

# NCI Director's Report

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Director, National Cancer Institute

National Cancer Advisory Board Meeting  
June 30, 2026

# Today's Talk

1. NCI leadership updates
2. Budget and funding
3. NCI priorities and research advances
4. Recent and upcoming events and engagements

# NCI Leadership Updates



**Sanya A.  
Springfield**

Retired after  
more than 30  
years of service



**Dinah Singer**

Retired after  
more than 50  
years of service



**Jay J. Schnitzer**

Interim president, Leidos  
Biomedical Research, Inc. and  
Director, Frederick National  
Laboratory for Cancer  
Research

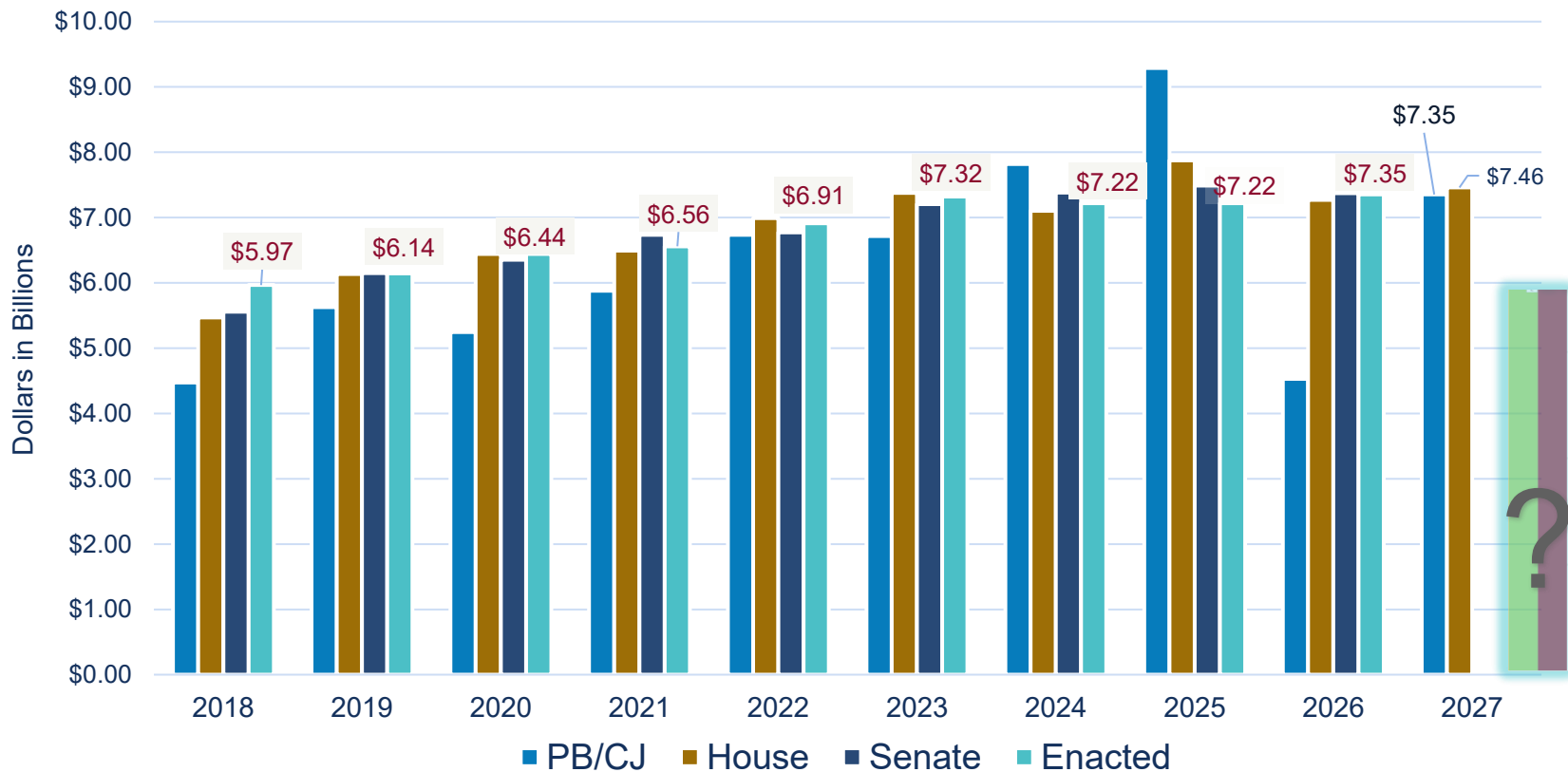
# NCI Budget Update

- Fiscal Year 2026
  - Total appropriation = \$7.3 billion
  - Increase of \$128 million
- Fiscal Year 2027
  - President's budget proposal = \$7.3 billion
  - House proposed increase of \$110 million = \$7.46 billion



