

# Extramural Discovery Science



*Christina Annunziata, MD, PhD, Senior Vice President*

As the nation's largest private, not-for-profit source of funds for scientists studying cancer, the American Cancer Society and Extramural Discovery Science (EDS) is committed to maintaining a cancer research portfolio that includes any type of cancer across the cancer research continuum that's aligned with our research priorities. Our grants fund high-impact and innovative cancer research conducted by hundreds of scientists and health care professionals – primarily early in their careers – at institutions across the United States.

Within EDS, we have three grant programs that are broadly organized based on their scientific focus, as well as one program centered on our dedicated grant mechanisms for specific career stages.

## Biochemistry & Immunology of Cancer Research

*Program Lead:  
Douglas Hurst, PhD  
Scientific Director*

*Program Manager:  
Santina Snow, PhD  
Sr. Associate Scientist*

### Program Description

Research in this program focuses on the fundamental mechanisms of cancer initiation, progression, and prevention. Emphasis is placed on molecular studies encompassing structure, function, interaction, signaling, and regulatory pathways.

### Peer Review Committees:

- DNA Mechanisms of Cancer
- Immunology & Blood Cell Development
- RNA Mechanisms of Cancer
- Tumor Biochemistry & Endocrinology

## Cell Biology & Preclinical Cancer Research

*Program Lead:  
Paul Campbell, PhD  
Scientific Director*

*Program Manager:  
Kimberly Yasutis, PhD  
Sr. Associate Scientist*

### Program Description

Research in this program focuses on fundamental regulation of cancer cell development, growth, progression, and metastasis. Emphasis is placed on both preclinical and translational science encompassing the above, as well as cancer cell detection, the influence of the tumor microenvironment, biomarker discovery and development, and therapeutics.

### Peer Review Committees:

- Cancer Cell Biology
- Cancer Detection & Progression
- Experimental Therapeutics
- Metastasis & Microenvironment

## Clinical and Population Science Research

*Program Lead:  
Joanne Elena, PhD, MPH  
Scientific Director*

*Program Manager:  
Sandra Schimmel, PhD  
Sr. Associate Scientist*

### Program Description

Research in this program focuses on human studies that investigate how to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer. Special emphasis is placed on studies that reflect the diversity of the US population and address health disparities.

### Peer Review Committees:

- Cancer Prevention & Health Promotion
- Cancer Treatment, Palliative Care, and Survivorship
- Etiology, Screening, and Early Detection
- Health Outcomes, Policy, and Services Research
- RFA-Specific: Cancer Health Equity Research Centers

**Grant Mechanisms: Clinician Scientist Development Grants, Research Scholar Grants, Mission Boost Grants, Discovery Boost Grants**

## Career Growth and Research Excellence

*Program Lead: Kathleen Goss, PhD, Sr. Scientific Director  
Program Manager: Nicole Lopanik, PhD, Scientist*

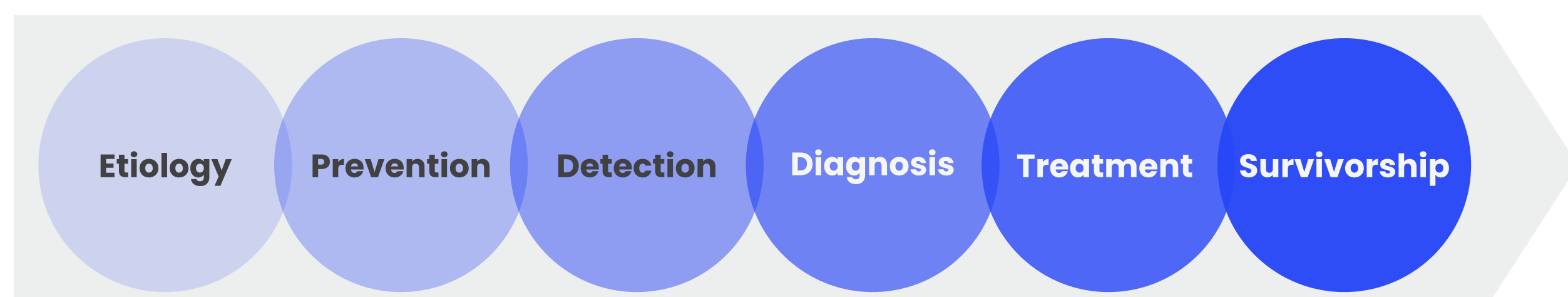
### Program Description

The goal of this program is to launch the careers of early-stage cancer scientists into independent researchers and to support the research and mentoring activities of elite clinicians and scientists at the full Professor stage of their career. There are three grant mechanisms that fall within this program, each of which has designated peer review committees: **Postdoctoral Fellowships, Institutional Research Grants, and ACS Professor Awards.**

### Peer Review Committees:

- PF Molecular Biology & Biochemistry
- PF Cell Biology & Immunology
- PF Cancer Detection & Experimental Therapeutics
- PF Clinical & Population Sciences
- Institutional Research Grants
- ACS Professors

**All four of our grant programs fund research across the cancer research continuum**



**Our scientific teams are supported by two cross-program offices:**

### Grant Policies, Mechanics, and Special Initiatives:

Senior Scientist: Kimberly Clarke, PhD

### Research Impact and Engagement:

Strategic Director: Kristen Cincotta, PhD

Research Engagement Manager: Sabrina Times, PhD, MPH

Senior Scientist, Research Analytics & Reporting: Karen Murphy, PhD

*Learn more about EDS, including how to apply for a research grant at:  
[cancer.org/research/we-fund-cancer-research.html](https://cancer.org/research/we-fund-cancer-research.html)*