

Incidence and Mortality Rate Trends

While cervical cancer incidence and mortality rates have declined approximately 50 percent over the past three decades, the disease remains a serious health threat among women. Recent trends show that incidence rates for Hispanic women are higher than those for non-Hispanic women. Although the mortality rate for African American women has declined more rapidly than the rate for White women, the African American mortality rate continues to be more than double that of Whites.

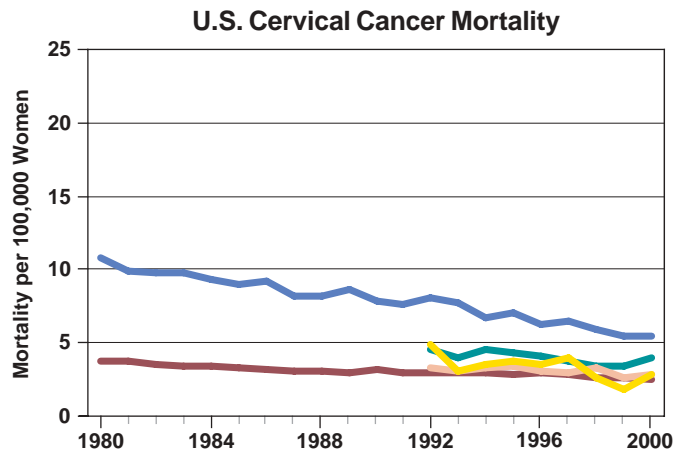
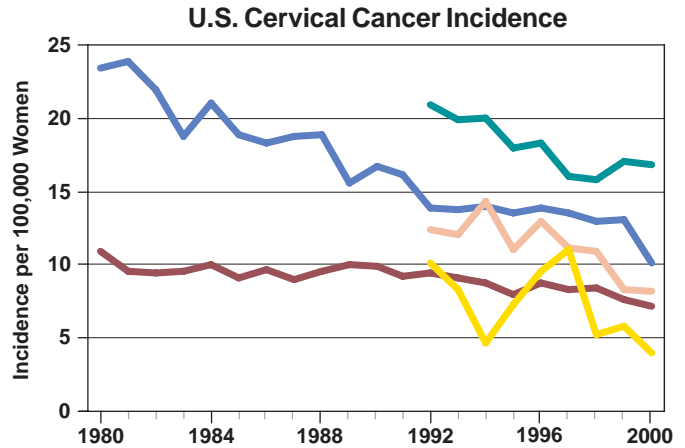
Cervical cancer is preventable and curable if detected early. An important strategy to reduce the risk of cervical cancer is screening through the use of the Papanicolaou (Pap) test. In recent years, researchers have identified human papillomavirus (HPV), which is transmitted through sexual contact, as the main cause of cervical cancer.

It is estimated that approximately \$2 billion* is spent in the United States each year on treatment of cervical cancer.

*In 1996 dollars, as determined by Brown, Riley, Schussler, and Etzioni and reported in the National Cancer Institute's *Cancer Progress Report - 2003 Update* at: <http://progressreport.cancer.gov>

Source for incidence and mortality data: Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program and the National Center for Health Statistics. Additional statistics and charts are available at:

http://seer.cancer.gov/faststats/html/inc_cervix.html
http://seer.cancer.gov/faststats/html/mor_cervix.html

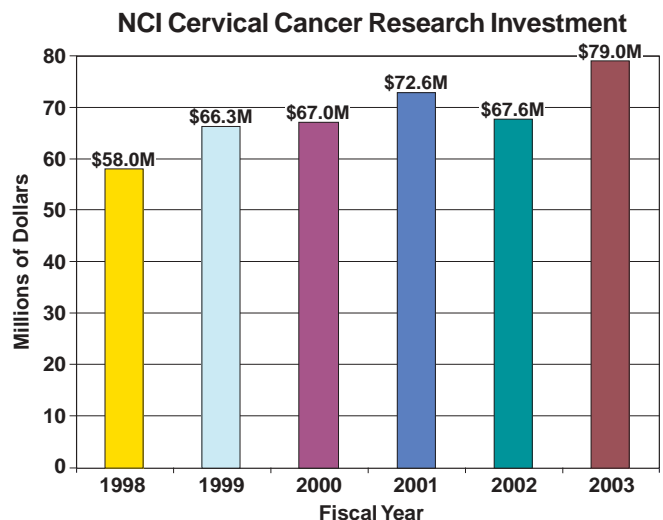


Whites Hispanics* African Americans
 Asians or Pacific Islanders* American Indians/Alaskan Natives*
 *Incidence and mortality data not available for earlier years.

