

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

# CANCER





## Diversity Matters

This was a year of contrasts: Immense global health challenges were confronted by the miracle of next-generation vaccines. We also saw the grave consequences of inequity in healthcare, as many of our community's most marginalized members bore the brunt of the COVID-19 pandemic.

These communities are also disproportionately affected by the burden of cancer. It is clearer than ever that equity and inclusiveness are the keystones of an efficient healthcare system. We are proud to again be on *U.S. News & World Report's* list of top 10 cancer programs in the nation. But we are most proud of delivering care to the most diverse population in the country, as we use convergent science principles to make groundbreaking strides in cancer prevention, treatments and precision medicine, and work to expand access to people who need us most.

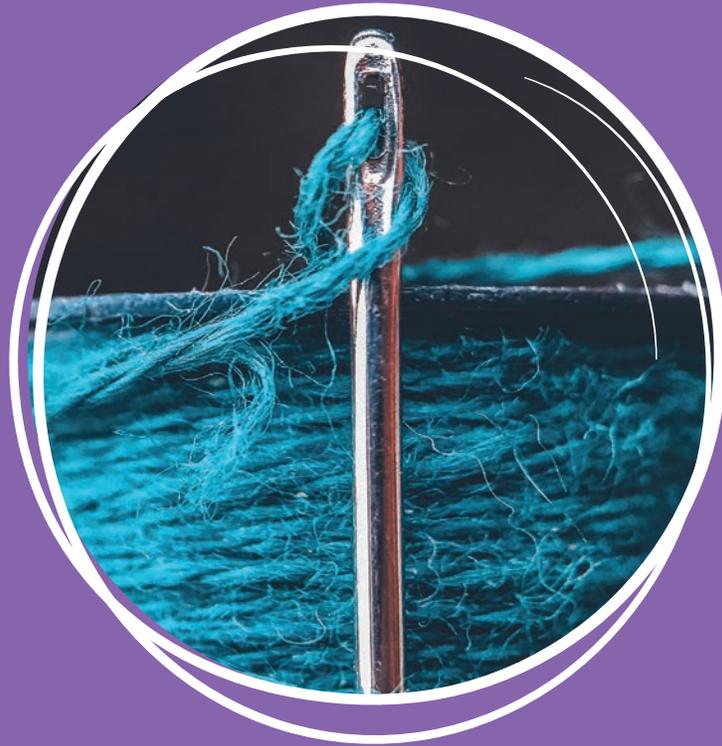
To raise awareness about our capabilities, and to serve those who too often lack quality care, we have developed evidence-based community outreach and engagement efforts. We have also established a community advisory board that includes representation from Latinx, Filipinx, Korean, South Asian, Pacific Islander, African American and LGBTQ+ communities. In this report, you'll read about these and many other initiatives and achievements.

The world has changed, but one thing remains steady: our commitment to bringing exceptional research and care to as many people as we can. I am thankful to lead Cedars-Sinai Cancer during this time, humbled by what we have achieved and energized by the exciting breakthroughs that lie ahead.

**Dan Theodorescu, MD, PhD**

*Director, Cedars-Sinai Cancer  
Director, Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute  
PHASE ONE Foundation Distinguished Chair  
Professor of Surgery, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine*





“We are **weaving** a robust and innovative **cancer** research enterprise that brings new hope to the **diverse population** we serve.”

60

Our oncology experts treat over **60 types of cancer** at **more than 10 locations** throughout Greater Los Angeles

#9

Cedars-Sinai ranked **#9 in the nation for cancer care** in U.S. News & World Report's "Best Hospitals 2021–22"

200

At any given time, patients have access to approximately **200 cancer clinical trials** through Cedars-Sinai Cancer

# A Community-Focused Approach to Cancer Care

## A Commitment to LGBTQ+ Health Equity

To address health equity issues in the LGBTQ+ community, the Cancer Research Center for Health Equity has launched a number of outreach and engagement efforts:

- New gender-neutral cancer screening guidelines to better serve transgender and gender nonconforming subjects.
- Creating breast organoids from tissues derived from transgender patients undergoing gender-affirming surgery with a focus on the effects of hormones.
- Establishment of a biorepository of multiple tissue samples obtained from transgender patients as they transition through gender-affirming surgeries.
- New tobacco cessation initiative serving LGBTQ+ teens.
- Developing the End HPV campaign, in partnership with the ArtCenter College of Design and diverse LGBTQ+ stakeholders, with community infrastructure for dissemination at various Pride events in Southern California in 2022.

