New York State Department of Health
Prostate and Testicular Cancer Research and Education Fund

2025 Report

I. The New York State Prostate and Testicular Cancer Research and Education Fund: Background

The New York State Prostate and Testicular Cancer Research and Education Fund was created with an amendment to State Finance Law (SFL) §95-e, enacted as part of the 2014-2015 State budget. The law authorized the Commissioner of Health to provide grants for the purpose of advancing and financing prostate and testicular cancer research, support programs, and education projects, using the revenues received as part of the Prostate and Testicular Cancer Research and Education Fund. Available funding to support this initiative is limited to the amount(s) appropriated in the enacted State Fiscal Year budgets and as set by the New York State Division of Budget.

State Finance Law requires the Commissioner of Health to provide an annual report describing how monies from the fund were used in the prior calendar year. The following is a description of activities conducted in 2025 by the organizations awarded grants supported by the Prostate and Testicular Cancer Research and Education Fund.

II. Prostate Cancer Research Grants for National Cancer Institute-Designated Cancer Centers Located in New York State

A. Background

The New York State Department of Health (Department) awarded grants via a Solicitation of Interest to six National Cancer Institute-designated Cancer Centers (listed below) for a two-year contract period, beginning June 1, 2021, and ending May 31, 2023. The intent of the Solicitation of Interest was to maximize the potential impact and reach of the funding to advance research into prostate cancer to address its heavy burden on New Yorkers, and particularly those New Yorkers disproportionately impacted by this disease. The noncompetitive procurement sought to make awards in sufficient values to support hypothesis-generating research to New York State institutions with experienced principal investigators and the infrastructure to meet the intent of the grant funding. Hypothesis development is an important phase of the research process in which evidence is gathered to develop new research questions that inform future studies and establish the basis for pursuing additional funding opportunities through entities such as the National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute, or the Department of Defense. Awardees used the grant funding to make research awards via their internal peer review processes to investigators at or above the level of postdoctoral fellow (or equivalent) to conduct innovative, hypothesis-developing research that is determined to be either 1) no greater than minimal risk and exempt under 32 Code of Federal Regulations 219.101(b), or 2)

eligible for expedited review under 32 Code of Federal Regulations 219.110 or 21 Code of Federal Regulations 56.110 by the local Institutional Review Board of record.

Grantees

- Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Cancer Center, Cold Spring Harbor, New York
- Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center, Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York, Manhattan, New York
- Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center at New York University Langone Health, New York, New York
- Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Buffalo, New York
- The Tisch Cancer Institute, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, New York
- Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Manhattan, New York (As reported in the 2024 report, this grantee was terminated for convenience in December 2022 after repeated outreach and communications from the New York State Department of Health.)

B. Post-contract Grantee Activities: June 1, 2024, to May 31, 2025

Per the contracted work plans, *New York State Prostate Cancer Research Grants for National Cancer Institute-Designated Cancer Centers Located in New York State* grantees are required to complete and submit three post-contract reports, at six-, 12-, and 24-months after the May 31, 2023, contract end date. The intent of the post-contract reports is to determine how well the funding met the intent to support hypothesis-generating research and establish the basis for additional funding opportunities based on that research. Grantees reported on activities to 1) present their research at professional meetings and institutional in-services, 2) publish their research, and 3) submit applications for future funding to support further research.

Grantees reported the following post-contract activities for the period June 1, 2024, to May 31, 2025, along with activities not previously reported.

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Cancer Center

<u>Research Presentation:</u>

1. Prostate Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPORE) Meeting, Weill Cornell Medical, NY
2. The Coffey-Holden Prostate Cancer Academy Meeting, CA
3. Prostate Cancer Foundation, Annual Retreat, CA
4. Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) Protein Phosphatases Conference, CA
5. Iron, Reactive Oxygen Species & Ferroptosis in Life, Death, & Disease, China
6. National Cancer Institute (NCI) Panel Discussion on Pharmacological Ascorbate and Cancer Treatment

7. Tumor Metabolism, Working Group, Prostate Cancer Foundation Young Investors
8. Sendai Redox Conference, Japan
9. Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences, Institute of Science, Japan
10. Division of Precision Medicine, Kyushu University, Japan
11. The 89th Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Symposium in Quantitative Biology – Senescence & Aging
12. Cancer Center Grand Rounds, Dartmouth College, NH
13. Redox Biology in Health and Disease Conference, Mexico

Articles Published:

