related death in 2016, exceeding deaths caused by prostate cancer. Lung cancer will remain the top cancer killer in the U.S. for the foreseeable future. Among all major cancers, pancreatic cancer is the only one with a five-year relative survival rate in the single digits, at just 9 percent.<sup>1</sup> This poor outcome results from the lack of reliable early detection methods and limited treatment options.

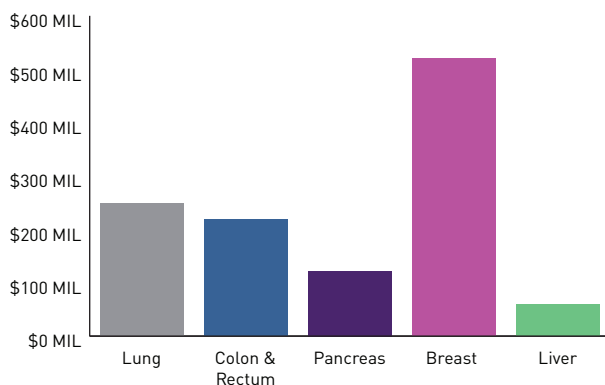
## PANCREATIC CANCER IS PREDICTED TO BECOME THE NO. 2 LEADING CAUSE OF CANCER-RELATED DEATH AROUND 2020.

It is projected that pancreatic cancer deaths will exceed colorectal cancer deaths around the year 2020, positioning pancreatic cancer as the second leading cause of cancer-related death. By 2030, liver cancer will become the third leading cause of cancer-related death, making the top five cancer killers in the U.S.: lung, pancreatic, liver, colorectal and breast.<sup>2</sup>

## Projected Cancer-Related Deaths Through 2030<sup>2</sup>



## 2014 National Cancer Institute (NCI) Annual Funding<sup>3</sup>



## TURNING THIS PREDICTION AROUND REQUIRES TARGETED, INNOVATIVE RESEARCH AND MORE FEDERAL FUNDING.

The NCI and researchers across the globe are making important inroads in determining new paths for early detection of and effective treatment for pancreatic cancer. For example, the NCI has made crucial steps in implementing the recommendations made as a result of the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act. However, there is an urgent need for more innovative research so that we can find the answers quicker and save lives. Changing the statistics requires continued robust funding increases for the NCI and the NIH.

### Sources:

- American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures 2018. Atlanta: American Cancer Society; 2018.
- Rahib L, Smith BD, Aizenberg R, Rosenzweig AB, Fleshman JM, Matrisian LM. Projecting Cancer Incidence and Deaths to 2030: The Unexpected Burden of Thyroid, Liver, and Pancreas Cancers in the United States. *Cancer Res.*, 2014; 74(11): 2913-2921.
- NCI Funded Research Portfolio (<http://fundedresearch.cancer.gov/nciportfolio/>). Accessed January 2018.

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