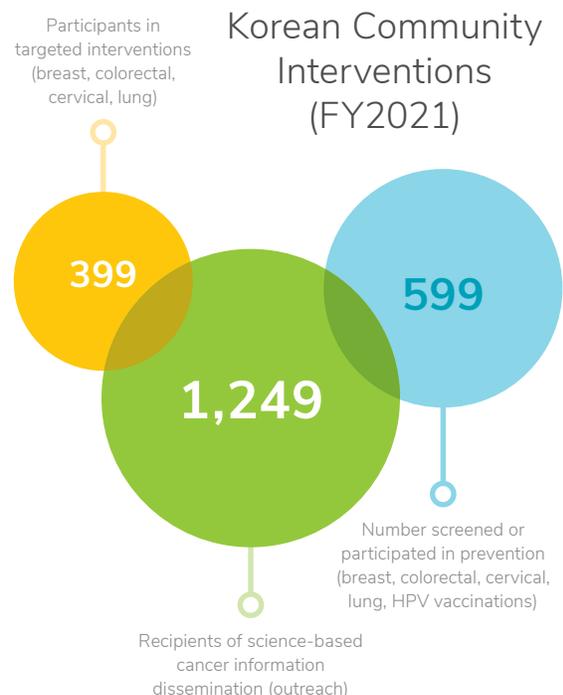
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The Health and Faith Initiative, led by multilingual staff in partnership with 15 churches that serve over 8,000 community members, enables us to provide science-based cancer information to underserved communities and facilitates translational research.

## Breast Cancer in the Korean Community

The incidence of breast cancer in the Korean population is increasing. At the same time, cancer is diagnosed at later stages. The Cancer Research Center for Health Equity is taking a comprehensive approach to address this issue with the following tactics:

- Developing Korean-specific breast organoids to better understand the causes of breast cancer in Koreans. This effort has led to a major initiative to address selected cancer disparities with organoid models.
- Conducting a study based in Korean churches to enhance adherence to breast cancer screening guidelines. The intervention involves navigators and training in so-called expert schools—a valued practice in Korean culture.
- Mentoring program and community educational activities to promote cancer awareness among young Korean American women.



# Increasing racial and ethnic diversity among cancer treatment trial participants

## Pathways to Breast Cancer Trials Enrollment

A key project of the Cedars-Sinai Cancer Clinical Trials Office proposes to address declining participation in cancer clinical trials in racial and ethnic minorities. The Equitable Pathways to Cures for Breast Cancer effort aims to address disparities within Cedars-Sinai Cancer through the use of multicultural and multilingual enrollment navigators familiar with community and patient barriers that contribute to low enrollment rates.

The Cancer Research Center for Health Equity's Community Outreach and Engagement team at Cedars-Sinai Cancer has also established the Clinical Trials Equity Initiative and launched a multi-level, multi-cultural program to ensure clinical trials are accessible to racial, ethnic and gender minorities.

Together, these initiatives plan to address disparities and barriers surrounding clinical trial participation within minority populations to improve awareness and enrollment.

## Clinical Trials

Investigational-initiated trials opened to accrual (interventional and non-interventional)	59
Investigational-initiated trials opened to accrual (interventional only)	16
Open to accrual Phase I trials	63
Active Phase I trials accruals	152
Interventional treatment trial accruals	397
Interventional (nontreatment) trial accruals	241

“We integrate **community outreach** and **engagement** into our **research** using principles of Convergent Science—such as combining wearables, imaging and **organoid** and **computational models** of disease—to **develop novel insights** into aspects of biology that are specific to race, ethnicity, sex and gender.”

— Dan Theodorescu, MD, PhD

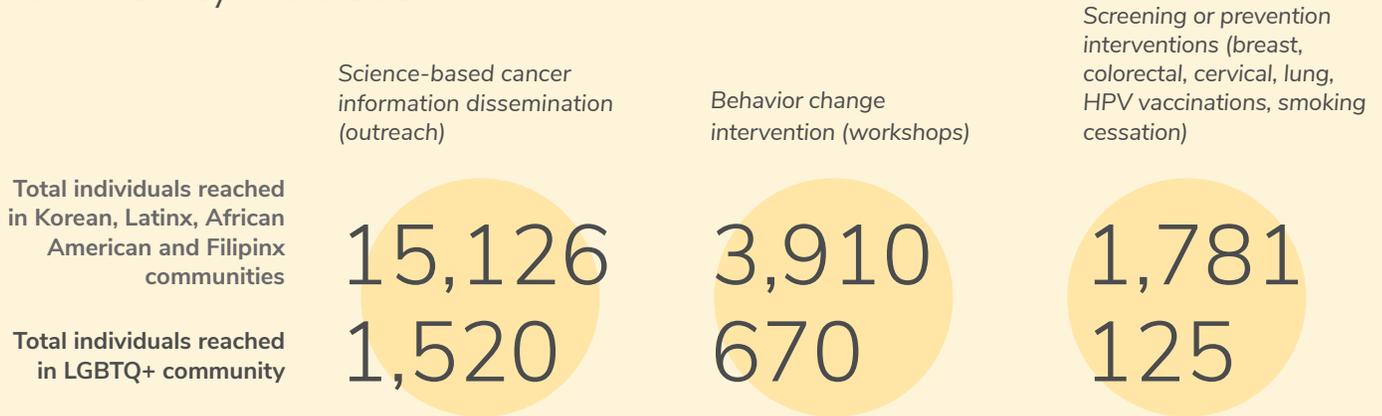
## Collaborative Project Addresses Implicit Bias

Cedars-Sinai Cancer was invited to participate in a national pilot project that is testing a research site self-assessment tool and an implicit bias training program focused on increasing racial and ethnic diversity among cancer treatment trial participants.

