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| Member Organizations  *American Association for Cancer Research*  *American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network*  *American Childhood Cancer Organization*  *American College of Radiology*  *American Society of Clinical Oncology*  *American Society of Hematology*  *Association of American Cancer Institutes*  *Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups*  *Friends of Cancer Research*  *International Cancer Advocacy Network*  *International Myeloma Foundation*  *Kidney Cancer Association*  *The Lustgarten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research*  *Lymphoma Research Foundation*  *Melanoma Research Alliance*  *Ovarian Cancer Research Fund Alliance*  *Prevent Cancer Foundation*  *Prostate Cancer Foundation*  *The Society of Gynecologic Oncology*  *Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer*  *The V Foundation for Cancer Research*  *c/o Liberty Partners Group  300 New Jersey Ave., N.W. Suite 900 Washington, DC 20001 (202) 827-6494* [*www.cancercoalition.org*](http://www.cancercoalition.org) |

March 17, 2017

**The National Coalition for Cancer Research issued the following statement**

**in response to the President’s fiscal year (FY) 2018 Budget Blueprint:**

The National Coalition for Cancer Research (NCCR) strongly opposes the Administration’s budget proposal which calls for a reduction in funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) by $5.8 billion, or nearly 20 percent below current levels. If applied proportionally across the NIH, funding for the National Cancer Institute would be curtailed by nearly $1 billion. If enacted, cuts of this level will have a devastating and long-lasting impact on the unprecedented advances being made on accelerating cancer research, education, prevention, detection and treatment.

It is essential to note that approximately 80 percent of NIH funding is used to conduct extramural research. Therefore, the proposal would have a significant negative impact on research being conducted across our country by biomedical research centers, universities, medical schools, hospitals and other institutions. This will, in turn, also negatively impact state and local economies and lead to the loss of countless jobs in the life sciences sector.

A 2015 article in the Journal of the American Medical Association, “*The Anatomy of Medical Research: US and International Comparisons*” concluded, “New investment is required if the clinical value of past scientific discoveries and opportunities to improve care are to be fully realized. Given international trends, the United States will relinquish its historical international lead in the next decade unless such measures are undertaken.”

NCCR strongly urges Congress to reject the proposed disastrous cuts to NIH. Rather, we look forward to continuing our work with bipartisan Members of Congress to complete action on the fiscal year 2017 appropriations bill, which includes a $2 billion increase for NIH in fiscal year 2017. We also support continued funding for the 21st Century Cures Act and the cancer Moonshot initiative.

We are living in an era of unparalleled advances in our understanding of cancer, which have led to the development of treatments that were unthinkable a short time ago such as cancer immunotherapy and targeted cancer therapeutics. We must harness the expertise, commitment and energy of the scientific and patient communities to continue and build on that knowledge.