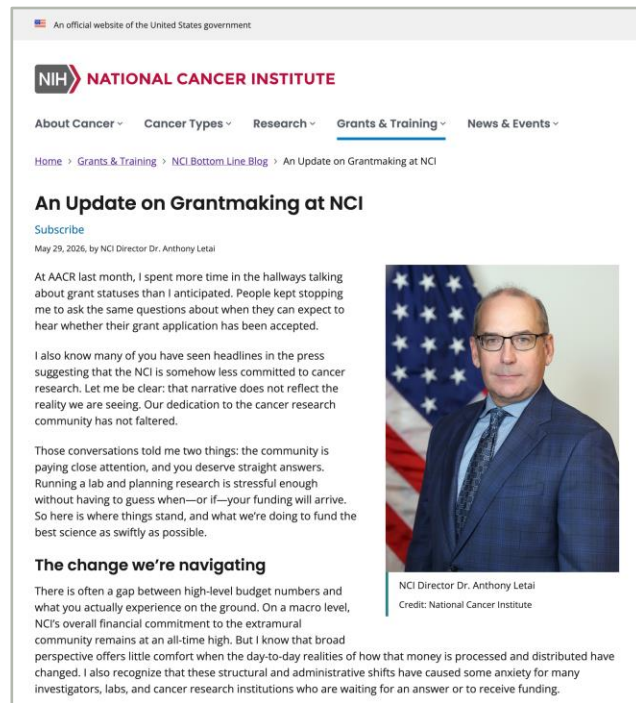
Senate Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services and Education (LHHS) Subcommittee Hearing on the FY 2027 NIH Budget Request, May 21, 2026

# NCI Budget: Formulation to Enacted



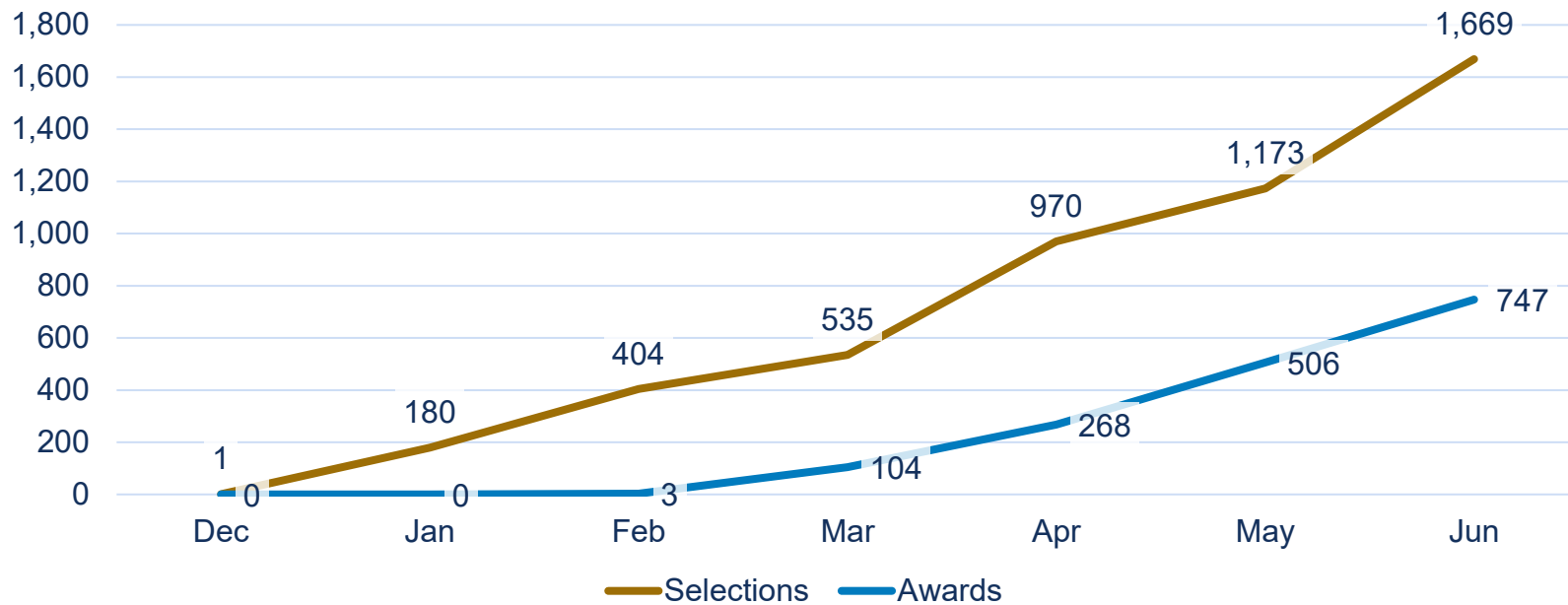
# Bottom Line Blog Post: Grantmaking at NCI