The joint initiative between the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) and the Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC) was designed to identify and implement novel strategies and practical solutions to increase cancer treatment trial participation among patients from racial and ethnic minority communities, which continue to be under-represented in cancer research when compared with their percentages in the overall population of patients with cancer.

# FY21 Metrics

## Community Outreach



## Philanthropy

2,201  
donors to cancer programs

16  
cancer endowed chairs

## Publications



\* Collaborative metrics capture collaborations between Cedars-Sinai Cancer members.

\*\* High-impact publications are publications in journals with impact factors greater than 10.

## Grant Funding\*

	FY21
NCI peer-reviewed projects	\$11,984,377
Other NIH peer-reviewed projects	\$5,693,592
Other peer-reviewed projects	\$4,832,515
<b>Subtotal of peer-reviewed projects</b>	<b>\$22,510,483</b>
Industry non-peer-reviewed projects	\$5,791,682
Other non-peer-reviewed projects	\$1,832,379
<b>Subtotal of non-peer-reviewed projects</b>	<b>\$7,624,061</b>
<b>Grand total (all projects)</b>	<b>\$30,134,544</b>

\*Annual program direct costs—includes training grants

27%  
increase in  
NCI funding between  
FY20 and FY21



## Clinical Volume

### Cedars-Sinai Medical Center + Medical Network

Inpatient volume	8,103
Outpatient volume	
Office visits	134,940
Infusions	53,011
<b>Total</b>	<b>196,054</b>

### Torrance Memorial Medical Center A Cedars-Sinai Affiliate

Inpatient volume	958
Outpatient volume	
Office visits	22,661
Infusions	8,976
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,595</b>

### Providence Cedars-Sinai Tarzana Medical Center

Inpatient volume	355
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Inpatient Volume

**9,416**

Outpatient Volume

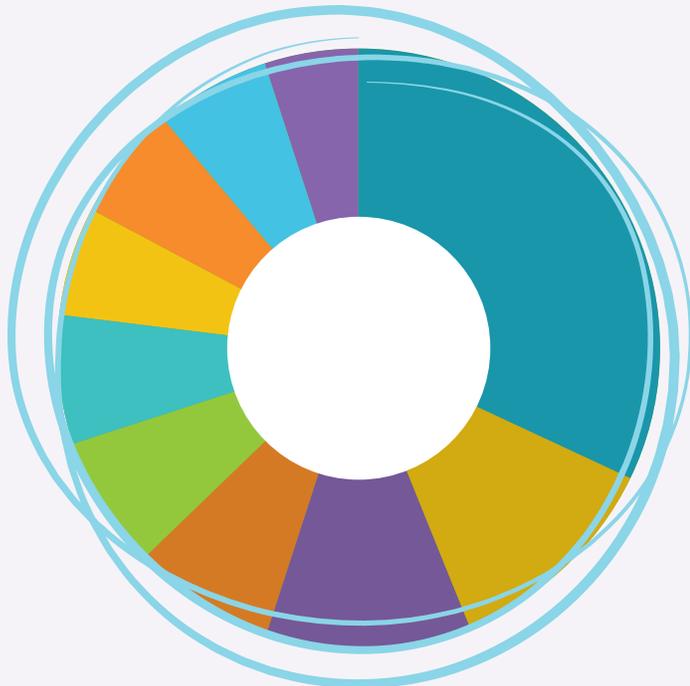
**219,588**

## Key Recruits

One of Cedars-Sinai Cancer's top priorities is to recruit and retain talented physicians, researchers, fellows and other trainees from populations underrepresented in science. Some of the new additions to our leadership roster include:

- **Lali Medina-Kauwe, PhD**, promoted to co-leader of the Cancer Biology Program
- **Stephen Shiao, MD, PhD**, appointed as program leader for Experimental Therapeutics Program
- **Patricia Thompson-Carino, PhD**, recruited from Stony Brook University, as new co-leader of the Cancer Prevention and Control Program
- **James Turkson, PhD**, promoted to associate director of Strategic Partnerships and interim director of Basic Research

## Top Cancers Treated by Anatomic Site



- |                                |                           |                    |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| ■ Breast                       | ■ Pancreas                | ■ Hemeretic        |
| ■ Prostate                     | ■ Colon                   | ■ Melanoma of Skin |
| ■ Lung/Bronchus Non-Small Cell | ■ Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma    | ■ Bladder          |
|                                | ■ Kidney and Renal Pelvis |                    |



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# A Diverse Approach to Cancer Care and Research for a Diverse Community



## In this report:

- A Commitment to LGBTQ+ Health Equity
- Breast Cancer in the Korean Community
- Diversity in Clinical Trials Participation
- Implicit Bias Training Program



We are proud to be on U.S. News & World Report's list of top 10 cancer programs in the nation.



Scan for more information about clinical programs, research and referrals.