



# **Pancreatic Cancer: An Agenda for Action**

Report of the Pancreatic Cancer Progress Review Group

February 2001

## From the Leadership

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It is a great pleasure to submit this Report of the Pancreatic Cancer Progress Review Group (PRG) to the Director and Advisory Committee to the Director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI). To accelerate progress against pancreatic cancer, the Director, NCI, requested the PRG to identify scientific priorities and needs so that the Institute can forge a national agenda for research on this disease. This report is the outcome of the PRG's 10-month effort to carry out this charge.

Although pancreatic cancer is less common than some other cancers, it is nearly always fatal, so we appreciate the NCI's decision to institute a PRG to address it. The PRG's report demonstrates a need to expand pancreatic cancer research aggressively in almost all areas: biology, etiology, prevention, diagnosis, treatment, control, and perhaps most importantly, training and infrastructure. However, rather than propose a long list of recommendations, the PRG proposes a limited set of them that truly represent the highest priorities in the field. The PRG was able to accomplish this goal by using a structured, formal process at its Roundtable Meeting in which participants integrated the findings from specific breakout groups into the deliberations of more broad ones. The result of this approach, we believe, is a report that is clear and concise in its recommendations.

We believe that the hard work of this PRG has resulted in recommendations that, if pursued, will do much to eradicate morbidity and mortality due to pancreatic cancer. We look forward to assisting the NCI in implementing these recommendations and to following their progress.

Respectfully,



Scott Kern, M.D.  
Co-Chair, PRG



Margaret Tempero, M.D.  
Co-Chair, PRG



Barbara Conley, M.D.  
Executive Director, PRG  
National Cancer Institute

**We the undersigned members of the Pancreatic Cancer Progress Review Group concur with the enclosed report.**

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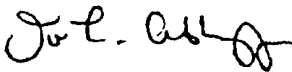
Scott Kern, M.D.  
Co-Chair



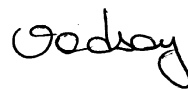
Margaret Tempero, M.D.  
Co-Chair



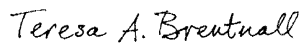
Barbara Conley, M.D.  
Executive Director, PRG



James Abbruzzese, M.D.



N. Volkan Adsay, M.D.



Teri Brentnall, M.D.



Arthur Charnsangavej, M.D.



Paul J. Chiao, Ph.D.



Douglas B. Evans, M.D.



Jorge Gomez, M.D., Ph.D.



Louise Grochow, M.D.



Ernie Hawk, M.D., M.P.H.



Michael Anthony Hollingsworth, Ph.D.



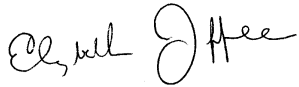
Elizabeth A. Holly, Ph.D., M.P.H.



Ralph H. Hruban, M.D.

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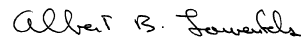
Elizabeth M. Jaffee, M.D.



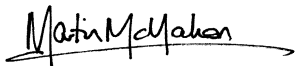
Murray Korc, M.D.



Charles Lightdale, M.D.



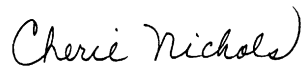
Albert B. Lowenfels, M.D.




Martin McMahon, Ph.D.



Michael L. Meyers, M.D., Ph.D.



Cherie Nichols, M.B.A.



Dan O'Hair, Ph.D.



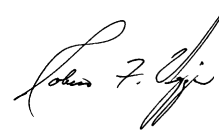
Gloria Petersen, Ph.D.



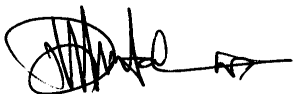
Paula Simper



Selwyn Maurice Vickers, M.D.



Robert Vizza, Ph.D.



David Whitcomb, M.D., Ph.D.

## Acknowledgments

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- The researchers, clinicians, and members of the advocacy community who participated in the Pancreatic Cancer Roundtable Meeting. The recommendations of the PRG are the result of their expertise, insight, and effort.
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# **Executive Summary**













**I. Health of the Field  
and  
Overarching Issues**









## **II. Research Priorities**









































### **III. Scientific Toolkit**