- Published at the end of May
- Communicates the status of grants and process for approvals
- At that time, we were at about 75% of the FY24 pace
- Progress toward our goal continues



# Where Are We Now?

Cumulative Selections & Awards



# Continuous Support for Critical Networks

- National Clinical Trials Network (NCTN)
- Experimental Therapeutics Clinical Trials Network (ETCTN)
- NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP)





# U.S. Competitiveness in Trials Globally

- Global biomedical innovation is accelerating and early-phase trials are moving overseas
- Oncology is the largest area of clinical research globally
- Participated in ASCO panel with FDA, cancer centers, industry, and NCI
- HHS Operation Trailblazer launched on June 22



**Pre-IND**



**Regulation**

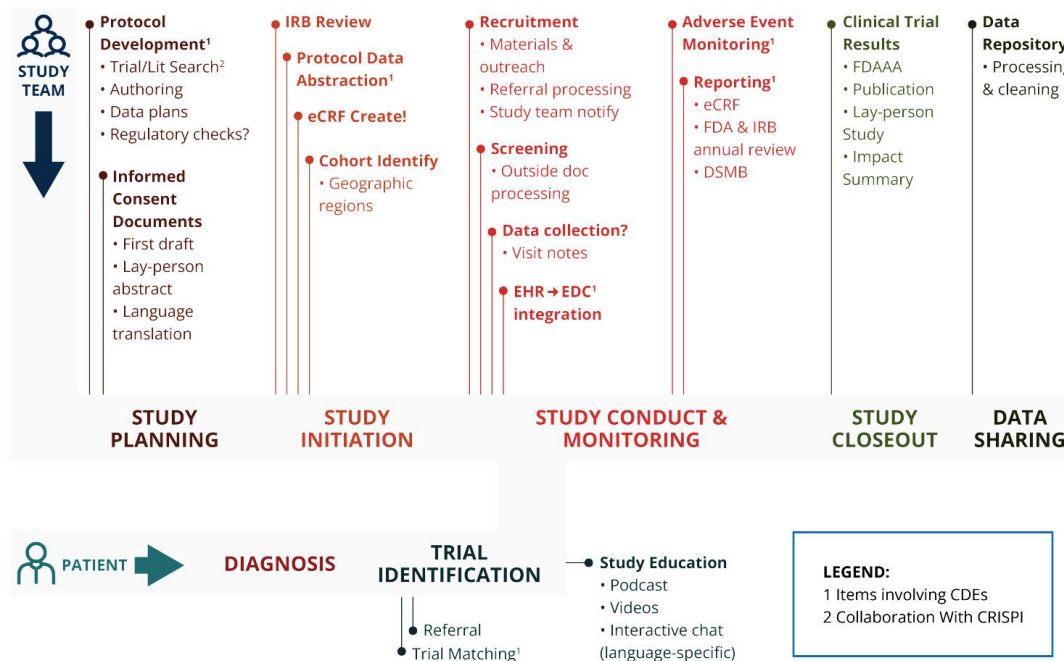


**Contracting**

# AI Opportunities Within the Clinical Trials Ecosystem

NCI's role:

- Coordinate
- Reduce redundancy
- Maintain interoperability



# Cancer Therapeutic Vaccines

- Public-private partnership led by Foundation for the NIH
- Clinical trials with clear go/no-go criteria
- Multiple parallel vaccine platforms
- Stay tuned for updates

