

THE
HIPPOCRATIC
CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION



Athens, Greece
GALA

Πειραιώς 254
177 78 Ταύρος
Saturday, May 23rd

Eleni Bousis

Chair / Founder of The Hippocratic Cancer Research Foundation



A VISION FOR EXPANDING CANCER RESEARCH AND CARE - A CALL TO ACTION

Under the guidance of Dr. Leonidas Platanius, Director of the leading Cancer Institute of the world at Northwestern Robert H. Lurie in Chicago, IL, we have made significant strides in understanding and treating this formidable disease. Our mission has been clear: to accelerate innovation breakthroughs in cancer care that will benefit patients globally. What makes the Hippocratic Cancer Research Foundation unique is that it funds think outside of the box cancer research without restrictions or boundaries. It is a mission that requires collaboration, innovation, and unwavering support.

Greece has always been a cradle of civilization, a place where science, medicine, and philosophy have flourished side by side. It is with this spirit of innovation and dedication to the betterment of humanity that I propose the establishment of a satellite collaboration between the Hippocratic Cancer Research Foundation of Chicago, IL, and Athens, Greece. This foundation will serve not only as a beacon of hope but also lead the way in cancer breakthroughs and embody the legacy of Hippocrates, the father of medicine, reflecting our foundation's commitment to healing, compassion, and the honored principles that guide our mission.

Our goal is ambitious: to raise millions, as we have successfully accomplished here in Chicago, ensuring the excellence of Northwestern's Cancer Center and becoming accessible to the people of Greece. Through the expansion and acceleration of the efforts of the NW Cancer Center, we will eradicate cancer. This venture is truly remarkable and entirely possible with YOUR support, allegiance, and collaboration. To bring this vision "Wings to Cure" to life, we aim to create a Hippocratic Cancer Research Board in Athens, where eager and distinguished individuals of Greece who share the same values and commitment in advancing cancer research treatment will participate in a crucial role. This board will lay the foundation for organizing the inaugural "Wings to Cure" in Athens. A yearly event in Athens will bridge the collaboration between the scientists of Greece and Northwestern. These events will not only raise the funds needed to accommodate expenses of scientists abroad but will also fund life changing treatment for all those fighting cancer.

We want to offer our supporters an unparalleled opportunity to be directly involved in this global health initiative that promises not only to advance cancer research but to give hope and strength to all those affected by cancer, especially during the latest statistics that one of two men will be affected by cancer and one out of three women will be affected as well. These statistics are alarming. We have to be proactive before it affects one of our loved ones.

Greek Oncologists and Researchers will have access to Dr. Leonidas Platanius and his world renowned medical experts. This is more than an invitation to support a cause. It is an invitation to be part of a new initiative that values and supports life and is dedicated to safeguarding the health of future generations.

Hopefully, your anticipated support will catalyze the transformation of this vision into reality. United, we shall forge a legacy of hope, innovation, strength, and healing, echoing not just throughout Greece but across the entire world. Let us be a beacon of inspiration by making a significant impact on those across the world and for those who are fighting for victory. We are encouraging you to consider accepting our invitation to the "Wings to Cure" Gala 2026 on November 7.

Eleni Bousis
Chairwoman Hippocratic Cancer Research Foundation

WHY SUPPORT HCRF?

PARTNERING WITH EXCELLENCE

- **Leading Institution:** The Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center at Northwestern Memorial Hospital continues to be recognized as one of the nation's leading cancer centers. In the 2024-2025 U.S. News & World Report rankings, Northwestern Memorial Hospital is listed among the top hospitals for cancer care.
- The Lurie Cancer Center is one of only 57 institutions in the nation designated as a Comprehensive Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), recognized for its exceptional "scientific leadership, resources, and the depth and breadth of its research."
- As a founding member of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN), an alliance of 33 of the world's top cancer centers, the Lurie Cancer Center is dedicated to setting the standard for high-quality, high-value cancer care.

