

Presidential **VOTER Guide**



Cancer Votes

is the nation's leading election program educating the public and candidates about the actions lawmakers should take to **make fighting cancer a national priority.**



ACS CAN sends questionnaires to all candidates polling at 5% or above.

Responses were provided directly by candidates.



From now through Election Day, volunteers like you will be talking to candidates all over the country about cancer issues. Lawmakers must understand the enormous role they play in eradicating this disease, which strikes nearly 1.7 million in America each year.



LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

If you are elected President, how will you use the power of your office to put our country on track toward defeating this disease that kills more than half a million Americans every year and touches the lives of every American family?

ANSWER: Hillary Clinton, Democrat
Response provided by candidate

As president, I will do everything I can to accelerate our progress in developing methods of prevention, treatments, and cures for this deadly disease. Nearly two of every five Americans will be diagnosed with cancer at some point in their lives, and more than a half million die from cancer each year. As for the economic toll of treating cancer, it is well over \$100 billion annually and rising. That is why, in addition to making new investments in the National Institutes of Health, including the National Cancer Institute, I will mobilize the cancer community in and out of government to take on this disease.

In this campaign, I've promised to preserve and expand on Vice President Joe Biden's Cancer Moonshot program. That means making sure that scientists work together to generate new knowledge, share data to identify the most promising approaches, and drive toward effective treatments. We must promote cooperation across sectors. We must do more to support our physicians, hospitals, and patients on the front

lines of this disease. And we must enable more patients to enroll in clinical trials. If we combine new funds with creative approaches, we will not only catalyze progress against cancer: We will strengthen the nation's entire scientific enterprise, attracting new scientists to the field and spurring progress against all of the diseases of our day.

As president, I will work with a strong interdisciplinary team, from the National Cancer Institute and other institutes within the NIH to the FDA, CMS, and CDC, as well as with leaders in the private and nonprofit sectors, to make progress on these issues and provide new tools for patients and their families. I have never been more confident in our ability as a nation to make dramatic progress toward defeating this disease.

ANSWER: Gary Johnson, Libertarian
Response provided by candidate

Fitness, health and preventable medical problems are fundamental issues to me, and a large part of my own life — as has been well documented. As President, I would try to lead by example and use the megaphone of the office to help Americans see the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, diet, etc. I also firmly believe, and will promote as President, that bringing competition and market forces to health care will produce an immediate increase in focus on prevention, as well as innovative treatment of cancer and all diseases. Greater access to care at less cost should be the goal of health care policy, and unfortunately, federal laws and policies of today are not achieving those objectives. Government should remove, not create, obstacles to the relationships among researchers, innovators, doctors and patients that will produce rapid advances in treatment.

ANSWER: Donald Trump, Republican
The candidate's campaign has declined to respond

SAVING LIVES THROUGH CANCER RESEARCH

As President, will you promote annual increases in cancer research funding at the National Institutes of Health and the National Cancer Institute?

ANSWER: Hillary Clinton, Democrat
Response provided by candidate

Yes. The federal government has played a pivotal role in funding life-saving research: its mapping of the human genome and its historic investments in studies of HIV/AIDS and cancer that have produced new treatments are just some of the most prominent examples of our successes. And our public investments in medical research are also spurring breakthroughs against diseases that may be less well-known but no less devastating to those who have them.

I am glad that Congress has approved and President Obama signed into law an increase in the NIH budget this past year, after several years in which the agency's budget had suffered losses through sequestration and appropriations that did not keep pace with inflation. But we need to do much more. Throughout my career, I've engaged with the NIH and the biomedical research community on how to thoughtfully support the scientific research that can produce new breakthroughs, and I will bring that outlook to the Oval Office.

As president, I will make bold new investments in the National Institutes of Health, including the National Cancer Institute, that are not only significant in size but are predictable year-after-year, providing greater certainty for principal investigators and greater opportunity for aspiring physicians and scientists who are starting out as investigators. I will also work to make sure that we fund the full spectrum of medical

research, from basic research to translational and clinical research. I am committed to predictable annual increases in our medical research budget that ensure that we accelerate the pace of medical progress, invigorate our fundamental studies in the life sciences, and develop new ways to take on diseases like cancer.

ANSWER: Gary Johnson, Libertarian
Response provided by candidate

Consistent with my belief that an economy burdened and threatened by unsustainable government spending cannot ultimately support meaningful research and development, I have pledged to review all agencies and programs with the objective of balancing the federal budget. That will include not only the amount of funding going to cancer research, but the manner in which that funding is used. In short, funding will rise and fall on the merits and on an honest assessment of effectiveness. I truly believe there is virtually no program that cannot be improved upon through such an honest assessment. NIH and the National Cancer Institute do important and worthwhile work, but will not be immune from an effort to work better and smarter. A bankrupt nation cannot meet the needs of its citizens, and that includes health care and research.

ANSWER: Donald Trump, Republican
The candidate's campaign has declined to respond



This year, nearly 1.7 million people in America will hear “you have cancer.” On behalf of these patients and their families, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) encourages all Americans to ask the candidates where they stand on important cancer issues.