



CANCER NEUROSCIENCE PROGRAM

Signature Priority Committee fundraising guide

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center’s Cancer Neuroscience Program (CNP) unites world-renowned cancer experts and neuroscientists to explore the intricate relationship between cancer and the nervous system. By addressing how cancer affects the brain and nervous system and how the nervous system influences cancer formation and spread, the CNP aims to revolutionize patient care. This pioneering initiative positions MD Anderson as the global leader in cancer neuroscience, advancing treatments for all cancer types while placing patients’ neurological and mental health challenges at the forefront to vastly improve outcomes and quality of life.

A new frontier in oncology

Much as immunotherapy revolutionized oncology two decades ago, cancer neuroscience now emerges as the next frontier — poised to transform patient care and cancer research. MD Anderson has the patient volume, resources, breadth of faculty expertise and translational research capabilities necessary to lead this field. Building the world’s preeminent cancer neuroscience program will require significant investments:

- **Strategic recruitment of top talent (\$10 million):** CNP will work to attract top-tier scientists with expertise in priority areas of cancer neuroscience and related disciplines to fill gaps in our own expertise. By bringing in visionary leaders and thinkers, we will strengthen our intellectual foundation and drive discoveries.
- **Develop innovative facilities and leading-edge technologies (\$20 million):** State-of-the-art research environments will keep the CNP at the forefront of discovery, driving innovations that transform how we study, treat and care for patients with all types of cancer and neurological side effects.
- **Build infrastructure and cores (\$20 million):** Establish one-of-a-kind, patient-focused research resources and tools that give scientists and clinicians the power to transform cancer care — ensuring that patients remain at the heart of every discovery.
- **Breakthrough and translational research (\$20 million):** By uncovering how cancer and the nervous system interact, the CNP will unlock new ways to prevent, detect and treat cancer while also protecting overall quality of life from the side effects of therapies.
- **Train tomorrow’s leaders (\$5 million):** The CNP will cultivate and connect the brightest minds worldwide, creating a new generation of leaders ready to drive breakthroughs and transform care for decades to come.

As an essential member of the CNP team, you have the passion, creativity and insight to:

ACT as an ambassador within your network and community, educating others about the CNP.

ADVISE executive leadership, sharing your expertise and your insights about potential supporters or volunteers.

INSPIRE and **INFORM** others by hosting an event to introduce the CNP, at which experts share the latest updates.

Unmet need; unmatched leadership

Launched: [September 2023](#)

Led by:

[Frederick F. Lang, M.D.](#)

[Vinay Puduvalli, M.D.](#)

[Jim. Ray, Ph.D.](#)

[Jian Hu, Ph.D.](#)

[Elizabeth Hileman, Ph.D.](#)

Fundraising target:

\$75 million by August 2028

Funds raised:

Nearly \$18 million committed

Watch: [CNP overview \(Dr. Ray\)](#)