

# NRG Oncology Overview

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#### **Research Funding**

• NCI, NIDCR, TRDRP, Varian, Amgen, GSK

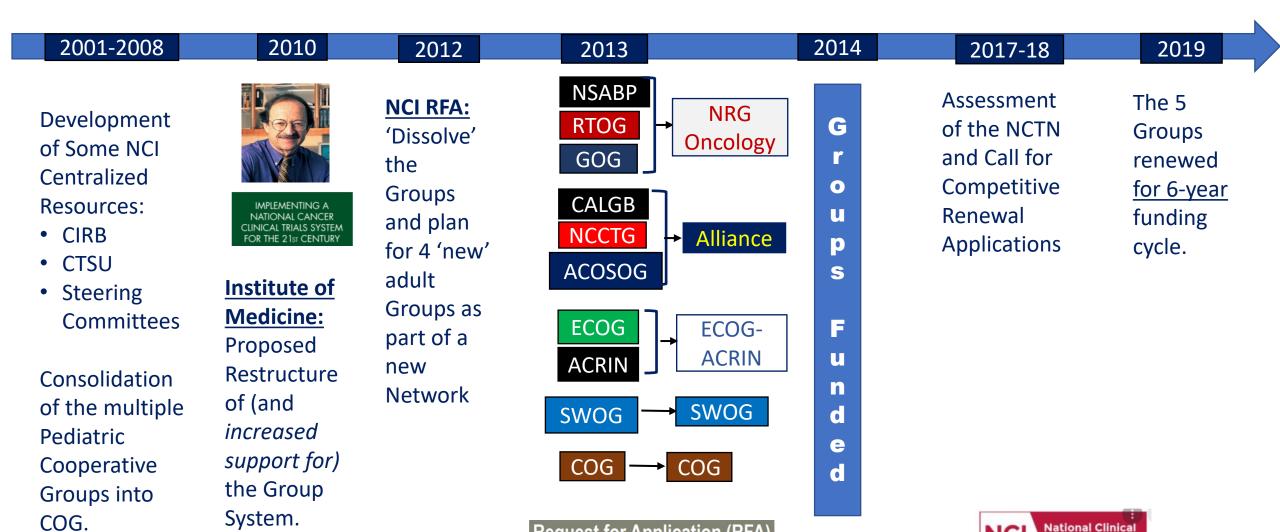
#### **Consulting/Advisory board**

• Varian, BMS, Merck, Grail, Genentech/Roche, Coherus, Nanobiotics

#### DSMB

• Pfizer

#### Timeline of the NCTN System



#### Request for Application (RFA)

NC

**Trials Network** 

a National Cancer Institute program

U10 Cooperative Agreement for NCI Clinical Trials Network

# Goals of the NCTN (Cooperative Group) System

- Perform late-stage cancer trials that define standards of care for the U.S. and the world.
  - Available to broad constituency of diverse patients & investigators
  - Ensure all results (regardless of outcome) are published timely and objectively.
- Maintain high quality data repositories : clinical, imaging, biospecimen.
- Complement the research by non-N. American groups & industry

#### Some Facts about the NCTN Groups

- >2,000 participating sites in U.S./Canada + some international members -> >14,000 investigators.
- ~17,000 patients / year enrolled.
  ~\$10,000 investment
  ~\$171 million / year budget.
  per patient
- ~100 publications per year per Group.
- Proposed Group trials are rigorously reviewed (and approved or rejected) by NCI-sponsored Disease Steering Committees.

**Courtesy Mitch Machtay** 





### **Population Diversity in Large Clinical Trials**

% Under-represented minority patients in several studies of common cancers.

