



TAKING CONTROL OF CANCER

OUR RESEARCH IMPACT



Canadian
Cancer
Society

Why fund research?

At the Canadian Cancer Society (CCS), we're investing in ideas, innovation and forward thinking to prevent cancer and drive change for the 1 in 2 Canadians who will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime.

We're making progress: about 63% of Canadians diagnosed with cancer will survive at least 5 years after their diagnosis. This is up from 25% in the 1940s.

Cancer research is at a tipping point, with significant gains to our knowledge poised to impact how we prevent, diagnose, treat and live with and beyond cancer.

This report highlights some of CCS's most impactful cancer research projects that showed results in the 2019-20 year - a very different year to this with the COVID-19 pandemic.

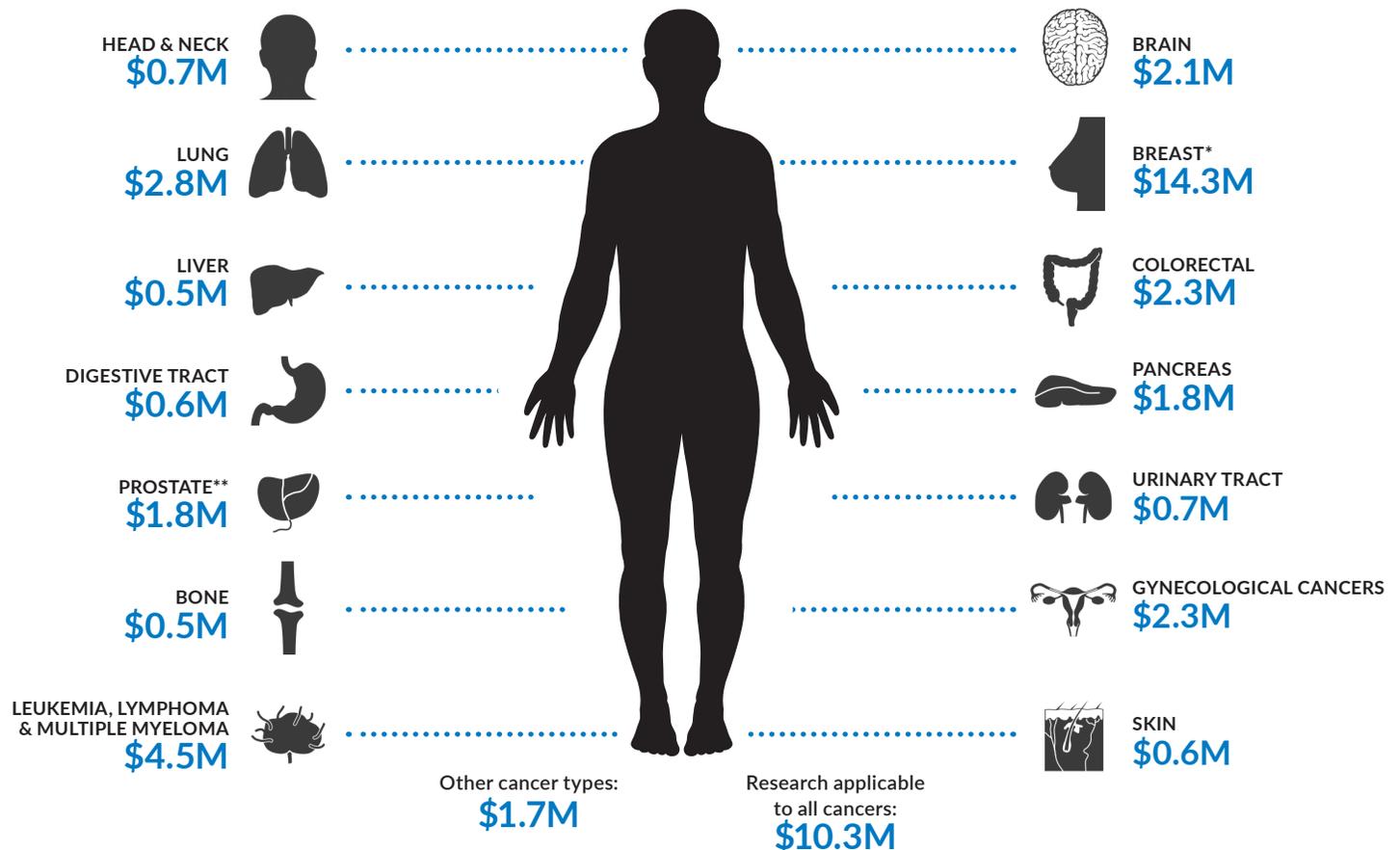
While we work to understand the impact of COVID-19 on cancer research, and with the help of our supporters, CCS will continue to strengthen and expand our research potential through bold new ideas and emerging technologies.

