



rakfond.org

CANCER
foundation

Advancing the Day when
Cancer is Defeated

RAKFOND'S STRATEGY

FOREWORD

“Modern advances in healthcare that increased the quality and years of healthy human life emerged from advances in science and technology. New knowledge makes the foundation of human well-being and is the key to a healthy future, highlighting the most significant value that is human life. To win the battle against the disease, one needs to know everything about the enemy. RakFond was established expressly for this purpose.

Our strategy and principles we follow every day are built around one simple idea – by supporting scientific research today we will ensure better care for cancer patients in the future. We strongly believe that supporting cutting-edge scientific research is the most powerful and effective way to fight cancer.

During the first years, RakFond has funded several research projects that develop and study new methods of cancer diagnosis and treatment. The supported research covers many areas of oncology, and we are open to researchers who set important goals and strive to achieve practical results.

We are still at the beginning of our journey, but we are not alone. Next to us are the colleagues, patients, philanthropists, other non-profits, volunteers, and people who care; together with them, we are united by a common goal – the ambition to defeat cancer sooner. Backing us is a plethora of scientific discoveries, many years of ups and downs, successes and failures by our predecessors. This is the solid foundation that allows us to confidently move forward today.

We know that we can achieve our goal only with the support of many like-minded people. Each of you, through the donation of any resources, makes a huge contribution to our common cause and can say with confidence: “I support research advancing the day when cancer is defeated.”

Sincerely,
Kristina Zakurdaeva,
RakFond’s Founder and
Chair of the Board



“Oncology is a field of medicine that studies the mechanisms of tumor development and methods of cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. This area is one of the fastest-growing in medicine. This growth is directly related to research: basic, clinical, and translational. Cancer research has led to an increase in the number of cures and a significant increase in the life expectancy of patients with advanced cancers. No research can be organized without funding, so there is a direct correlation between money, the quantity, and the quality of research, as well as the practical results achieved. RakFond’s goal is to provide financial support to Russian scientists who are engaged in perspective research not only for Russian oncology but also for global science.”

Ilya Tsimafeyev,
RakFond’s Board Member



“Behind every breakthrough in the fight against cancer, whether new diagnostic tools or therapies that fundamentally change the lifespan prognosis, there are hundreds of scientific studies, from basic to clinical, representing many years of thorough work by scientists and doctors. Lack of funding for such research, unfortunately, leads to potentially life-saving and quality-of-life improving projects fading away in laboratories or remaining unfulfilled “on paper” until better times, losing critical time for patients. The goal of RakFond is to unite the efforts of people who care about problems in cancer treatment to jointly contribute to finding solutions. Together, we seek to find and support the highest quality research projects of talented scientists and physicians so that they, in turn, have an opportunity to concentrate on achieving results in their search for the most effective approaches in cancer diagnosis and treatment.”

Leysan Shaydullina,
RakFond’s Board Member



“It is very important to develop the projects comprehensively and provide expert assistance in translating advanced ideas and developments in oncology from the laboratory to the clinic, support publication activities, and stimulate the activities of the scientific community in oncology.”

Mikhail Samsonov,
Member of the RakFond’s
Board of Trustees



“Cancer has become the leading cause of death in many developed countries like the Russian Federation. Scientists and physicians have made great progress diagnosing and treating cancer but there remains much to be done. Compared with many developed countries, cancer research in the Russian Federation is under-funded. It is especially difficult for young investigators with new, perhaps unconventional but promising ideas to get funding. RakFond’s goal is to get the public involved in the fight against cancer, a fight we can win with effort, dedication and money. At RakFond we are especially focused on helping young investigators develop their ideas. We need your help to succeed!”

Robert Peter Gale,
Member of the RakFond’s
Board of Trustees



“Russian medicine and life science have made great contributions to the world’s insights into neoplastic diseases and their treatments but much more can be added to the global knowledge through coordinated efforts and enhanced funding. I am confident that through the Foundation’s efforts Russia will be a global leader in the quest to cure cancer.”

