# Section 1

AACI advances the objectives of cancer centers by promoting widespread recognition of the cancer center network, facilitating interaction among the centers, educating policymakers, and fostering the development of partnerships between cancer centers and other cancer organizations to improve the overall quality of cancer care.

The Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI) comprises 100 premier academic and freestanding cancer research centers in the U.S. and Canada. AACI is dedicated to reducing the burden of cancer by enhancing the impact of North America’s leading academic cancer centers.

* CRI: Clinical research innovation
  + Recognizing that clinical trials in the U.S. face administrative and staffing barriers, regulatory constraints, increasing costs, and lagging patient accrual, AACI established the Clinical Research Initiative (CRI) in 2009 as a presidential initiative.
  + CRI collects, evaluates, and shares best practices that promote the efficient and effective operation of cancer clinical research offices and interacts with key stakeholders to inform policy decisions and advocate for improvement in the national clinical trials enterprise.
* Public policy
  + The AACI Government Relations Forum: created to coordinate efforts among all cancer centers to educate local officials and members of Congress about the cancer research enterprise and the positive impact of cancer center initiatives on patients. The Government Relations Forum facilitates an improved understanding of policy issues as they pertain to cancer prevention, treatment, and survivorship—for AACI members and for legislators.

## Library of Public Policy Resources: Now AACI is calling on members to submit materials for the AACI Public Policy Resource Library. AACI encourages members to share resources pertaining to the priority issues of state funding for cancer research, elimination of HPV-related cancers, and tobacco control.

Wikipedia summary:

AACI cancer centers serve as the headquarters for most NCI-sponsored clinical trials. In addition to providing their local populations ready access to a wide array of cancer specialists—multidisciplinary experts in prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cancer care—AACI cancer centers have developed partnerships with local community and state health agencies to design and implement programs aimed at reducing the overall cancer burden of the region.

<https://www.newswise.com/articles/the-association-of-american-cancer-institutes-launches-public-policy-resource-library>

AACI’s Public Policy Resource Library will enable cancer centers and partners in the cancer advocacy community to share resources—including talking points and legislation enacted across the U.S.—to foster collaboration, promote cancer prevention, and spur the development of sound public health policy at the state and local level.

“My goal in establishing the AACI Public Policy Resource Library is to create a one-stop shop of information for AACI members to educate legislators and the cancer center community on the issues vital to decreasing cancer incidence and mortality in their catchment areas. The resource library represents one tool for leveraging cancer centers’ collective ability to generate good public policy,” Dr. Jensen said. “For a range of issues, cancer centers can push for legislation that leads to a healthier society.”

# Section 2

AACR

Founded in 1907, the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) is the world’s first and largest professional organization dedicated to advancing cancer research and its mission to prevent and cure cancer. AACR membership includes more than 37,000 laboratory, translational, and clinical researchers; population scientists; other health care professionals; and patient advocates residing in 108 countries. The AACR marshals the full spectrum of expertise of the cancer community to accelerate progress in the prevention, biology, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer by annually convening more than 30 conferences and educational workshops, the largest of which is the AACR Annual Meeting with more than 21,900 attendees. In addition, the AACR publishes eight prestigious, peer-reviewed scientific journals and a magazine for cancer survivors, patients, and their caregivers. The AACR funds meritorious research directly as well as in cooperation with numerous cancer organizations. As the Scientific Partner of Stand Up To Cancer, the AACR provides expert peer review, grants administration, and scientific oversight of team science and individual investigator grants in cancer research that have the potential for near-term patient benefit. The AACR actively communicates with legislators and other policymakers about the value of cancer research and related biomedical science in saving lives from cancer.

[http://www.aacr.org](https://www.linkedin.com/redir/redirect?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Eaacr%2Eorg&urlhash=-fHt&trk=about_website)

ASCO

Founded in 1964, the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) is committed to making a world of difference in cancer care. As the world’s leading organization of its kind, ASCO represents nearly 45,000 oncology professionals who care for people living with cancer. Through research, education, and promotion of the highest-quality patient care, ASCO works to conquer cancer and create a world where cancer is prevented or cured, and every survivor is healthy. ASCO’s Conquer Cancer Foundation supports the Society by funding groundbreaking research and education across cancer’s full continuum. Learn more at www.ASCO.org and explore patient education resources at www.Cancer.Net.

**Interview Questions**

*Industry*

* Could you tell us a bit about where AACI is currently in the cancer research industry and any overarching industry-specific challenges or opportunities?
* Where do you see the industry headed in the short and long-term?

*Competitor/Similar Organizations*

* When doing preliminary research, we could not specifically identify competitors, but perhaps could identify similar organizations. How are current similar organizations addressing any industry-wide challenges and how do you see the AACI addressing these challenges?

*Company*

* After reading about the work that is being done at the AACI, and knowing the tens of thousands of readers and others that are involved in advancing cancer research, what are your biggest challenges at the current moment?
* What is the AACI’s ultimate goal and how do you measure that success? For example, are we most interested in increasing reader engagement (e.g podcast) or are we interested in better-informing current stakeholders (e.g. policy-makers) or are we on a mission to develop partnerships?

*Project*

* When we are thinking about working together on one of the projects you had in mind, are there any trade-offs and considerations that come to mind?
* In what respect are things working well and/or not working at this time?
* Which of the projects should we focus on / is of the top priority?

*Public Policy Resource Library*

* What is the current state of the Public Policy resource library and how could we expand on what’s currently there?

*Podcast*

* Could you provide some more information on how the AACI Podcast could benefit from our help?

*AACI Portal (used to share information and webcast)*

* Could you tell us a bit more about the portal as it stands, the functionalities, and how it can be improved?

*Project Cancer Education*

* We can see that one of the possible projects is to educate elected officials and other opinion leaders on matters related to cancer care. Do we have any information on the current stance from policy-makers on the efforts of the AACI?

*Key People*

* Could you tell us a bit more about the upcoming president-elect who will begin her term in October 2020? What are her ideas and positions on aspects that the AACI is currently working on?

*Client Relationship*

* We were excited to see that the AACI had previously worked with a CMU IS Consulting group during spring 2019. Would it be possible to ask what were some lessons learned in working with the group, any words of advice or suggestions that could enable us to succeed and have a great partnership with you?

*Catch-All*

* Is there any additional information that you would like us to know?