Trends in NCI Funding for Cervical Cancer Research

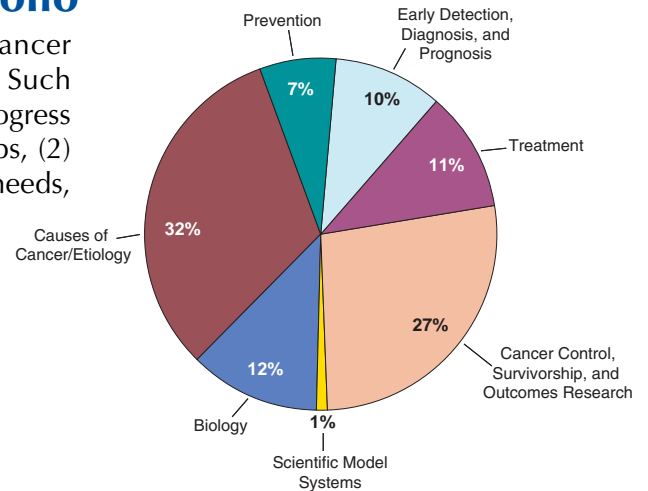
The National Cancer Institute's (NCI's) investment in cervical cancer research has increased from \$58.0 million in fiscal year 1998 to \$79.0 million in fiscal year 2003.

Source: NCI Financial Management Branch
<http://www3.cancer.gov/admin/fmb>



NCI Cervical Cancer Research Portfolio

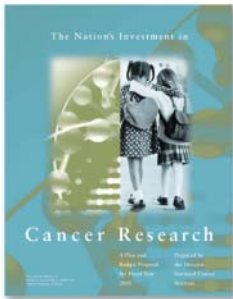
The pie chart shows the distribution of NCI cervical cancer research dollars by scientific area for fiscal year 2002. Such portfolio analyses along with the recommendations of the Progress Review Groups (PRGs) are used to (1) identify research gaps, (2) develop strategic plans that will address future research needs, and (3) track and assess progress.



NCI Cervical Cancer Research Portfolio*
Percentage of Total Dollars by Scientific Area
Fiscal Year 2002

*A description of the relevant research projects can be found at the NCI Cancer Research Portfolio website at <http://researchportfolio.cancer.gov>.

Examples of NCI Research Initiatives Relevant to Cervical Cancer



- Two gynecologic cancer-specific **Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPORs)** are moving results from the laboratory to the clinical setting. <http://spores.nci.nih.gov/current/gyn/gyn.html>
- The **ALTS (ASCUS/LSIL Triage Study) Immunology Study**, the **Portland Kaiser Cohort Study**, and a large randomized **Vaccine Trial** are under way to address issues in cervical cancer screening, diagnosis, and prevention. Specific projects are aimed at identifying biomarkers associated with cervical cancer progression, determining the role of human papillomavirus (HPV) in cervical neoplasia, and evaluating the efficacy of an HPV vaccine. <http://dceg.cancer.gov/cervical-hpv.html>
- Eight **Centers for Population Health and Health Disparities** are supporting research to understand and reduce differences in health outcomes, access, and care. Research includes studies focused on increasing early detection of cervical cancer in Appalachian women. <http://www.cancer.gov/newscenter/pressreleases/NewDisparityCenters>
- **Rapid Access to Preventive Intervention Development (RAPID)** provides funding and resources to develop agents that prevent, reverse, or delay cancer development. RAPID is designed to quickly move novel preventive molecules, such as HPV vaccines for cervical cancer, from the laboratory into clinical studies. <http://www3.cancer.gov/prevention/rapid>
- The **Gynecologic Cancer Intergroup (GCIG)**, an organization of international cooperative groups for clinical trials in gynecologic cancers, is identifying active treatments for cervical cancer. <http://ctep.cancer.gov/resources/gcig/index.html>
- The **Gynecologic Cancers PRG**, a panel of prominent scientists and patient advocates, assessed the state of the science and identified future research priorities. <http://prg.cancer.gov>
- The intramural **Gynecologic Malignancies Faculty** is a group of NCI scientists who work together to develop better methods for the advancement of cervical cancer research in the areas of molecular etiology, epidemiology, prevention, cell biology, and treatment. <http://ccr.cancer.gov/faculties/faculty.asp?facid=132>
- The **Cervical Cancer Home Page** directs visitors to up-to-date information on cervical cancer treatment, prevention, genetics, causes, screening, testing, and other topics. <http://www.cancer.gov/cervical>