Although advances in medical, surgical, radiation, and diagnostic knowledge and technology are improving outcomes for those battling lung and chest cancers, we have the potential to do so much more. Achieving Institute status will help us accelerate the process so we can help more patients live longer and stronger through early detection and the latest therapies.”

Malcolm DeCamp, MD
Our specific plans call for:

- Expanding clinical research through the creation of a tissue bank and database; initiation of early-phase clinical trials on promising drugs; and development of a grant program to encourage innovative research in thoracic oncology;

- Recruiting a high-level scientist to build a robust basic and translational research program that will include initiatives for early drug development, lung cancer research recruitment, and growth in clinical trial volume; and

- Enhancing the patient experience through the addition of a nurse navigator, smoking cessation services, and the development of reproducible metrics to better measure patient quality-of-life indicators.

Northwestern has many of the building blocks in place to establish a Thoracic Oncology Institute that will, we believe, become an International Center of Excellence. A key component of our continued and future success is our clinical expertise. A variety of medical and surgical specialists contribute to the strength of Northwestern’s comprehensive, interdisciplinary lung cancer program. Our team includes a number of experts providing clinical care, leading clinical trials, and initiating novel research projects all with the aim of improving the care of patients through simultaneous collaboration. Dedicated to delivering compassionate care, these healthcare professionals use their different perspectives to take a holistic approach that addresses not only the disease but also the whole person. This philosophy engenders tremendous support and loyalty from our patients, many who travel great distances to be seen by our thoracic oncology team. A new Thoracic Oncology Institute will allow us to develop an extensive and far-reaching collaborative network of thoracic oncology providers in the Midwest, ensuring that patients in our region have access to the best in the field.

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 establishing the Thoracic Oncology Institute at Northwestern Medicine 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.
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.

• The Lurie Cancer Center has established major research strengths in breast, genitourinary, gastrointestinal, aero-digestive, neurologic, and gynecologic cancers; as well as 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.