Stephen M. Sammut,
Member of the RakFond’s
Board of Trustees



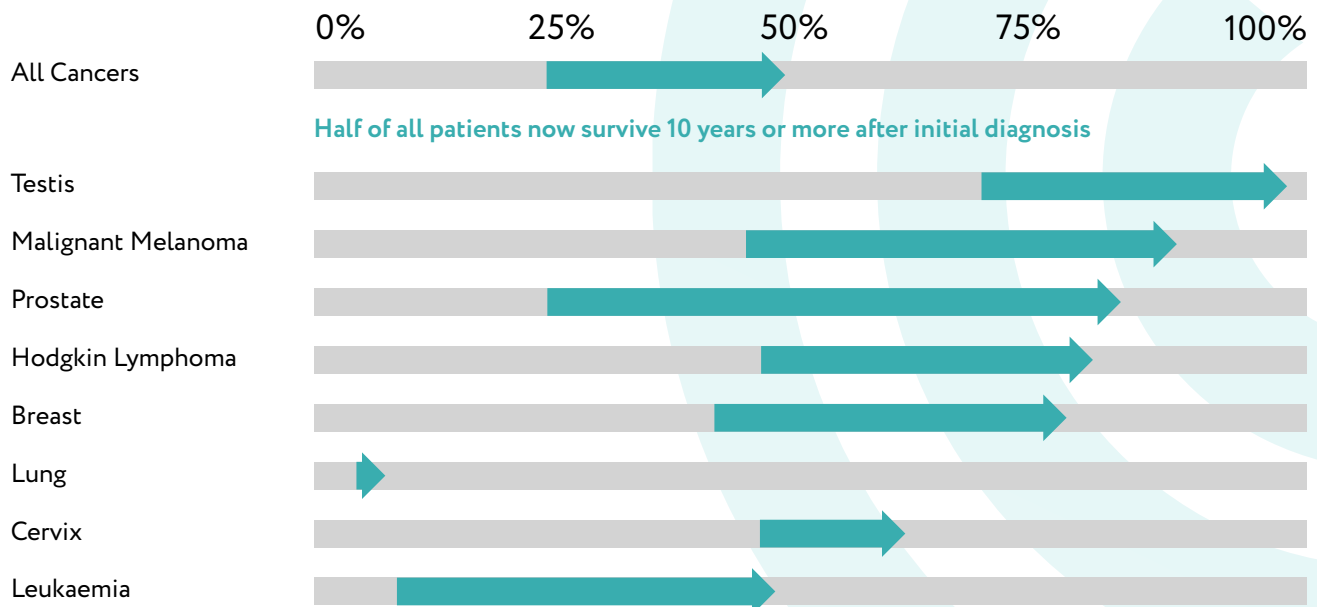
GENERAL INFORMATION

RAKFOND'S MISSION is to promote the development of oncology research in Russia with the aim to study the mechanisms of tumor growth and further develop new preventive, diagnostic, and therapeutic approaches.

The life expectancy of cancer patients has significantly increased largely due to the development of new technologies. Progress in oncology is, first of all, associated with a deeper understanding of tumor biology in basic scientific research that, in turn, makes it possible to develop, study and translate new effective approaches to the diagnosis and treatment of cancer into clinical practice, and significantly improve the outcomes.

CHANGES IN PATIENT SURVIVAL from 1971-72 to 2010-11

Growth in survival rates is due to the development of new technologies and treatment methods



Cancer Research UK: <http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/survival/common-cancers-compared#heading-Three>

RakFond raises funds in order to provide scientists with the opportunity to find novel safer and more effective ways to prevent, diagnose, and treat cancer.

OUR GOAL is to advance oncology science in Russia by providing funding and creating favorable conditions for the development of scientific research.

OUR OBJECTIVES:



Support basic, translational, and clinical research in the field of oncology;



Promote a network of research centers of excellence, and the environment for successful development and implementation of new technologies for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer in Russia;



Actively involve the public in anti-cancer programs and support educational programs in collaboration with other non-profit organizations.

It is extremely important for us to draw the attention of the Russian public to promising research in the field of oncology as well as to involve as many people as possible in the practical implementation of these projects.

For those who are looking into the future and would like to be involved in the discovery of a new anti-cancer drug or in understanding previously unknown tumor development mechanisms, RakFond is an essential channel for their support and a guarantor that funds and efforts will be directed at the most promising research from scientific and practical points of view.

TO ACHIEVE OUR GOAL, WE:



organize fundraising campaigns to support cancer research;



formed a Scientific Advisory Board guaranteeing RakFond's high scientific standards.



developed simplest, effective and transparent procedures designed to collect and review proposals for funding;



support collaborative projects, including international and interdisciplinary teams;



search for new approaches to disseminate knowledge on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer through the promotion of scientific research;



empower everyone with the opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer.

OUR PRINCIPLES AND VALUES



SCIENCE

RakFond exclusively supports top-level scientific projects with practical, reproducible results.

Progress in oncology is associated, first and foremost, with the success of scientific research that results in new methods to conquer cancer.



PEOPLE

created by people and for people

The success of RakFond in the fight against cancer depends entirely on scientists, physicians, healthcare professionals, patients, philanthropists, volunteers, and experts who donate their time, professional experience, and money.

