
42 U.S. Code § 285a-13

Scientific framework for recalcitrant cancers

(a) Development of scientific framework

(1) In general

For each recalcitrant cancer identified under subsection (b), the Director of the Institute shall develop (in accordance with subsection (c)) a scientific framework for the conduct or support of research on such cancer.

(2) Contents

The scientific framework with respect to a recalcitrant cancer shall include the following:

(A) Current status

(i) Review of literature

A summary of findings from the current literature in the areas of—

- (I) the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of such cancer;
- (II) the fundamental biologic processes that regulate such cancer (including similarities and differences of such processes from the biological processes that regulate other cancers); and
- (III) the epidemiology of such cancer.

(ii) Scientific advances

The identification of relevant emerging scientific areas and promising scientific advances in basic, translational, and clinical science relating to the areas described in subclauses (I) and (II) of clause (i).

(iii) Researchers

A description of the availability of qualified individuals to conduct scientific research in the areas described in clause (i).

(iv) Coordinated research initiatives

The identification of the types of initiatives and partnerships for the coordination of intramural and extramural research of the Institute in the areas described in clause (i) with research of the relevant national research institutes, Federal agencies, and non-Federal public and private entities in such areas.

(v) Research resources

The identification of public and private resources, such as patient registries and tissue banks, that are available to facilitate research relating to each of the areas described in clause (i).

(B) Identification of research questions

The identification of research questions relating to basic, translational, and clinical science in the areas described in subclauses (I) and (II) of subparagraph (A)(i) that have not been adequately addressed with respect to such recalcitrant cancer.

(C) Recommendations

Recommendations for appropriate actions that should be taken to advance research in the areas described in subparagraph (A)(i) and to address the research questions identified in subparagraph (B), as well as for appropriate benchmarks to measure progress on achieving such actions, including the following:

(i) Researchers

Ensuring adequate availability of qualified individuals described in subparagraph (A)(iii).

(ii) Coordinated research initiatives

Promoting and developing initiatives and partnerships described in subparagraph (A)(iv).

(iii) Research resources

Developing additional public and private resources described in subparagraph (A)(v) and strengthening existing resources.

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