
Our Achievements

Find out more at www.damonrunyon.org

Over the past six decades, Damon Runyon scientists have made countless discoveries that have changed the way we diagnose, treat and prevent cancer. Here are some of their most notable achievements.

Leadership in Cancer Research

Damon Runyon scientists have received the highest honors and awards, including:

- 11 Nobel Prizes
- 7 National Medals of Science, the nation's highest scientific honor
- 59 elected to the National Academy of Sciences, the science "Hall of Fame"
- 11% of current Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigators

Damon Runyon scientists lead major research organizations, including:

- M.D. Anderson
- Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory

Breakthroughs in Cancer Research

Damon Runyon scientists were key to the development of new targeted therapies for:

- Breast cancer (Herceptin)
- Colon and head/neck cancers (Erbix)
- Lymphoma (Bexxar)

Damon Runyon scientists were the first to:

- scientifically link lung cancer and cigarette smoking
- demonstrate that a virus can cause cancer
- cure a solid tumor with chemotherapy
- cure cancer with radiotherapy
- successfully transplant bone marrow between family members
- identify a cancer-causing gene (oncogene)
- discover the first human gene identified as a cause of breast cancer, BRCA1
- identify the Human Papillomavirus as a cause of head and neck cancer
- successfully treat a solid tumor exclusively with immunotherapy