

## RARE CANCERS: HALF THE PEOPLE WITH CANCER SUFFER FROM A RARE FORM OF THE DISEASE

According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), a rare cancer is one with a prevalence of fewer than 200,000 affected individuals in the United States. However, more than 50 percent of people diagnosed with cancer are diagnosed with a rare form of the disease.

Cycle for Survival is Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center's event dedicated to exclusively raising funds and awareness for rare cancers. With 100 percent of funds raised going directly to support lifesaving research, Cycle fuels tangible and significant progress toward a cure for countless lives touched by rare cancers worldwide. Since 2007, Cycle has directly funded 25 clinical trials and research studies.

## WHAT ARE RARE CANCERS?

- Rare cancers are far more prevalent than the term implies—in fact, **more than half of all cancers are** classified as "rare."
- All pediatric cancers are categorized as "rare".
- Among cancers classified as "rare" are such well-known forms of the disease as:
  - Pancreatic

Sarcoma

Cervical

- Head and Neck
- Stomach

• Ovarian

- Brain Metastatic melanoma
- Leukemia and Lymphomas

## THE CHALLENGE

- Research on rare cancers is often drastically underfunded resulting in fewer opportunities to gain essential insights—the type of groundwork necessary to make new, lifesaving advancements and discoveries.
- In general, there are fewer treatment options for patients with rare cancers because funding for drug development often lags behind more commercially viable drugs

## WHY MEMORIAL SLOAN-KETTERING CANCER CENTER

Cycle for Survival is proud to be a critical component of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC). Founded in 1884, MSKCC is the world's oldest and largest institution dedicated exclusively to the care, control, and cure of cancer. Its legacy of innovation is unparalleled: MSKCC has produced more FDA-approved drugs for the treatment of cancer than any other single academic institution. The Center also treats over 400 types of cancer each year and is proud to count many of the world's most renowned and accomplished leaders in rare cancer research and care among its clinical staff.