"Research is what underpins medicine. Not that long ago, people viewed cancer as a death sentence. But now we know that many cancers can be cured. We've been succeeding and chipping away and upping these survival rates. Research is clearly working and will continue to work, so we need to keep doing it."

Dr Torsten Nielsen, CCS-funded researcher,
University of British Columbia

Our investment

Last year, CCS invested \$42.1 million in cancer research. These funds supported research that focuses on the whole cancer continuum - from prevention to treatment to life with or beyond cancer. Thanks to our holistic approach to cancer research, CCS has a rich legacy of fueling discoveries that have helped us better control cancer and improve outcomes for people affected by the disease.



These numbers represent total funding numbers and should not be combined into a single sum to represent overall cancer research investment. Diagram is for representation only and not anatomically accurate.
*Our merger with the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation (CBCF) in 2017 led to a significant increase in our breast cancer research investment as CBCF's research commitments became part of the CCS research portfolio.

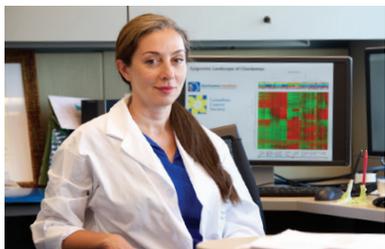
**This number does not include Prostate Cancer Canada's research investments in 2019.

Research innovation

Cancer isn't a single disease with a single cause, which is why our researchers aren't looking for a single cure. In Canada, CCS is the only nationwide organization to fund research into all types of cancer, and all stages of the cancer journey. We support researchers whose expertise spans the cancer experience and all cancer types and disciplines. The following is just a sample of some of the discoveries that are shifting the cancer experience thanks to researchers supported by CCS.

A new test to distinguish between types of brain cancer

Dr Gelareh Zadeh, University Health Network



Dr Gelareh Zadeh developed a new test to distinguish between the 2 main types of gliomas and improve patient outcomes. Gliomas are the most common type of brain cancer and the 2 main types of gliomas have very different prognoses and should be treated differently. Unlike conventional tests to determine which type of glioma a person has, which can take weeks, the test developed by Dr Zadeh and her team can provide an accurate response in real time as the surgeon is operating. This information allows the surgeon to make a more informed decision about how much tumour they can safely

remove while maximizing a person's quality of life. It also allows doctors to choose the most appropriate drug to give directly into the brain during the surgery, improving the odds of treatment success.

Making life-saving stem cell transplants safer

Dr Sandra Cohen, Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital

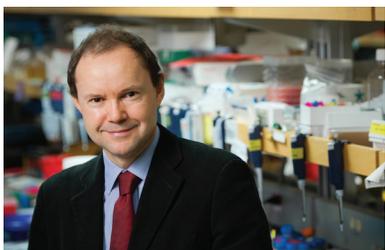


Dr Sandra Cohen and her team are helping to make life-saving stem cell transplants safer and more accessible for more people with blood cancers. Their clinical trial uncovered how an experimental treatment could improve therapy options for people with blood cancers, who often require a stem cell transplant from a donor. Finding a bone marrow donor can be a difficult process, so Dr Cohen and her team tested a new method of growing stem cells from umbilical cord blood, which can be more easily matched to recipients. The study was successful and the researchers are now

conducting a bigger clinical trial to learn more and determine if the treatment is effective at preventing relapse in high risk blood cancers.