1. Wang H, Zhu C, Swamynathan MM, Rajput S, Jayanetti K, Rendina D, Takemura K, Bogdan D, Wang L, Rizzo RC, Kaczocha M, Trotman LC, Bialkowska AB, Ojima I. **Fatty acid binding protein 5 inhibitors as novel anticancer agents against metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer.** *Bioorg Med Chem*. 2025 May: 1-122.
2. Jun HJ, Paulo JA, Appleman VA, Yaron-Barir TM, Johnson JL, Yeo AT, Rogers VA, Kuang S, Varma H, Gygi SP, Trotman LC, Charest A. **Pleiotropic tumor suppressive functions of PTEN missense mutations during gliomagenesis.** *iScience.* 2024 Oct 28;27(12):111278.
3. Swamynathan MM, Kuang S, Watrud KE, Doherty MR, Gineste C, Mathew G, Gong GQ, Cox H, Cheng E, Reiss D, Kendall J, Ghosh D, Reczek CR, Zhao X, Herzka T, Špokaitė S, Dessus AN, Kim ST, Klingbeil O, Liu J, Nowak DG, Alsudani H, Wee TL, Park Y, Minicozzi F, Rivera K, Almeida AS, Chang K, Chakrabarty RP, Wilkinson JE, Gimotty PA, Diermeier SD, Egeblad M, Vakoc CR, Locasale JW, Chandel NS, Janowitz T, Hicks JB, Wigler M, Pappin DJ, Williams RL, Cifani P, Tuveson DA, Laporte J, Trotman LC. **Dietary pro-oxidant therapy by a vitamin K precursor targets PI 3-kinase VPS34 function.** *Science.* 2024 Oct 25;386(6720).

Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center, Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York

Research Presentation:

Boehringer Ingelheim Prostate Cancer Advisory Board Meeting, “Modeling prostate cancer in mouse models” (4/25/2025)

Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center at New York University Langone Health

Research Presentations:

1. University of Pennsylvania Urology Grand Rounds (10/2024)
2. Frontiers in Oncologic Prostate Care and Ablative Local Therapy (FOCAL) Meeting, CA (10/2024)
3. University of Washington Urology Grand Rounds (11/2024)
4. Egyptian Urological Association (11/2024)
5. 8th International Endourology/Oncology at Hospital Alemán, Argentina (12/2024)
6. Illuminate Oncology Town Hall 2.0, India (2/2025)
7. European Association of Urology Congress, Madrid, Spain (3/2025)

8. OncLive Bridging the Gaps in Prostate Cancer (3/2025)
9. Sociedad Chilena de Urología (4/2025)
10. American Society for Men's Health, NV (4/2025)

Article Published:
Loeb S, Robbins R, Sanchez-Nolasco T, Byrne N, Ruan A, Rivera A, Gupta N, Kenfield SA, Chan JM, Van Blarigan EL, Carter P, Jean-Louis G, Orstad SL. **Sleep and health improvement programme (SHIP) for patients with prostate cancer and caregivers.** *BJUI Compass*. 2024 Aug 31;5(10):976-985.

Applications for Future Funding:
1. Elsa Pardee Foundation, Harnessing Immune Peptides from Prostate Cancer to Drive CAR-T Cell Engineering. Submitted 12/15/24, not accepted)
2. Prostate Cancer Foundation Challenge Award, Precision Immunotherapy for Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer via Peptide-Centric CAR T Cells. (Submitted 5/5/2025, pending)

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Research Presentations:
1. Immunometabolic reprograming shapes the prostate tumor microenvironment; *Roswell Park Science Retreat: Buffalo, New York, November 14-15, 2024*
2. Mitochondrial metabolic enzymes in prostate tumors regulate immunosuppressive tumor microenvironment; *Immunology Department Retreat: Buffalo, New York, January 16-17, 2025*
3. Mitochondrial metabolic enzymes in prostate tumors regulate immunosuppressive tumor microenvironment; *Translational Research Cancer Centers Consortium (TRCCC): Seven Springs, Pennsylvania, February 19-21, 2025*
4. Mitochondrial metabolic enzymes in prostate tumors regulate the immunosuppressive tumor microenvironment; *Keystone Symposia: Tumor Metabolism: Environmental Influences and Therapeutic Vulnerabilities: Vancouver, BC, Canada, March 16-19, 2025 [Chieu Van Dang Emerging Minds Endowment Award]*
5. Investigating the role of mitochondrial metabolic enzymes regulating immunosuppressive tumor microenvironment of castration-resistant prostate cancer; *Endocrine Society Meeting, San Francisco [July 12-15, 2025]*