Study #	Disease/Stage	Total # Pts	% Black/ African American	% Latino
NRG RTOG 0534 (NCTN)	Postop Salvage Prostate	1,716	12.8%	4.3%
ARCHES (Enza-Pfizer/Astellas)	Met. HS Prostate	1,151	1.4%	Not stated
NRG NSABP B39/RTOG 0413 (NCTN)	Early breast CA	4,216	7%	4%
KEYNOTE-355 (Merck)	Advanced TNBC	847	4.5%	Not stated
NRG RTOG 0617 (NCTN)	Stage III Lung	465	11%	3%
PACIFIC (Astra Zeneca)	Stage III Lung	713	2%	Not stated

**Courtesy Mitch Machtay** 



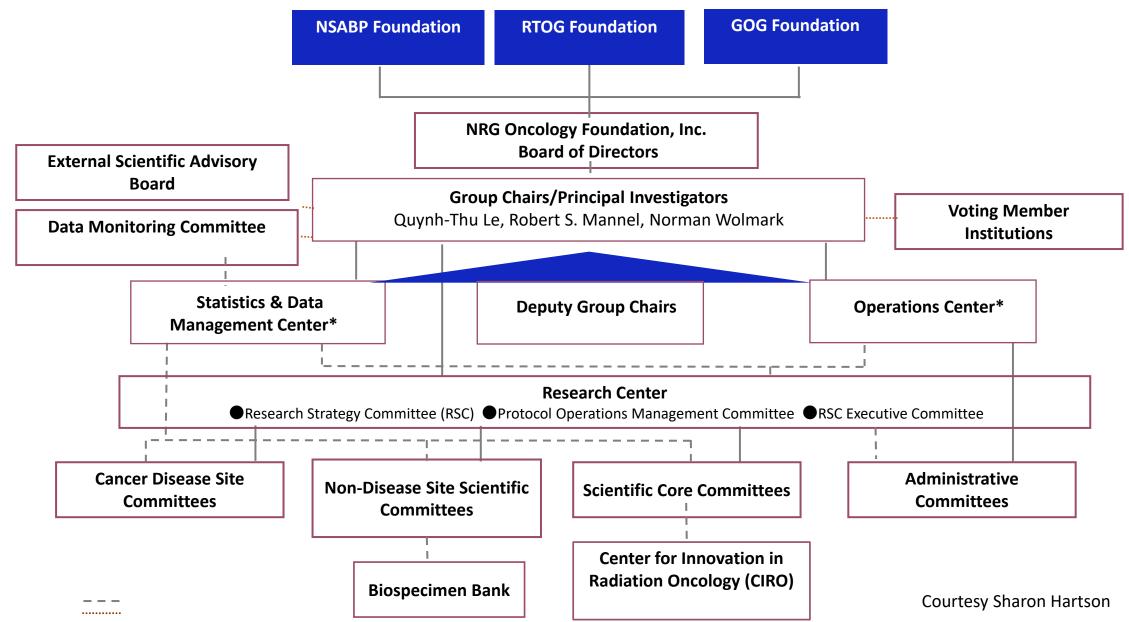
#### Analysis of NCTN Impact on Life Years Added