Reducing the burden of ovarian and other gynecologic cancers

Dr David Huntsman, University of British Columbia

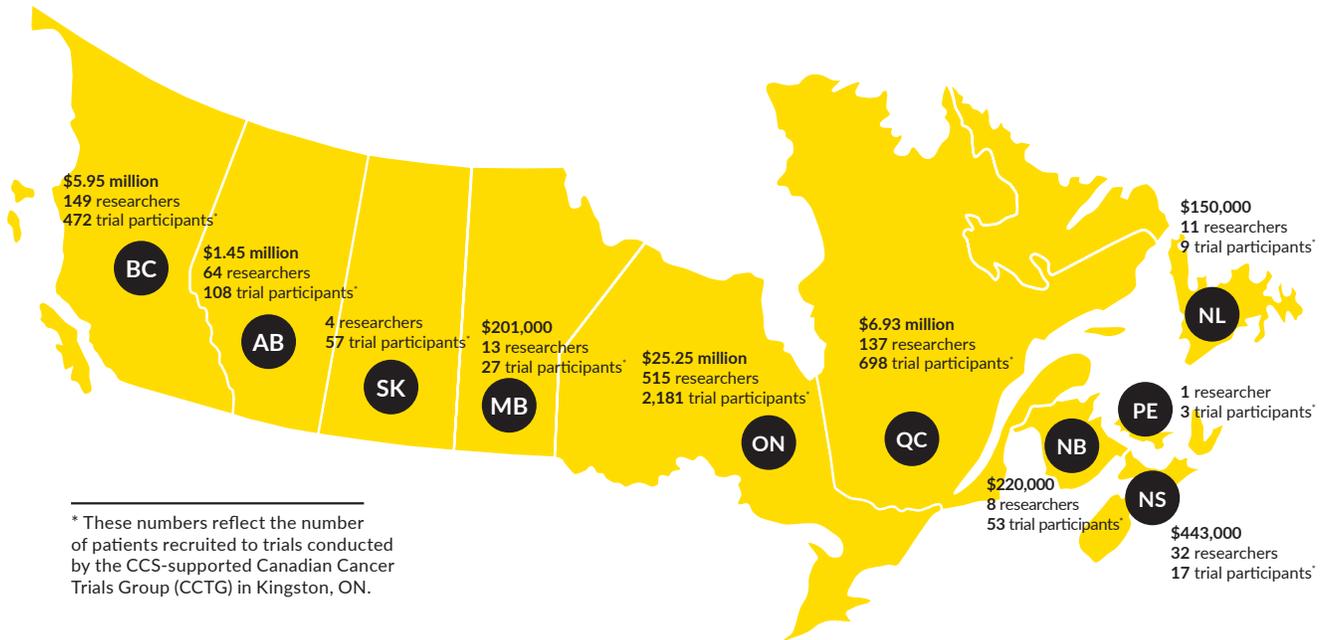


Dr. David Huntsman and the gynecologic cancer research team in BC are working to reduce the burden of gynecologic cancers by half. They are achieving this through a program that integrates prevention, diagnostics and treatments as well as survivorship strategies. Their ovarian cancer prevention program focuses on opportunistic salpingectomy, which is the removal of fallopian tubes either instead of tubal ligation or during a hysterectomy to remove the uterus. The idea for this program came from the discovery that most ovarian cancers either start in the fallopian tube

or pass through the fallopian tube before becoming cancer. This surgical practice change has been endorsed by Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada and similar organizations around the world. It has the potential to save countless women from an ovarian cancer diagnosis.

Our 2019–2020 nationwide research investment

With your help, CCS will continue to accelerate research to effect change nationwide, for all Canadians, in all communities. Thanks to our passionate collective of Canadians who care about cancer, CCS's research impact will continue to be far-reaching, nationwide and shaped by people affected by cancer from across the country.



“To everyone who donates their money to research, volunteers their time or donates blood and marrow, I would not be alive today without you. Twenty years ago, a leukemia diagnosis was practically a death sentence. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to get married, watch my kids grow up and hopefully have grandchildren one day. I will forever be in your debt.”

Michelle Burleigh, cancer thriver

LIFE
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Thank you

It's because of you that CCS and our funded researchers can give Canadians hope for life that is bigger than cancer. Together, we are making progress, thinking boldly, doing differently, and taking chances. Thank you.

To learn more about our research or to make a donation, visit cancer.ca or call 1-888-939-3333.