These accolades reflect the efforts of the Lurie Cancer Center's unwavering commitment to excellence and success in patient care, research, and education.

- **Trailblazing Research:** HCRF has supported research advancements that have developed FDA-approved treatments and transformative approaches in cancer care.
- **World-Class Experts:** Our collaboration with Dr. Leonidas Plataniotis and his team ensures that donations directly fuel impactful research initiatives.



TANGIBLE IMPACT

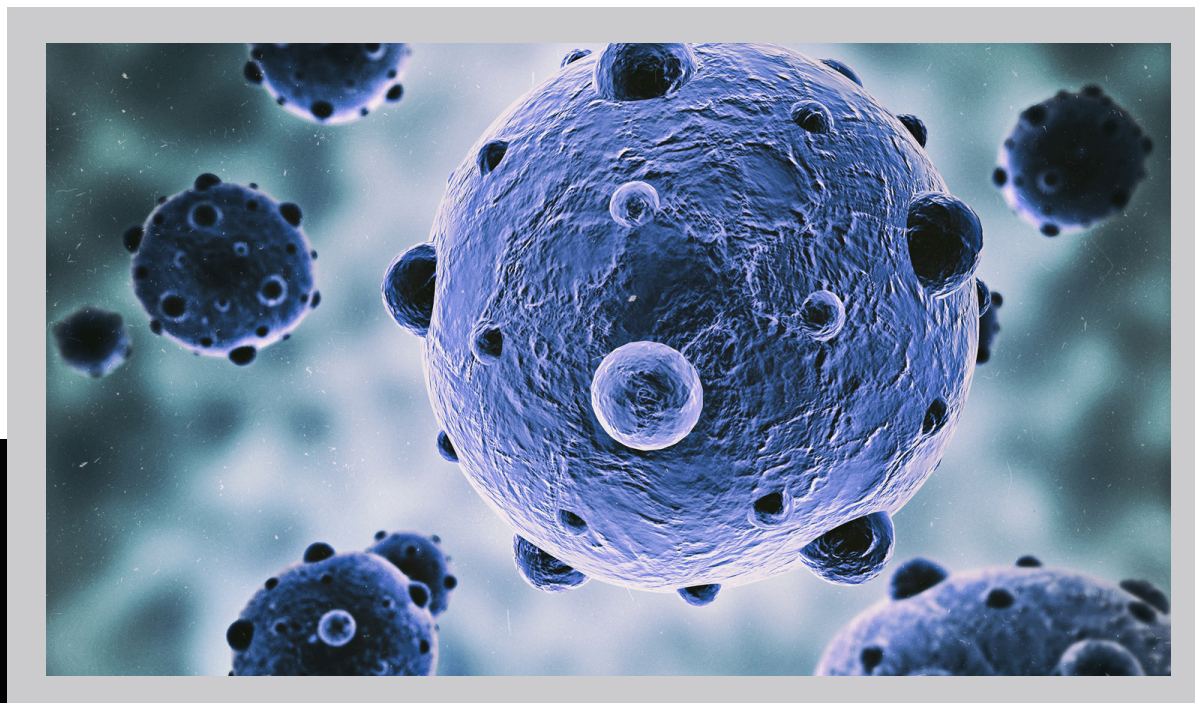
- Developing immunotherapies and cellular therapies that improve patient outcomes
- Research examining highly aggressive cancers
- Innovations in cancer biology research to advance more effective treatments

Supporting HCRF is more than philanthropy – it is an investment in groundbreaking science that can

THE URGENCY OF OUR WORK

CANCER STATISTICS

- Cancer is the second leading cause of death globally, accounting for nearly **10 million deaths in 2020** (WHO).
- According to the American Cancer Society, 2025 will see an estimated **2,041,910 new cancer cases** and **618,120 cancer-related deaths** in the U.S. While cancer mortality rates have decreased by 34% since 1991—preventing over 4.5 million deaths—there is a troubling rise in cancer among women and younger adults. Women under 50 now face an **82% higher incidence rate** than men, largely due to breast and thyroid cancers.
- These statistics highlight the urgent need for prevention, early detection, and innovative treatment strategies.



