Throughout history research has been the main component that has enhanced our knowledge and technology. Research shows cause and effects of certain situations and problems. Research is a way to collect data and solve problems. Medical research is what has allowed people to live longer, healthier lives and stay safe from diseases that would have otherwise killed them. Therefore research is a vital part in discovering ways to prevent, treat, and cure cancer.

The American Association for Cancer Research only stresses that fact. According to their report quote “We face a future in which the number of cancer-related deaths will increase dramatically unless new and better ways to prevent, detect, and treat cancer can be developed.” End quote. That same report stated that cancer deaths worldwide are increasing. In 2012 there were approximately 8.2 million cancer related deaths, it is expected that in 2035 there will be around 14.6 million deaths. Cancer holds its place as the leading cause of disease-related deaths among children in the U.S. In fact the report by American Association for Cancer Research states quote “Every 1 in 4 deaths in the United States is due to cancer” End quote. This brings cancer up as the second leading cause of death in America for all ages, and will soon be the first leading cause if correct action is not taken. These gruesome statistics show how deadly cancer can, and will be.

The only way that these issues can be solved is if funding is provided. The cancer research center’s 2014 report states that the economic cost of cancer for just the U.S in 2009 was $216.6 billion, and in 2030 it is predicted that costs will reach $458 billion. The cost of cancer isn’t cheap, and cancer research severely lacks adequate funding. George J. Bosl, chair of the department of medicine at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center mentions that funding for cancer research for common cancers can be difficult, but funding cancer research for rare forms of cancer is an extreme challenge. This is because people are much more likely to fund a cancer that is extremely common rather than a cancer that is only seen in a few hundred patients per year. This leads to doctors having little information or experience about rare cancers. Michael J. Oberman, an assistant professor at the University of Texas, states that the lack of rules and guidelines for rare cancers make it difficult for oncologists to treat their patients. When presented with a rare cancer, the doctor may be unsure as of how to treat it. While at the same time, that doctor does not have a database to find treatment standards. Because of this, patients with rare forms of cancer cannot get the required treatment and support they need to stay healthy. Insufficient information about diseases can cause death.

As you can see there is a great need to develop ways to prevent, diagnose, treat, and cure a variety of cancerous diseases. The American Association for Cancer Research states that research is quote “…our best defense against cancer.” End quote. Therefore it is crucial that individuals start stepping in and helping the fight for the cure. And as you will see there are possibly a variety of different ways to help stimulate funding for cancer programs.

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