Congress has a long history of bipartisan support for biomedical cancer research funding at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). ASTRO is excited about emerging innovations through research at the new Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) and through the Cancer Moonshot 2.0 initiative.

Radiation oncology is responsible for 40% of all cancer cures. Investments in radiation therapy research and innovation could improve cure rates for 3.5 million people and provide palliative relief for 3.5 million others.

**BACKGROUND**

1. **1.9 million** cancer diagnoses this year.¹
2. **1 million** will receive RT as part of their cancer treatment.²
3. **18.1 million** cancer survivors in the US.³
4. **1,670 people** will die from cancer per day in 2023.¹
5. In the US, the lifetime risk of developing cancer is **2 out of 5.**¹
6. **33% decrease** in the cancer death rate since 1991; that’s **3.8 million** lives saved.⁵
7. In FY 2022, NIH research funding supported nearly **570,000 jobs** and produced more than **$96 billion** in economic output nationwide.

**2023 FUNDING LEVELS AND FY2024 BUDGET**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY2023 amount appropriated</th>
<th>ASTRO funding request supported by cancer research community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>$49.2 B</td>
<td>$51 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCI</td>
<td>$7.3 B</td>
<td>$9.988 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARPA-H</td>
<td>$1.5 B</td>
<td>$1.5 B (min)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CONGRESSIONAL REQUEST**

1. $51 billion in funding for NIH.
2. $9.988 billion for NCI, an increase of $2.7 billion from FY23.
3. At least $1.5 billion for ARPA-H that does not displace or reduce funding, particularly from NCI.
4. Ensure initiatives like the Cancer Moonshot support efforts to enhance access to radiation therapy, address disparities in care and treatment outcomes, and reduce obstacles to care like treatment delays.

² https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3298009
³ https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/understanding/statistics
⁴ https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/risk_factors.htm