THE POWER OF RESEARCH

- Survival rates for many cancers, including breast cancer and leukemia, **have doubled** in the past 50 years, thanks to advancements in research.
- Continued funding **has led to breakthroughs** for aggressive cancers like pancreatic and brain cancer, where **survival rates remain low**, but are improving.
- Investing in cancer research can **save lives** and **creates hope** for a future. How do we know this? Cancer patients today are living proof that medical research matters. For some types of cancer, cancer patients are survivors today because of the latest and greatest treatments. If these cancer patients were diagnosed 20 years ago, they would not have survived.



LET'S KEEP THIS PROMISING MOMENTUM GOING!

IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT

THE ROLE OF THE LURIE CANCER CENTER

As one of the nation's top academic comprehensive cancer centers, the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University is at the forefront of innovative cancer research and treatment. Recognized for its excellence in clinical care, research, and education, the center's work spans a range of critical areas:

1. **DEVELOPMENT OF ADVANCED THERAPIES**

Pioneering immunotherapies and cellular therapies, including CART-cell therapy, which enhances the body's immune response to target and destroy cancer cells.

Advancing precision medicine approaches, and using genetic profiling to tailor treatments to individual patients for maximum efficacy.

2. **ENHANCING SURVIVORSHIP**

Making strides in pancreatic and brain cancers, historically among the most difficult to treat, through cutting-edge approaches such as tumor microenvironment research and innovative drug delivery methods.

Developing clinical trials for novel therapies targeting treatment-resistant cancers,

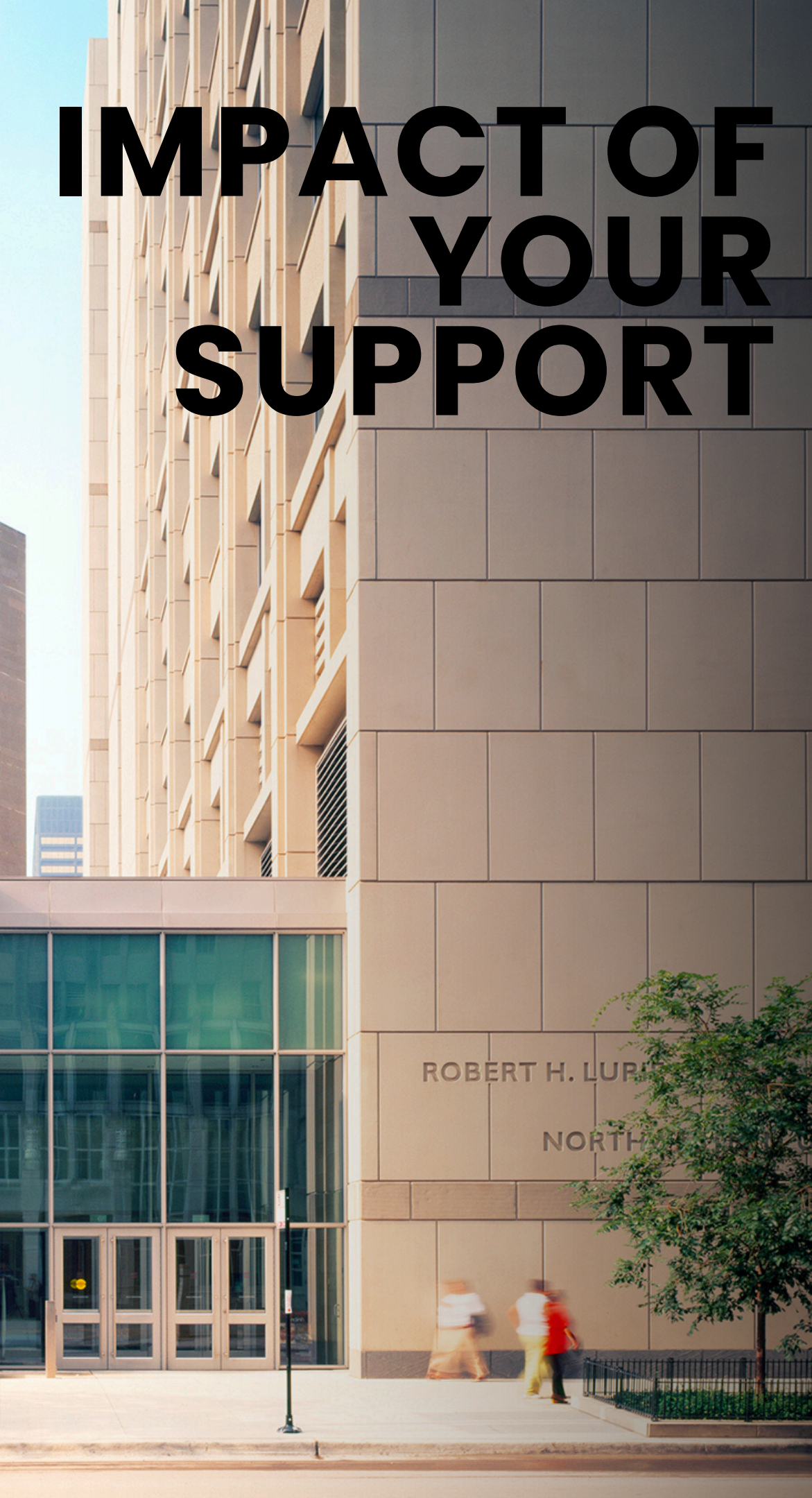
3. **BREAKTHROUGHS IN AGGRESSIVE CANCERS**

