



Wilmot Cancer Institute

Points of Pride

Wilmot Cancer Institute (WCI) is a research powerhouse.

- Wilmot played a leading role in **two** of the **top five** cancer discoveries of the past 50 years as identified by the American Society of Clinical Oncology:
 - Early scientific discoveries that led to the creation of the HPV vaccine;
 - Pioneering work toward anti-nausea treatment to help patients tolerate chemotherapy
- Wilmot is **one of two** hubs in the entire country for the National Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP), putting us at the epicenter of decisions about the greatest research needs in the field of Cancer Control, including management of side effects and improving patient quality of life.
- Wilmot is a national leader in comprehensive aging and cancer research. Because more than 60% of all cancer patients are aged 65 and older, this is an area of critical importance.
 - Wilmot's basic science researchers are studying long-lived cancer-resistant animals, like the naked mole rat, to understand why these animals don't get cancer and how that knowledge could apply to humans.
 - Wilmot also established one of the nation's first geriatric oncology clinics, which is still among the largest in the country.
 - Wilmot's geriatric oncology leaders helped write the national guidelines for treating older patients with cancer.

Wilmot is the largest cancer care provider in upstate New York.

- Wilmot sees **6,000+** new cancer cases each year.
- Many of these patients come from Wilmot's 27-county catchment area, which stretches across Central and Western New York.
 - Wilmot has an 86-bed inpatient facility in Rochester.
 - Wilmot has 12 outpatient locations throughout the Finger Lakes region.
- Wilmot has a robust portfolio of clinical trials that provide patients treatment options not available anywhere else in upstate New York.
 - For example, Wilmot was among the first centers in the nation to offer cutting-edge CAR T-cell immunotherapy for lymphoma. This allowed Wilmot to become one of the first centers in New York approved to provide this therapy after it was green-lighted by the FDA.

Wilmot is an economic engine in the Rochester and Finger Lakes region.

- As one of the largest operations at the University of Rochester Medical Center, Wilmot is a major contributor to the University's economic impact on New York state. According to the most recent data, the University and its affiliates are responsible for \$3.5 billion in income statewide.
- Wilmot has recruited **20+** new research faculty since 2016.
 - Nearly all of these recruits moved to Rochester from outside New York, bucking the state's long trend of outmigration.

Wilmot is organized into three broad areas of research that address all types of cancers.

- **Cancer Control & Supportive Care**
 - This program focuses on how to minimize side effects of cancer and its treatment such as fatigue and “chemobrain” and improve cancer outcomes, quality of life for patients, and how care is delivered.
 - Wilmot is a national leader investigating exercise to reduce symptoms during and after cancer treatment.
 - Wilmot's geriatric oncology research is part of this program.
- **Cancer Microenvironment**
 - This program focuses on the influence that the cells and tissue surrounding a tumor (aka the microenvironment) can have on the disease. Certain cancers, such as pancreatic, are heavily impacted by the microenvironment.
 - Wilmot's research on immunotherapy — which leverages the body's own immune system to fight cancer — is part of this program.
 - This program aims to use basic science discoveries for drug development and new clinical trials.
- **Hallmarks of Cancer**
 - This program focuses on how cancer develops: the biology of cancer cells, genetic abnormalities, aging-related cell changes, and how cancer cells evolve and resist treatment.
 - Wilmot's research on long-lived, cancer-resistant animals is part of this program.
 - This program aims to use basic science discoveries for drug development and new clinical trials.