

CPRIT'S IMPACT ON MD ANDERSON'S MISSION

"Since its inception, CPRIT has played a vital role in attracting key faculty, both seasoned investigators and rising stars, who have contributed in significant ways toward MD Anderson's mission to end cancer. From placing MD Anderson at the epicenter of the rapidly evolving field of immunotherapy to advancing new therapeutic discoveries, CPRIT funding has served a crucial source of support for bringing enhanced care more quickly to our patients. MD Anderson is thankful for the vital funding CPRIT has provided, support that has truly made a difference in the lives of patients in Texas and beyond."

– Peter WT Pisters, M.D.
President, MD Anderson Cancer Center



QUICK FACTS:

- Since its inception, CPRIT has awarded \$2.26 billion in grants, of which MD Anderson and its projects have received \$447.6 million, or nearly 20 percent.
- Funding from CPRIT enabled MD Anderson to recruit 30 distinguished cancer researchers, including Established Investigators, First-Time Tenure Track and Rising Stars, as well as two National Academy of Science members.
- Research support of \$290 million includes funding for Core Facilities, Early Translational Research, Research Training, and High-Impact High-Risk, Investigator-Initiated, and Multi-Investigator Research.
- CPRIT has awarded MD Anderson programs \$22 million for Cancer Prevention for Tobacco Control, Healthcare Training and Education, Evidence-Based Prevention, Colorectal Cancer Testing, and other preventive efforts.
- Nearly \$40 million has been awarded to MD Anderson for seven Core Facilities for Proteomics and Metabolics, Integrated Single-Cell Genomics, Pediatric Solid Tumor Comprehensive Data Resource, Precision Oncology Decision Support, Protein Array and Analysis, Flow Cytometry and Cell Imaging, and Next Generation Sequencing.



RESEARCH:

- In 2012, MD Anderson recruited James P. Allison, Ph.D., a National Academy of Science member and renowned researcher, through CPRIT funding for established investigators. Allison's ground-breaking research on the biology of T cells led to his invention of immune checkpoint blockade to treat cancer. This resulted in the creation of new life-saving therapies and the launch of immunotherapy as a fourth pillar of cancer treatment. Allison was named a Nobel Laureate in 2018 for his research, which already is granting improved quality of life and successful treatments for countless cancer patients across the globe.
- CPRIT funding supports clinical trials exploring new treatments in many cancer areas, including melanoma, breast, lymphoma, leukemia as well as pediatric cancers such as acute lymphoblastic leukemia and medulloblastoma.
- Research funding also supports the study of early detection approaches, which explore novel biomarkers and biological indicators for ovarian, colon, pancreatic, lung, liver and other cancers.
- CPRIT funding serves as a critical complement to support MD Anderson's Moon Shots Program™, helping to recruit Moon Shot leaders such as Andy Futreal, Ph.D., and James Allison, Ph.D., and providing opportunities for investigators to expand projects and programs launched by the institution's effort.



PREVENTION:

- Women in the Lower Rio Grande Valley are benefitting from increased cervical cancer screenings and preventive treatments thanks to CPRIT support. Although cervical cancer is largely preventable with HPV vaccination and recommended screening, its mortality in this region is 30 percent higher than the rest of the state. Women who live along this border region are far less likely to get cancer screening due to lack of insurance and access to healthcare facilities. These programs act to train health care workers in the screening and management of early cervical cancers and provide education about HPV vaccination.
- CPRIT funding for cancer prevention includes a program to increase access to smoking cessation and smoke-free home services for low-income pregnant women in northeast Texas. In addition, thousands of Texas teenagers are learning about the dangers of tobacco and nicotine through a CPRIT-funded online, bilingual multi-media program called A Smoking Prevention Interactive Experience (ASPIRE), which was added to the curriculum of the Houston Independent School District, the nation's fourth largest school system, in 2016.



PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT:

- CPRIT provided nearly \$20 million to support Magnolia Tejas Corporation, a Houston-based subsidiary of Magnolia Neuroscience Corporation, which was launched by MD Anderson and Accelerator Life Science Partners. The CPRIT funding supports development of a novel targeted therapy, based on discoveries made by MD Anderson's Therapeutics Discovery division, for the prevention of chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy and chemo brain. This combined effort is in sync with Therapeutic Discovery's patient-focused drug development model, which brings together scientists and clinicians from across various cancer specialties.
- Immatics US Inc. was created jointly by MD Anderson and Immatics Biotechnologies as a result of a CPRIT Company Formation Award of \$19 million. The company further enables translation of immunotherapy knowledge from MD Anderson into new therapeutics for cancer patients such as adoptive cellular therapy, a treatment that uses the patient's own T cells to fight disease.