Conducting research that addresses long-term survivorship challenges, improving quality of life for cancer survivors through integrative and supportive care programs.

4. **EDUCATION AND COLLABORATION**

Training the next generation of cancer researchers and clinicians through interdisciplinary programs.

Partnering with global research networks to accelerate discovery and bring the latest treatments to patients worldwide.



LEONIDAS PLATANIAS

MD, PhD

Dr. Leonidas Platanias is the Director of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University, a leading institution in cancer research and a founding member of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). He holds the Jesse, Sara, Andrew, Abigail, Benjamin, and Elizabeth Lurie Professorship in Oncology and is a Professor in the Departments of Medicine, and Biochemistry, and Molecular Genetics. Since becoming director in 2014, he has led Lurie Cancer Center through significant growth, doubling its NCI funding and recruiting over 160 new faculty members. Under his leadership, the center received its highest rating ever from the NCI and Lurie Cancer Center's Program at Northwestern Memorial Hospital is consistently ranked among the nation's best by U.S. News & World Report.

Born in Athens, Greece, Dr. Platanias earned his medical degree and doctorate from the University of Patras. He began his research at the National Institutes of Health before completing his residency in New York and his fellowship in Hematology-Oncology at the University of Chicago Hospitals. He joined Northwestern as Deputy Director of the Lurie Cancer Center in 2002 and became Director 2014.



Board-certified in Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology, his research focuses on cytokine signaling in cancer and immune response. He has published over 370 papers and has been continuously funded by the NCI for nearly 30 years. A leader in cancer immunotherapy, he has received many prestigious awards, served as President of the International Society of Interferon, and Cytokine Research, and in other national leadership positions.

Under the esteemed guidance of Dr. Leonidas Platanias, Director of the Lurie Cancer Center in Chicago, we have made remarkable strides in understanding and treating cancer, a disease that poses formidable challenges. Our mission has remained steadfast: to accelerate breakthroughs in cancer care and to eradicate all types of cancers once and for all. Achieving this mission demands collaboration with world-renowned scientists and oncologists, innovation, and unwavering support from corporate and private donations.

