

# Prostate Cancer Foundation



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[www.pcf.org](http://www.pcf.org)



## Mission

The Prostate Cancer Foundation (PCF) is the leading philanthropic organization funding and accelerating prostate cancer research globally. Its mission is to find a cure for the disease and deliver better patient outcomes.

## Strategy/Approach

Since 1993, PCF has been working to channel resources to the world's top scientific minds – cutting red tape and encouraging collaboration to speed breakthroughs. PCF is also a primary source for new standard-of-care and research information, connecting patients, families, care providers, and scientists to the latest developments, best practices, and news from the treatment pipeline.

PCF's strategy involves funding patient-focused research, investing in human capital, and fostering collaboration within its expanding global research enterprise. It manages numerous funding programs, which each have their own goals but are designed to work together and be scalable and self-perpetuating by building on past successes and accelerating the development of new therapies and discoveries. Fortune magazine credited PCF with creating the “modern venture philanthropy” model for cancer research – citing the transformative power of PCF's short grant applications and rapid funding.

Through its grants programs, PCF works to identify the most promising research not being funded and recruit the best scientists to energize the field. It limits award applications to five pages, makes award decisions within 60 days, and issues funds within 90 days – all for the sake of ensuring rapid and effective progress toward a cure.

PCF has funded nearly all major progress in prostate cancer research, and its investment has been leveraged more than 20 times by other studies that further develop PCF-supported proofs of concept. During the past 18 years, the National Cancer Institute, academic research centers, pharmaceutical companies, and biotechnology ventures have taken PCF's early research and built it into a \$10 billion research enterprise for the benefit of prostate cancer patients everywhere.

## Research Portfolio

To date, PCF has funded more than 1,500 projects that offer hope for improving outcomes in patients with prostate cancer. These projects include clinical research to evaluate new drugs, novel treatment strategies for prostate cancer, and basic science research to better understand the biology of prostate cancer. PCF has also invested more than \$45 million in a consortium of 13 leading cancer centers, creating the **PCF-Department of**

## Defense Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials Consortium

(**PCCTC**). The PCCTC ensures that the 13 centers involved maintain a robust infrastructure for conducting prostate cancer research. These institutions also work collaboratively on promising therapies. PCCTC also provides the pharmaceutical industry with scientific guidance on clinical trial design, helping to reduce the time to move a drug candidate from discovery to clinical investigation.

Award programs include:

- **The PCF Human Capital Initiative** – includes three awards that aim to identify and support the next generation of visionary young investigators.
  - **Recognition Award** – for investigators not currently funded by PCF who have a record of outstanding accomplishments in prostate cancer research (includes The AACR-PCF Prostate Cancer Research Recognition Awards for Research Excellence and the PCF-SUO Recognition Awards)
  - **Young Investigator Award** – identifies future research leaders who will bring new ideas to the field of prostate cancer research
- **PCF Creativity Award** – supports the development of high-risk, high-reward ideas for researchers who display imaginative thinking.
  - Up to \$300,000/year for two years
- **PCF Challenge Award** – makes larger investments in multi-year projects from cross-disciplinary teams of investigators that have high transformative potential for areas of unmet need in prostate cancer research.
  - from \$150,000 to \$1 million/year for up to three years
- **Team Science Partnership Award** – The Melanoma Research Alliance and the Prostate Cancer Foundation jointly sponsor the award to simultaneously advance clinical science in both diseases.
  - Up to \$1.5 million over two to three years
- **Dream Team Translational Cancer Research Grant** – The Prostate Cancer Dream Team is a \$10 million project funded jointly by PCF and Stand Up 2 Cancer, in association with the American Association for Cancer Research. This grant will provide funding to address therapeutic interventions in advanced metastatic prostate cancer. Focused on cross-institutional research teams.
- **PCF-Honorable A. David Mazzone Special Challenge Award Research Program** – supports large-scale research projects on treatment sciences.
  - \$1 million total per team over two years

Given the problem of overdiagnosis and overtreatment, PCF is also supporting a \$5 million research project, with the National Proactive Surveillance Network, to determine which patients can be maintained on proactive surveillance and which patients need to be recommended for surgery or radiation.

## Partnership Practices

PCF engages in academic, corporate, and nonprofit alliances to advance its mission.

### PCF partners with biotech and pharmaceutical companies.

PCF aids its funded investigators in developing industry partnerships that advance PCF-supported proofs of concept into therapies. For example, PCF recently aided one of its scientists – Daniel Haber, MD, PhD, and his team of Massachusetts General Hospital and MIT researchers – in establishing a five-year, \$30 million partnership with **Johnson & Johnson's Veridex** division with the goal of commercializing the technology PCF had funded it to develop (using microfluidic devices to capture circulating tumor cells). Additionally, the **PCF Prostate Cancer Models Working Group**, comprised of 13 former PCF competitive award recipients from 12 institutions, published State of the Science on Current Research Models in Prostate Cancer, a comprehensive point of reference for testing new drugs. Many of the new models forwarded by the team are being incorporated into drug and diagnostics development by biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry and new scientists working on prostate cancer.

## Financials

PCF is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. The most recent financial information available is from 2012.<sup>1</sup>

Year ending 12/31/2012:

- Revenue: \$47,072,078
- Net Assets: \$54,481,229
- Expenditures: \$43,911,783
- Research Grants: \$30,020,666

## Key Accomplishments

- Since 1993, donors have given more than \$550 million to PCF to fund more than 1,600 research projects at nearly 200 institutions in 17 countries around the world.
- PCF has funded research on four new medicines for advanced prostate cancer that were approved by the Food and Drug Administration in the past two years.
- Six PCF-funded drugs are in Phase III clinical trials, including three novel drug treatments targeting bone metastases that are expected to be approved soon – Alpharadin (radium-223 chloride), Cabozantinib (XL184), and the use of Zytiga to prevent metastases.
- 28 new PCF-funded compounds are in early Phase I/II trials.

- PCF grant funding has led directly to many advances in comprehending the underlying mechanisms of prostate cancer, including identification of the genetic changes that might cause cells in the prostate to become cancerous, interference with the development of blood vessels that feed nutrients to cancer cells, identification of prostate cell surface markers that can be targeted to destroy cancerous cells, and development of analytical methods that identify the proteins in blood or the prostate that correlate to treatment effect or behavior of the cancer cell.
- In 2012, PCF raised \$7.7 million through the Movember campaign.
- In 2012, PCF awarded \$4.7 million to Young Investigators, bringing their total number of young investigators to 118 and keeping medical research funding alive.

## Leadership

The Prostate Cancer Foundation is governed by a **Board of Directors** and relies on its **Advisory Board** for counsel on related matters and policies.

- **President and CEO:** Jonathan Simons, MD, [jsimons@pcf.org](mailto:jsimons@pcf.org)
- **EVP and Chief Science Officer:** Howard Soule, PhD, [hsoule@pcf.org](mailto:hsoule@pcf.org)
- **EVP of Development:** Gary Dicovitsky, [gdicovitsky@pcf.org](mailto:gdicovitsky@pcf.org)
- **Medical Director:** Stuart Holden, MD

<sup>1</sup> Information obtained from PCF Audited Financials, [http://www.pcf.org/site/c.leJRIROrEpH/b.5794573/k.73DA/Annual\\_Report\\_Financials.htm](http://www.pcf.org/site/c.leJRIROrEpH/b.5794573/k.73DA/Annual_Report_Financials.htm) July 2013