



Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **SITC Releases Executive Summary from the Crisis in Clinical Research Virtual Summit**

MILWAUKEE, WI – On Aug. 17, 2022, the [Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer \(SITC\)](http://www.sitcancer.org) convened key oncology experts from academia, industry and government, including the FDA and NCI, to lead a national conversation to address a crisis in clinical research. Limited patient access to clinical trials and slowed drug development due to staffing shortages, administrative burden, and current business models have led to drastically reduced capacity to conduct potentially lifesaving oncology clinical trials.

The virtual summit convened over 600 stakeholders and 30 panelists to discuss the multi-faceted problems in oncology clinical research today. From this summit, SITC has created an [Executive Summary document](#) that outlines the existing problem, the summit goals and proposed solutions that could expand access to clinical trials for patients and increase capacity at sites conducting the trials.

“The overall goal of this summit was to better define the issues that exist and discuss possible solutions to this critical situation,” said SITC President Leisha Emens, MD, PhD. “This incredible event crystalized the core issues through robust discussions with relevant stakeholders that ultimately brought the crisis into the national spotlight.”

SITC’s proposed solutions for addressing the crisis facing clinical research include:

- Standardization and Centralization of Clinical Research Resources
- Cross-institutional Data Availability
- Maximizing Efficiency Across Clinical Research Operations
- Diversification of Clinical Research Sites and Populations

This executive summary, created as a tangible deliverable from the summit, also includes the next steps that SITC is working on with relevant stakeholders in an effort to address the four key takeaways.

“We appreciate that SITC can’t solve this national, complex crisis alone,” stated Mary Dean, JD, CAE, SITC’s Executive Director. “We are working diligently to rally key stakeholders in a strategic, action-based conversation that will ultimately provide access to critically important clinical trials.”

SITC’s Crisis in Clinical Research Virtual Summit full executive summary, presentation recordings along with panelist and organizer information is available on the SITC web site at [sitcancer.org/crisis](http://sitcancer.org/crisis).



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### About SITC

Established in 1984, the [Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer \(SITC\)](http://www.sitcancer.org) is a nonprofit organization of medical professionals dedicated to improving cancer patient outcomes by advancing the development, science and application of cancer immunotherapy and tumor immunology. SITC is comprised of influential basic and translational scientists, practitioners, health care professionals, government leaders and industry professionals around the globe. Through educational initiatives that foster scientific exchange and collaboration among leaders in the field, SITC aims to one day make the word “cure” a reality for cancer patients everywhere. Learn more about SITC, our educational offerings and other resources at [sitcancer.org](http://sitcancer.org) and follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

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