OUR WORLD-RENOWNED NORTHWESTERN MEDICAL TEAM

ROGER STUPP, MD

Chief of Neuro-oncology in the Department of Neurology Paul C. Bucy Professor of Neurological Surgery Professor of Neurological Surgery, Medicine (Hematology and Oncology) and Neurology (Neuro-oncology)



Dr. Roger Stupp is an internationally recognized medical oncologist with a special focus on innovative cancer treatments and drug development, notably for brain tumors and brain metastases. At Northwestern, he is leading the Division of Neuro-Oncology, and serving as the Co-leader of the Translational Research in Solid Tumors (TRIST) program of the Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Dr. Stupp has been the lead investigator for numerous clinical trials from first-in-human phase 1 to pivotal phase 3 registration studies. In the brain tumor field, he is best known for his contributions of temozolomide, and radiation in the first line treatment of brain tumors (the "stupp protocol"), and establishing MGMT as a predictive marker for benefit from alkylating agent chemotherapy. He was also the lead investigator establishing Tumor Treating Fields as an innovative treatment modality. Two novel treatments that based on his research received FDA approval and are today standard of care for patients suffering from glioblastoma.

William Gradishar, MD

Chief of Hematology and Oncology in the Department of Medicine Betsy Bramsen Professor of Breast Oncology Professor of Medicine (Hematology and Oncology)



My clinical domain is breast cancer management. My clinical research interest focuses on the development of novel therapies for the treatment of breast cancer. Clinical trials focusing on precision medicine for defining the right therapy, for the right patient at the right time is our goal. To that end, molecular interrogation of breast tumors are leading to novel trial design that will hopefully translate into better outcomes for our patients.

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MAHA HUSSAIN, MBCHB

Genevieve E. Teuton Professor of Medicine Professor of Medicine (Hematology and Oncology)



Maha Hussain, MD, FACP, FASCO, is the Genevieve Teuton Professor of Medicine in the Division of Hematology-Oncology, Department of Medicine, and the Deputy Director, and leader of the GU Oncology Program at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine.

Dr. Hussain is a practicing oncologist, internationally renowned expert and clinical researcher in genitourinary oncology particularly prostate and bladder cancer. Her research, funded by federal grants and contracts, is focused on the development of novel therapeutics integrating scientific advances into clinical trials and has contributed to significantly impacting the standards of care for patients with metastatic hormone sensitive and castration resistant prostate cancer.

Jyoti Patel, MD

*Associate Vice Chair for Clinical Research, Department of Medicine
Professor of Medicine (Hematology and Oncology)*

Jyoti Patel, MD, is Professor of Medicine at Northwestern University and Associate Vice-Chair for Clinical Research in the Department of Medicine. She is also Medical Director of Thoracic Oncology and Assistant Director for Clinical Research in the Lurie Cancer Center. Dr. Patel is a leader in thoracic oncology, focusing her efforts in the development and evaluation of novel molecular markers and therapeutics in patients battling non-small cell lung cancer. She has numerous publications and has lead multiple lung cancer trials, from phase I to III. Dr. Patel is recognized for her expertise in new drug development as well as being an outstanding clinician, educator, and mentor.



HIDAYATULLAH G MUNSHI, MD

Robertand Lora Lurie Professor of Medicine Professor of Medicine (Hematology and Oncology)



Hidayatullah Munshi has a broad background in studying the mechanisms regulating pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) progression. He has expertise in orthotopic and transgenic mouse models and routinely employ ex vivo acinar-to-ductal metaplasia, organoid, and slice cultures of human PDAC tumors in our studies. Besides studying the mechanisms by which collagen microenvironment regulates invasion, he is interested in understanding the role of the collagen microenvironment in treatment resistance. He has shown that epigenetic changes induced by the collagen microenvironment contribute to resistance to chemotherapy and immunotherapy. He has found that collagen microenvironment induces histone acetylation and that targeting “readers” of histone acetylation marks using BET inhibitors can limit growth of pancreatic cancer cells. He has also shown that the collagen microenvironment regulates mRNA translation to mediate pancreatic cancer progression. His ongoing studies are focused on identifying mechanism-based novel combination regimens to enhance response of immune checkpoint inhibitors in PDAC.

