

NCI Report Language

Cancer Immunotherapy.—The Committee continues to be encouraged by new breakthroughs in cancer immunotherapy, which are improving outcomes for an increasing number of cancer patients. As new and effective individual treatments are identified, the Committee urges NCI to prioritize research that will serve as the basis for improved, less toxic cancer immunotherapy for more patients. In particular, the Committee highlights the need to understand how best to combine immunotherapy treatments, the optimal duration of therapy for each treatment, and why some patients develop resistance to cancer immunotherapy while others do not. Research on resistance should include outcomes in which the therapy never works (primary resistance) and outcomes in which the therapy is initially effective but then stops working (secondary resistance).