The Tisch Cancer Institute, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Research Presentation:
Abstract submitted to American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting (2025): Revealing the influence of reprogrammed PI3K and glucose metabolism on the progression of hormone-refractory and metastatic prostate cancer. *Cancer Res* (2025) 85 (8_Supplement_1): 5401

Application for Future Funding
Department of Defense Prostate Cancer Research Program (DoD-PCRP) Early Investigator Research Award to Prathiksha Prabhakaraalva; Postdoctoral Fellow, Chakraborty LabPC240657 - "Investigating the Impact of Reprogrammed PIK3R1-Insulin-Glucose Metabolism Pathway in Lethal Prostate Cancer to Develop Therapeutic Strategy (Submitted 8/2024, accepted)

III. Peer Education, Outreach, and Shared Decision Making for Persons at High Risk of Prostate Cancer

A. Background

The New York State Department of Health awarded four grants via a Request for Applications on January 10, 2023, seeking applications to implement the *Peer Education, Outreach, and Shared Decision Making for Persons at High Risk of Prostate Cancer* program. The intent was to award four contracts to agencies that could support peer education and outreach, personalized coaching, linkage to community services to address barriers to health care, and referral to health care providers for prostate cancer screening. Program activities focus on males who are Black, ages 45 to 69 years old, and who bear a disproportionately high burden of prostate cancer. The contract period began October 1, 2023, and runs through September 30, 2028. The funding value for each of the awards is $130,000 annually for a five-year total of $650,000 for each of the four awardees.

The grantees and their service regions are as follows:

Grantee	**Service Region**
The Institute for Family Health	Bronx County
Weill Medical College of Cornell University	Kings County
University of Rochester	Monroe County
Health Research Inc., Roswell Park Division	Erie County

B. Program Activities: January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025

Grantees began the second year of the five-year program on October 1, 2024. From January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025, the following activities occurred:

- Grantees participated in individual monthly meetings with Department staff, reporting on outreach and education activities.

- Grantees participated in a biannual webinar in August 2025 where mid-year data from year two was reviewed. Peer education staff shared successful outreach strategies.

- In November 2025, grantees participated in a Year Three Kickoff meeting where data from the second year of the program was shared, along with discussion of workplan requirements for year three.

- In year two of the program (October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025), 3,365 people were educated and 581 people received individualized coaching regarding shared decision making with a healthcare provider for prostate cancer screening. A total of 405 individuals (almost 70% of individuals who received coaching) reported being screened or intending to screen.

- In the first quarter of year three of the program (October 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025), grantees educated 455 people about prostate cancer and shared decision making and 193 program participants reported being screened or intending to be screened for prostate cancer.

IV. Summary Financial Plan

Cash Disbursement Summary

Cash Revenue in Account Start of SFY 24-25	$3,074,437
Disbursements SFY 24-25	$144,980
Cash Revenue in Account Start of SFY 25-26	$3,298,533
Actual Disbursements SFY 25-26 as of 2/25/26	$509,984
Cash Revenue in Account as of 2/25/26	$3,106,454

Projections SFY 22- 28	**2022-23**	**2023-24**	**2024-25**	**2025-26****	**2026-27****	**2027-28****
Beginning Balance	$3,288,851	$3,177,849	$3,074,437	$3,298,533	$3,106,454	TBD
Receipts*	$291,221	$346,374	$369,076	$317,905	$350,000	$350,000
Disbursements	($372,223)	($449,785)	($144,980)	($509,984)	TBD	TBD
Ending Balance	**$3,177,849**	**$3,074,437**	**$3,298,533**	**$3,106,454**	**TBD**	**TBD**

*SFYs 25 - 28: the estimated revenues are based on prior years.
** estimated balances

Expenditure Notes:

While there is $3,106,454 in the Fund balance as of February 25, 2026, the Fund received an appropriation of $840,000 in the 2026-2027 State Fiscal Year Executive Budget. Actual and estimated spending amounts reflect payments against multi-year contractual obligations which

may vary from the appropriated amounts in a given fiscal year and reflect multi-year financial planning to preserve the existing fund balance and ensure sufficient resources are available for payments in upcoming years.

The four *Peer Education, Outreach, and Shared Decision Making for Persons at High Risk of Prostate Cancer* grantees began October 1, 2023. In 2023 and 2024, there were delays in establishing the contracts, recruiting peer education staff by grantees, and navigating claims processing procedures. However, disbursements for the grantees increased as expected in 2025, once program year two contracts were in place and grantees had staffing in place to fully implement their outreach and education plans.