Jessica Altman, MD

Professor of Medicine (Hematology and Oncology)



Jessica Altman is the Director of the Leukemia program at the Lurie Cancer Center. Dr. Altman’s primary research efforts are based on increasing understanding of the role of aberrant signal transduction pathways in the development of myeloid neoplasms; defining molecular targets for the treatment of leukemias; and generating clinical trials based on such research work.

Emma L. Barber, MD

*Assistant Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology;
Feinberg School of Medicine*



Dr. Emma L. Barber is a gynecologic oncologist and health services researcher whose work focuses on improving surgical outcomes and quality of care for patients with gynecologic cancers. Her research examines practice patterns in gynecologic oncology, patient reported outcomes, and health related quality of life following surgery. Dr. Barber earned a Master’s degree in Clinical Research and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in epidemiology and clinical trials. She received an early career development award through the Women’s Reproductive Health Research (K-12) program. Her work has helped identify tools to better measure patient quality of life and develop risk assessment strategies that guide treatment decisions and reduce postoperative complications.

EXHIBITION & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



GOLD SPONSOR | CORPORATE SPONSOR €25,000+

- Prominent logo placement on the event stage, signage, event website, and print marketing materials.
- One dedicated social media post.
- *Recognition across HCRF social media channels and event newsletters, highlighting your support.*
- Logo placement featured on the official event invitation sent to attendees and supporters.
- Special verbal acknowledgment during the event program.
- **2 VIP tables** with premier placement.
- Reserved seating with bottle service at the HCRF After Party.
- Access to a private meet-and-greet with Dr. Leonidas Platanias and key researchers.



SILVER SPONSOR €10,000

- Prominent logo placement on the event stage, signage, event website, and all print and digital marketing materials.
- **1 VIP table of 10** with premier placement.



BRONZE SPONSOR €3,500

- Prominent logo placement on the event stage, signage, event website, and all print and digital marketing materials.
- Includes **4 tickets**.



INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

- Individual Ticket €250



EXHIBITION & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

MAKE AN IMPACT. BE PART OF THE NIGHT.

- 1. Exhibitor | €2,500**
Corner display space at the event
Includes:
 - **Two tickets** to the event
 - Dinner for two guests
 - One cocktail table display space
 - Prominent logo placement during the event
 - Recognition in the event program
- 2. Featured Display Partner | €5,000+**
Premium display table within the main exhibition area
Includes:
 - **Four tickets** to the event
 - Enhanced display presence during the event
 - Brand visibility among guests and attendees
 - All benefits included in the Exhibitor package

- 3. Honoree Exhibition Partner | €10,000+**
Premier exhibition presence and recognition
Includes:
 - **One Table** for the event
 - Premium exhibition display
 - Participation in the Honoree Panel discussion
 - Brand recognition during the program
 - On stage acknowledgement by the event host
 - All benefits listed above
- 4. Presenting Sponsor | €50,000+**
Exclusive presenting sponsor of the entire event
Includes:
 - **Two Tables** for the event
 - Premier branding across all event materials and signage
 - Prominent recognition throughout the evening program
 - On stage acknowledgment and speaking opportunity
 - Top tier brand visibility and leadership recognition

Our exhibition and sponsorship opportunities provide brands a unique platform to engage with guests while supporting groundbreaking cancer research. Partners can showcase their brand through curated displays, meaningful activations, and prominent recognition throughout the evening. Join us and be part of an unforgettable event advancing hope and innovation in cancer research.

Register your spot today. Email us at kristen@wingstocure.org.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

THE TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY WINGS TO CURE GALA WILL BE A NIGHT OF INSPIRATION AND CELEBRATION, FEATURING:

- **Live Auction:** Bid on exclusive items, including luxury travel experiences and one-of-a-kind packages.
- **Guest Speakers:** Hear from world-renowned researchers and cancer survivors whose lives have been transformed by advancements funded by HCRE.
- **Gourmet Dining:** Enjoy a curated menu and elevated dining experience during the dinner portion of the evening.
- **Entertainment:** Live music and performances to enhance the evening's ambiance.