Only through the combined efforts of committed people will the fight against cancer succeed.



OPENNESS

maximum transparency of decision-making and all aspects of RakFond's activities.

Open to new ideas and collaborative projects.

RESEARCH SUPPORT

RakFond supports scientific research of all cancer types in all key areas of modern oncology.

TUMOR BIOLOGY

Aim: to improve understanding of tumor development mechanisms

All new technologies begin with early basic research. RakFond will support the most interesting ideas, hypotheses, and proof of the proposed concepts that have the potential to become the basis of diagnostic, therapeutic, or preventive approaches in oncology.



PREVENTION

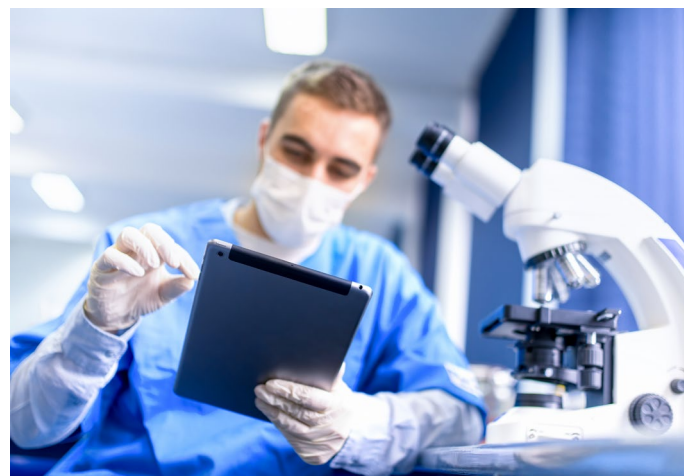
Aim: to reduce the risk of cancer development

Risk factors for the development of malignant tumors, research and development of the effective measures to eliminate and / or reduce their impact, hereditary tumors, screening programs. Research in this area will answer the main question: what can each of us do to minimize our risk of the disease?

DIAGNOSIS

Aim: timely cancer detection

Protocols for diagnostic procedures and verification of diagnoses, new targets, test systems, and medical devices for diagnostic purposes.





TREATMENT

Aim: to significantly improve the results of cancer treatment by developing new methods and optimizing existing therapeutic approaches

All types of treatment (surgical, radiation, drug, gene and cell therapy) and their combinations. Antitumor treatment and supportive care. Personalized oncology. Design, preparation, and conduct of clinical trials in accordance with the latest recommendations and standards. Collaborative, multicenter studies are encouraged.

REHABILITATION AND QUALITY OF LIFE

Aim: to increase not only the duration but also the quality of life of cancer patients

Studies of the quality of life of cancer patients at various stages of treatment, studies of the consequences of antitumor therapy, and development of rehabilitation programs.



WE PUBLISH AND REGULARLY UPDATE THE PRIORITY AREAS AND RESULTS OF RESEARCH WE SUPPORT ON RAKFOND'S [WEBSITE](#)





OUR APPROACH

- improve understanding of tumor biology;
- focus attention on tumors with the most unmet needs in diagnosis and treatment as well as on the selected patient cohorts for whom less data is available and separate research is required;
- facilitate the translation of research into clinical practice;
- promote professional engagement and participation in research;
- develop leaders in oncology research.

RAKFOND'S ACTIVITY ASSESSMENT

Control over RakFond's activities is carried out by the Board of Trustees, consisting of representatives from both Russia and abroad. Project reviews and approval of certain research areas supported by RakFond are carried out by the Scientific Advisory Board. Both governing bodies work on a voluntary basis.

Requests for Proposals are held as funds to support research are raised and become available – up to 2 times per year. All available funding programs are published on the website and other official information resources of RakFond.

Assessment of RakFond's activities is based both on direct indicators of the research projects' funding effectiveness, as well as on indirect indicators of influence on shaping the environment for the promotion of scientific research, and, in the long term, on improved results of medical care for cancer patients in Russia.

**EACH STEP BRINGS US CLOSER TO NEW VICTORIES
IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER.**

FUTURE TRIUMPHS BEGIN TODAY!



CONTACT INFORMATION

E-mail: info@rakfond.org



Foundation's CEO:

Yuliya Atamanyuk | director@rakfond.org



Founder and Chair of the Board:

Kristina Zakurdaeva | christina@rakfond.org



Volunteer Coordinator:

Maria Shevchenko | volunteer@rakfond.org

Funding and Support:

finance@rakfond.org

Grant Funding Programs:

grant@rakfond.org

Media and Public Relations:

media@rakfond.org

LEARN MORE:



www.rakfond.org



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