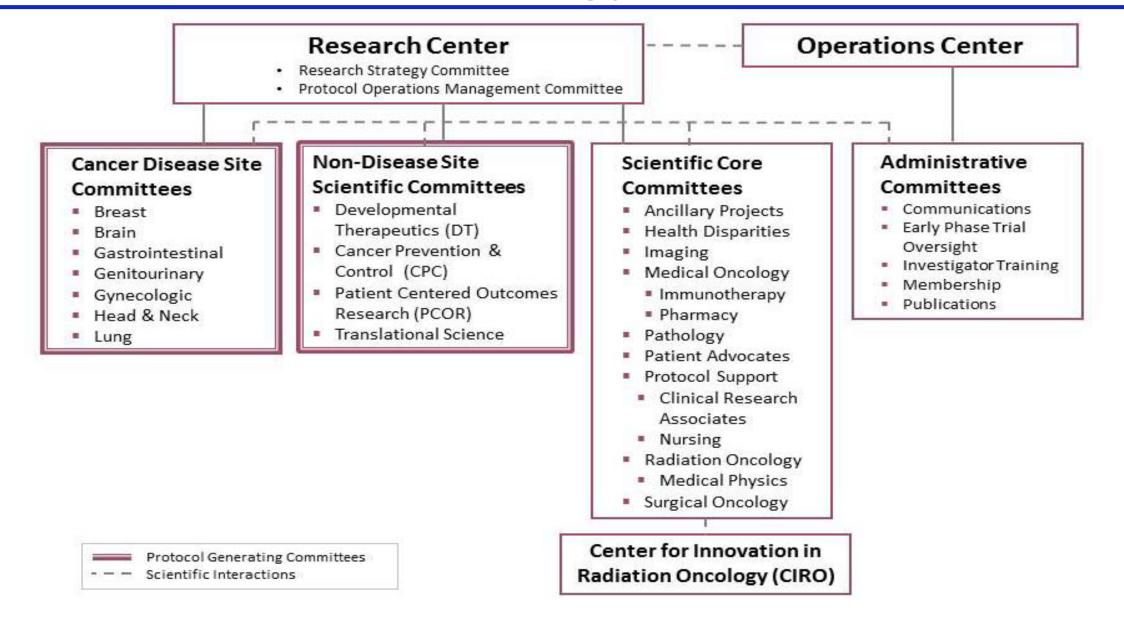


- Unger et al. analyzed 163 'positive' NCTN trials published 1980-2019.
  - Represents ~30% of completed NCTN trials
  - Includes 108,102 patients
  - Most common trials: Breast (33); GYN(28); Lung(15); Prostate(12).
- Model estimates that NCTN trials have added 14 million life years into U.S.
- Projection of 2030 estimate 23 million life years saved.

#### **NRG Oncology**



# **NRG Oncology Committees**



#### NRG Oncology Scope

- Largest of the NCTN groups.
  - 1,900+ Participating members
  - 145 Main Member sites
  - 30 Lead Academic Participating Sites (LAPS)
  - 42 NCORPs + NCORP Mus
- Clinical trial portfolio
  - 45 trials activated / open to enrollment in the last funding cycle (3/14-2/19)
  - 45 trials activated / open to enrollment in the current funding cycle (3/19-6/22)

# NRG Oncology past accomplishments

- Combined Modality <u>superior</u> to RT alone; usually worth the ↑ toxicity.
- IMRT and SBRT are <u>feasible</u> in multicenter studies & may improve outcome.
- Outcomes beyond OS, DFS, LRC and CTC-graded toxicity are <u>essential</u>.
- Addition of biologic agents to RT or chemoRT is generally safe.
- Treatment de-intensification is <u>feasible</u> for certain cancers (breast, head and neck)
- Sparing of critical regions is <u>feasible and can improve function and QOL in</u> patients (hippocampal sparing in brain mets)
- Recognition of molecular biomarkers as <u>important</u> in study design and outcomes.

# NRG Oncology accomplishments in the last grant cycle

- Activated 34% of total number of 4 NCTN adult groups
- Enter 15,945 patients (33% of all entries) onto NCTN trials
  - 12.7% patients were African descent & 8.0% Latino or Hispanics
- 302 NRG peer-reviewed manuscripts 52 contain practice-changing or practice-defining observations
- Received the best score on the competitive renewal

#### NRG Oncology's Specific Patient Cohorts

 Patients with common or rare gender-specific malignancies, including gynecologic, prostate, or breast cancers, and/or

 Patients with localized or locally advanced malignancies including other GU malignancies or those originating in other sites, including the lungs, head and neck region, brain, or GI tract

# NRG Oncology Specific Aims

- Investigate novel developments in medical technology, including radiation oncology, imaging, and surgery, for opportunities to test such developments in its multi-institutional clinical trials.
- Inform the design and execution of its phase II and III trials with employment of biomarker- and biologic pathway-defined approaches to risk stratification, investigational therapy assignment, and clinical trial decision-making.
- Apply the emerging knowledge in precision oncology and in immunooncology to the design and execution of its translational and clinical research efforts.

## **Future directions**

Continue to expand on current themes but focusing on

- Theragnostics combining imaging & therapy for new solid tumors with better dosimetric precision.
- Explore further hypofractionation in other disease sites.
- Define the role of proton beam therapy in solid tumors.
- Apply machine learning and artificial intelligence to RT planning, QA, and biomarker developments.
- Conduct more biomarker driven trials, especially using markers of minimal residual disease to guide therapy.
- Conduct more trials in precision oncology via the Combo-Match platform.
- Define now best to integrate immune oncology with local therapy (RT, surgery) and other systemic therapy (chemotherapy, targeted therapy)