



NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP)

Questions & Answers

What is the National Cancer Institute Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP)?

NCORP is a national network of investigators, cancer care providers, academic institutions, and other organizations working together to build a community-based research program.

What is the goal of NCORP?

NCORP conducts multi-site cancer clinical trials and studies in diverse populations in community healthcare settings across the United States. The overall goal of the program is to bring cancer clinical trials, as well as cancer care delivery research to individuals in their own communities to improve patient outcomes.

Why is NCI placing a focus on clinical trials?

NCI's renewed focus on funding clinical trials programs is due to the critical role research plays in the future of cancer care. Clinical trials are the final step in a long process that begins with research in a lab, and most treatments used today result from past trials.

How is Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center involved in NCORP?

Mary Bird Perkins and all respective hospital partners in Baton Rouge, Houma and Covington, LSU Health Sciences Center-Shreveport, and LSU-New Orleans (the coordinating institution for the grant), among others – including facilities in Mississippi – came together to compete for a pioneering NCORP grant. This collaboration is being referred to collectively as the Gulf South Minority/Underserved NCI Community Oncology Research Program (GS-MU-NCORP).

What funding does the NCORP grant provide?

NCORP is a five-year, \$5.6 million grant award that was presented to the coordinating institution, LSU Health Sciences Center-New Orleans. The funding will be shared among the participating entities.

How is NCORP making a statewide impact?

Louisiana and Gulf South residents will soon have more options to seek advanced cancer treatment. NCORP will reach 80 percent of the state, including the most rural and urban areas where there are often great disparities in cancer care. This is an unprecedented initiative in Louisiana and is one of only 12 of its kind in the country to serve as a Minority/Underserved NCI Community Oncology Research Program.

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Fighting Cancer For Over 40 Years.

What does Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center’s participation in NCORP bring to Louisiana and the Gulf South?

- Provides leading-edge cancer prevention and treatment clinical trials, including new precision medicine that individualizes the treatment based on the molecular signature in tumors.
- Allows oncologists in many community hospitals to provide treatment to patients closer to home, helping reduce expenses and keeping patients and families closer together.
- Expands programs in cancer prevention, screening and survivorship to improve early diagnosis and treatment to help patients return to their pre-cancer lives.
- Provides an expanded multidisciplinary approach to patient care, such that doctors with different specialties, work together to provide the most comprehensive treatment plan for our patients.

How is NCORP different from participation in NCCCP?

Mary Bird Perkins – Our Lady of the Lake Cancer Center was part of the NCI Community Cancer Centers Program (NCCCP) from 2007 until the program ended in June 2014. NCCCP helped the Cancer Center launch and enhance many of its programs, including early phase clinical trials, survivorship services, screenings for disparate populations and multidisciplinary cancer care teams that focus on colorectal, lung, skin and head and neck cancers. The NCORP effort will build on the strengths of the previous programs and aim to better address the most pressing issues affecting the conduct and delivery of care in communities across the nation.

How do I learn more about NCORP?

Visit the following websites for more information about NCORP:

- **Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center website:** www.marybird.org/ncorp
- **NCORP website:** <http://ncorp.cancer.gov>

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