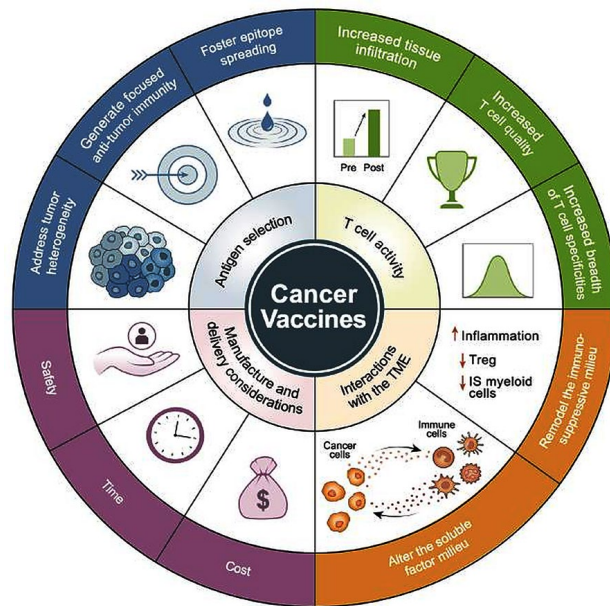
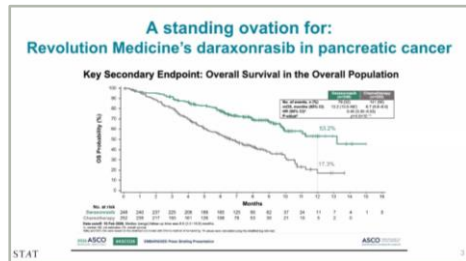


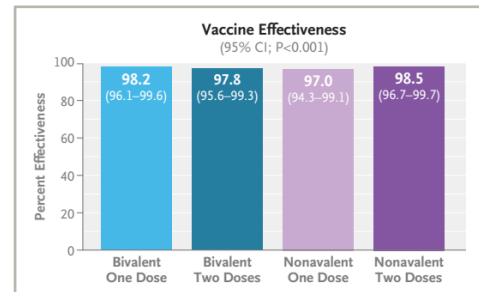
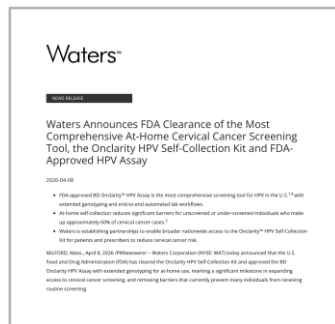
Image via Haanen, J.B., Schumacher, T.N.M., Kagan, J.C. *et al.* Clinical development of cancer vaccines. *Nat Med* **32**, 828–840 (2026).

# Latest Advances



## Pancreatic Cancer

RAS(on) inhibitor (daraxonrasib) shows survival increases for people with pretreated, advanced pancreatic cancer



## HPV

SHIP Trial – FDA approval of at-home self collection test for HPV screening

HPV vaccine – NCI research shows 1 dose is as effective as 2

# NIH Request for Information: Measuring and Rewarding Scientific Impact

- [Notice Number: NOT-OD-26-087](#)
- NIH seeks input on the defining features of 21st-century science that should be measured, recognized, and incentivized
- Open to responses until August 19

## Areas for Comment:

Rigor and Reproducibility

Data, Software, and Model Sharing

Training and Mentorship

Collaboration

Entrepreneurship and Translation

Foundational Scientific Exploration

Public Impact

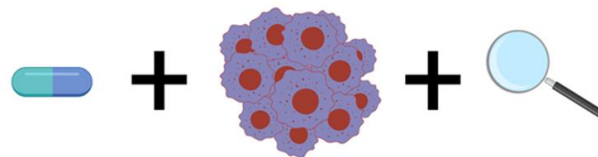
# Recent Events and Engagements

- AACR
- ASCO
- University of Michigan visit
- OVAC Congressional Briefing
- HHS Roundtable for launch of Operation Trailblazer



# Upcoming NCI Events

- [Precision in Practice: A Functional Medicine Workshop](#)
  - July 1–2, in person at Shady Grove and virtual
- [CCDI Symposium](#)
  - September 17–18, in person at Shady Grove and virtual



# Thank You!

[www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov)

[www.cancer.gov/espanol](http://www.cancer.gov/espanol)

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