



**RARE CANCERS:
50% OF PEOPLE WITH CANCER SUFFER
FROM A RARE FORM OF THE DISEASE**

According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), a rare cancer is one with a prevalence of fewer than 200,000 affected individuals in the United States. However, rare cancers are far more common than the term implies – more than half of all cancers are classified as “rare.”

Cycle for Survival is the national movement to fight all rare cancers, and it is the only event of its kind to raise money solely for rare cancers. Cycle makes a tangible impact on patients’ lives by funding research that drives new and improved treatments. Every dollar raised goes directly to lifesaving research at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Since 2007, Cycle has directly funded 53 clinical trials and research studies.

FACTS ABOUT RARE CANCERS

- 50% of all cancers are classified as “rare”
- All pediatric cancers are categorized as “rare”
- Among cancers classified as “rare” are such well-known forms of the disease as: **pancreatic, sarcoma, ovarian, cervical, brain, metastatic melanoma, head and neck, stomach, carcinoma, thyroid, and leukemia and lymphomas**

THE CHALLENGE

Rare cancer research is often drastically underfunded. This results in fewer opportunities to gain essential insights, which lay the groundwork for new, lifesaving advances and discoveries. In general, there are fewer treatment options for patients with rare cancers because funding for drug development often lags behind more commercially-viable therapies.

WHY MEMORIAL SLOAN-KETTERING CANCER CENTER

Cycle for Survival is proud to be a part of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC). Founded in 1884, MSKCC is the world’s oldest and largest institution dedicated exclusively to the care, control, and cure of cancer. Its legacy of innovation is unparalleled: MSKCC has produced more FDA-approved drugs for the treatment of cancer than any other single academic institution. The Center also treats over 400 types of cancer each year, and is proud to count many of the world’s most renowned and accomplished leaders in rare cancer research and care among its staff.

www.cycleforsurvival.org

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