



1973 – 2023: FIFTY YEARS OF TURNING RESEARCH INTO RESULTS

1990s

The field of epigenetics, characterized by chemical alterations to genes that support the growth and spread of cancer without mutating the DNA, becomes part of mainstream cancer medicine. The Cancer Center’s discoveries in genetics and epigenetics are regarded as the most relevant in cancer biology, earning the Center the nickname “Cancer Research Powerhouse.”

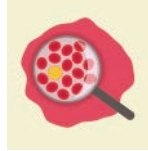
1990
First genetic screening test for cancer developed

Molecular markers point to earliest steps in lung cancer development



1992
Martin D. Abeloff named Cancer Center director

Function of p53 gene pathway deciphered



1994
Inactivated GSTP1 gene found to initiate prostate cancer

SAGE technology allows simultaneous study of thousands of genes

Clonal markers are early sign that cancer could be detected in blood/body fluids

National Familial Pancreatic Tumor Registry launches

1996
Genetic link between smoking and lung cancer identified

Telomerase identified as a biomarker for breast cancer

Urine test detects bladder cancer

Construction of new Kimmel Cancer Center buildings begins

1998
Saliva test for head and neck cancer developed

Genetic cancer screening, testing and counseling for high-risk families starts

Prostate cancer specimen bank opens

Duffy Family Pain and Palliative Care Program established



1992
First Cancer Survivors Day celebrated

1993
Center is only NCI Cancer Center to earn multiple SPOREs

Among first to use 3D radiation simulation

Abnormal gene methylation found to turn off tumor suppressor genes

Chemo and radiation therapy before surgery helps esophageal cancer patients

Pediatric Long-Term Survivors Program starts

1995
Inpatient/Outpatient Center for outpatient bone marrow transplantation opens
Pediatric Bone Marrow Transplant Center opens

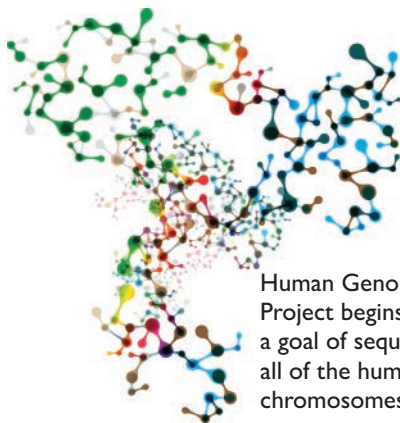
1997
Art of Healing Program established
Pediatric oncology joint fellowship with NCI starts



1999
Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Building opens

FLT3 gene cloned and linked to type of leukemia

America Online begins mailing their ubiquitous 3.5-inch floppy disks



Human Genome Project begins with a goal of sequencing all of the human chromosomes