This event will unite leaders in medicine, philanthropy, and the community to forge new pathways in cancer research.



HIPPOCRATES

DOCTOR | HEALER | FATHER OF MEDICINE

Hippocrates was born on the Aegean island of Kos around the middle of the fifth century, BCE. With little knowledge of his life experiences, historians rely on a biography written some 500 years after his death by another Greek physician, Soranus, which was drawn from legend and a collection of medical writings commonly called the Hippocratic Corpus. His formal name was Hippocrates Asclepiades, meaning “descendant of (the doctor-god) Asclepius.” Born into a wealthy family, the son of Praxithea and Heracleides, Hippocrates was likely given a solid education in the basic subjects.

He went on to a formal secondary school before learning medicine from his father and another physician Herodicos. Historians believe Hippocrates traveled throughout the Greek mainland and possibly Libya and Egypt practicing medicine. Known for his teaching as much as his healing abilities, Hippocrates passed on his medical knowledge to his two sons and started a school for medicine on the island of Kos around 400 BCE. It was probably here that many of the methods attributed to Hippocrates were developed.

THE HIPPOCRATIC CORPUS

Much of what is known about these methods comes from a collection of more than 60 medical books known as the Hippocratic Corpus, considered the oldest writings on medicine. Compiled about 100 years after his death, historians believe these works may have been written by several physicians practicing during and after Hippocrates’ lifetime. Despite different authors, the writings share core ideas about how the body works and the nature of disease, and were intended for physicians, pharmacists, and even the layperson to better understand medical practice.

According to the Corpus, Hippocratic medicine emphasized a healthy diet and physical exercise as remedies for many ailments. If illness persisted, medications — often derived from plants — were used. The texts also describe joint repositioning, the importance of documenting case histories and treatments, and the influence of weather on certain illnesses.

Hippocratic medicine believed disease resulted from natural causes rather than the will of the gods. However, physicians at the time primarily observed patients rather than the diseases themselves. Knowledge of internal organs was largely based on external observation, and dissections were typically performed on animals.



The Hippocratic Oath

I swear by Apollo the physician, by Asclepius, by Hygieia and Panacea, and by all the gods and goddesses, making them my witnesses, that I will carry out, according to my ability and judgment, this oath and this covenant.

To hold my teacher in this art equal to my own parents; to make him partner in my livelihood; when he is in need of money to share mine with him; to consider his family as my own brothers, and to teach them this art, if they wish to learn it, without fee or covenant. I will impart a knowledge of the art to my own sons, and to the sons of my teachers, and to students bound by this covenant and oath according to the law of medicine, but to no others.

I will use treatment to help the sick according to my ability and judgment, but never with a view to injury or wrongdoing. Neither will I administer a poison to anybody when asked to do so, nor will I suggest such a course.

Similarly I will not give to a woman a pessary to cause abortion. But I will keep pure and holy both my life and my art.

I will not use the knife, not even on sufferers from stone, but will withdraw in favor of such men as are engaged in this work.

Into whatever houses I enter, I will go into them for the benefit of the sick, avoiding any voluntary act of impropriety or corruption.

Whatever I see or hear in the lives of my patients, whether in connection with my professional practice or not, which ought not to be spoken of outside, I will keep secret.

If I fulfill this oath and do not violate it, may it be granted to me to enjoy life and the practice of the art, respected by all men for all time. But if I transgress it and swear falsely, may the opposite of all this be my lot.

SAVE THE DATE

Wings To Cure Gala
Radiate

THE
HIPPOCRATIC
CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Chicago, IL
Saturday, November 7th
Hyatt Regency Chicago

REGISTER NOW

→ [Event Link](#) ←

Where Light Becomes Hope

Presented by the
HCRF European Advisory Board

Saturday, May 23rd

THE
HIPPOCRATIC
CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

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