THE NEED

The biomedical field has made tremendous strides in turning many cancers into survivable diseases. However, during treatment and in the years following treatment, many patients and survivors experience unintended treatment-related effects that can adversely impact health outcomes and overall quality of life.

OUR MISSION

To improve outcomes for cancer patients and survivors by making quality of life an active research priority.

WHAT IS THRIVE?

THRIVE provides seed grants for clinical and translational research and technology-based solutions that enhance our ability to predict when and how adverse effects may occur in patients who have received cancer treatment. THRIVE also supports the development of approaches to avoid or lessen these effects.

By providing researchers with both seed funding and access to critical networks, THRIVE enhances the visibility of the patient need and the value of the research.

In just our first year of awards, THRIVE has made significant impacts and demonstrated the catalytic impact of this innovative award program.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Some of the achievements made possible by THRIVE funds include:

- 3 NIH grant applications submitted with proof of concept data
- The award of a novel intra-institutional grant
- The launch of two non-interventional clinical studies
- 3 publications and two scientific conference presentations
- New methods that will inform an evolving start-up company
- New academic and public-private partnerships established by the awardees

CANCER MOONSHOT

In November 2016, THRIVE was recognized by the White House Cancer Moonshot as a program contributing actively to the Moonshot’s goals.
IRINA BUDUNOVA, MD PhD
Associate Professor, Northwestern University

This research is focused on patients taking glucocorticoids to treat blood cancers such as leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma. The THRIVE-funded program will evaluate supportive therapeutic options that may reduce the muscular and metabolic side effects of glucocorticoids in patients with blood cancers.

BARBARA EHRLICH, PhD
Professor of Pharmacology, Yale University

This research is focused on breast cancer patients treated with taxanes and other adjuvant chemotherapies. Between 30%- 50% of breast cancer patients will be impacted by treatment-related chronic neuropathic pain. The THRIVE-funded research seeks to develop a nerve function test to identify patients most likely to experience serious nerve injury from therapy.

MARIA SUAREZ-ALMAZOR, MD
Anderson Cancer Center

This research is focused on patients receiving immunotherapy as a treatment for cancer. This covers a wide range of cancers including lung cancer and melanoma. The THRIVE-funded research will help define the genetic profile of patients that experience adverse responses to immunotherapy which will inform future treatment selection.

JENNIFER JORDAN, PhD
Asst. Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, Wake Forest University

This research focuses on the delayed effects of anthracycline treatment of diseases such as breast cancer in adults and leukemia in children. The THRIVE-funded research will help to better define the biological pathways that lead to treatment-induced heart damage and, in doing so, will provide insight into ways we can monitor for pending damage and help prevent it in the future.

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For information on sponsorship opportunities, contact HESI Executive Director, Syril Pettit
research@hesiglobal.org
www.hesithrive.org

The THRIVE program is administered by HESI, the Health and Environmental Sciences Institute. HESI, based in Washington, DC, is an international, 501c3 public non-profit foundation that seeks to build a safer, more sustainable world through collaborative research initiatives to improve the safety of medicines, foods, and consumer products, and to enhance environmental quality and sustainability. For more than 25 years, the HESI scientific network has engaged thousands of public and private sector scientists from around the globe in the generation of high quality peer-reviewed scientific publications, training, and applied health and safety leadership. For more information, visit www.hesiglobal.org