

Research Program Overview



From our very first 5K event which funded one grant in 2008, Lung Cancer Initiative (LCI) has been committed to advancing lung cancer research as the most critical way to save lives. Based in North Carolina, LCI is fortunate to collaborate with medical leaders and renowned medical institutions from across the state. The Scientific Advisory Committee provides leadership for the organization's research fellowships and other research grants including health disparities in lung cancer and career development.

\$2.26M

Total funded in lung cancer research

44

Total researchers funded

RESEARCHER



SPOTLIGHT



Emily Harrison, PhD

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2017 Research Fellow
2019 Career Development Grant Recipient

“Every patient and survivor I meet through LCI motivates me to keep striving and pushing the science forward.”

Research outcomes

- I have found that a new class of RNA, circular RNAs, are important for lung cancer metastasis and progression.
- We have found metastatic cancer cells increase the secretion of molecules called axon guidance cues and by inhibiting these we can reduce the spread of lung cancer in animal models and increase their survival.

Career highlights

- Authored six manuscripts
- Presented at five national and international conferences
- Awarded over \$250,000 in additional lung cancer research funding

“The initial LCI fellowship that supported Dr. Harrison allowed her to really hit the ground running in my lab. She’s made several important discoveries that we believe will impact how we think about and treat this terrible illness. Now with the support of LCI’s Career Development Award, Dr. Harrison is poised to transition into an independent cancer scientist, and she will no doubt make countless contributions to improving the lives of many.” – Chad Pecot, MD, mentor, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



LCI Fellows Program

Initiated in 2015, the LCI Fellows Program provides research funding for students who wish to pursue a career in lung cancer research, diagnosis, treatment and/or care. Our Fellowship partners include researchers from Duke University, East Carolina University, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Wake Forest University and Levine Cancer Institute.

\$25K

Total provided per project, per year

29

Fellows funded to date

12

Projects published or have been submitted for publication



Supporting Innovation

Through the Vicky Amidon Innovation in Lung Cancer Research Award established in 2018, LCI recognizes and supports researchers, industry partners and collaborations aimed toward developing innovative lung cancer projects that will improve the lives of those at risk of or with lung cancer.



The mission of the Lung Cancer Initiative of North Carolina (LCI) is to save lives and provide support to those affected by lung cancer through research, awareness, education and access programs across North Carolina.