The Developmental Therapeutics Institute is having a palpable impact on the lives of those fighting cancer or other life-threatening disorders that share targets with cancer. Our main focus is accelerating the process of bringing new and better therapies to our patients. Through early-phase clinical studies, innovative discoveries from the laboratory can be offered as quickly and safely as possible to patients. By testing and evaluating promising new drugs and other novel approaches to diagnose and treat cancer, we identify unique windows of opportunity and provide patients with a greater scope of options for their care. The Developmental Therapeutics Institute is creating a more rapid and direct path from laboratory discovery to therapeutic studies designed to improve the treatment of cancer and other serious illnesses.

The Developmental Therapeutics Institute will help to ensure Northwestern University’s position as a world leader in the process that is transforming the prognosis of patients with cancer (i.e., understanding the fundamental ways in which different cancers develop and spread, designing agents or approaches that take advantage of these cancer-specific features, and investigating these new approaches in the clinic). Institute faculty will interact closely with the related cores and institutes within the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University and others on both our Chicago and Evanston Northwestern University campuses. The close proximity of the Lurie Cancer Center, Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, and Prentice Woman’s Hospital is of major importance to the Developmental Therapeutics Institute.

The Developmental Therapeutics Institute will combine the leadership and contributions of outstanding basic research scientists, translational researchers, and clinical investigators who are actively engaged in both basic and clinical research and who have particular expertise in developmental therapeutics and drug development.

As we launch the institute, we are targeting the following areas based on existing strengths within Northwestern University and as priorities in particular need for improvements in therapy:

**Hematological Malignancies:** Leukemias, Lymphomas, Multiple Myeloma, and Myeloproliferative Neoplasms, including Myelodysplastic Syndromes and Myelofibrosis

**Solid Tumors:** Breast, Neuro-oncology, Head and Neck, Gynecologic Oncology, Gastrointestinal Oncology, Thoracic Oncology, Genitourinary Oncology, Melanoma, and Sarcoma

“\nThe last decade has seen enormous progress in anti-cancer therapy. We are turning incremental knowledge of the pathologies that drive cancer into very targeted, effective therapies. The Developmental Therapeutics Institute will accelerate this continuum for patients suffering from cancer, as well as for patients suffering from the increasing number of non-malignant diseases that share common therapeutic targets with cancer. ”

Francis J. Giles, MD, MB, FRCPI, FRCPPath
**Now is the Time for Developmental Therapeutics**

As cancer research at Northwestern University continues to evolve and expand, there is a critical need for safe and quick delivery of novel, breakthrough compounds and approaches. In creating the Developmental Therapeutics Institute, we will facilitate partnerships with colleagues at other academic institutions, as well as with device, pharmaceutical, and bio-technology companies. The institute will allow us to develop new areas of basic cancer research, capitalizing on new technologies and unique strengths here at Northwestern. In addition, the institute will play an increasing role in advancing translational work related to cancer and other diseases that share therapeutic targets with cancer, particularly through the leadership of early-phase clinical studies.

At the Lurie Cancer Center, we recognize that every positive contribution we have made to the field of cancer care, research, and education has been made possible by donors who have entrusted us with their philanthropic support. We invite our loyal donors and interested friends to join us in supporting our Developmental Therapeutics Institute and ensuring its success through gifts of outright support and endowment.

**Northwestern Medicine**

Northwestern Memorial HealthCare and Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine are seeking to impact the health of humankind through Northwestern Medicine. We aspire to be the destinations of choice for people seeking quality healthcare; for those who provide, support, and advance that care through leading-edge treatments and breakthrough discoveries; and for people who share our passion for educating future physicians and scientists. Our commitment to transform healthcare and to be among the nation’s top academic medical centers will be accomplished through innovation and excellence.

The Cancer Institutes within our world-class Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University are providing exciting opportunities to bring our best people, programs, and resources together to plan, coordinate, and implement patient care, research, education, community service, and advocacy across the realm of cancer. In addition to creating a breakthrough Department of Cancer Biology, we will establish several new institutes and centers within the next few years to facilitate the work of our cancer physicians and scientists. These robust interfaces and collaborations will undoubtedly lead to clinical advances that benefit patients and their families locally, nationally, and across the globe.

**Cancer Institutes within the Lurie Cancer Center**

- Cancer Survivorship Institute
- Cellular Immunotherapy Institute
- Developmental Therapeutics Institute
- Early Cancer Detection Technologies Institute
- Gastrointestinal Oncology Institute
- Hematologic Malignancies Institute
- Northwestern Brain Tumor Institute
- Oncology Nursing Institute
- Prostate and Genitourinary Malignancies Institute
- Sarcoma Institute
- Skin Cancer Institute
- Thoracic Oncology Institute
- Women’s Cancers Institute
About the Lurie Cancer Center

• The Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University—one of only two National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers in Illinois and one of 41 in the nation—is committed to being a national leader in the battle to overcome cancer.

• Recognized as a national leader in cancer treatment, the Lurie Cancer Center supports care for a broad scope of cancers through comprehensive research; distinguished and dedicated faculty and staff; a world-class teaching program; and ongoing advances in medical, surgical, radiation, and interventional oncology.

• We are a founding member of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN), an alliance of 23 of the nation’s leading cancer centers dedicated to improving the quality and effectiveness of cancer care through development of clinical treatment guidelines and longitudinal outcomes research.

• Northwestern’s Lurie Cancer Center is a founding member of the Big Ten Cancer Research Consortium, which collaborates on oncology clinical trials that leverage the scientific and clinical expertise of the Big Ten universities.

• The Lurie Cancer Center has established major research strengths in breast, genitourinary, gastrointestinal, aero-digestive, neurologic, and gynecologic cancers; hematologic malignancies, sarcoma, melanoma, and pediatric oncology.

• Our basic and translational research programs in hormone action/signal transduction, angiogenesis, gene regulation, biologic therapies, oncologic mathematical modeling, and nanotechnology are nationally and internationally recognized.

• Our outstanding basic, translational, and clinical research complements a full range of prevention, early detection, treatment, rehabilitation, and palliative care programs for all types of cancer.

• Our nationally recognized supportive oncology care and survivorship programs include a Division of Fertility Preservation for young cancer survivors.

Learn more about the Lurie Cancer Center’s patient care, services and programs, research and education, clinical trials, and faculty at cancer.northwestern.edu.