



2025 ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

**NATIONAL
LEIOMYOSARCOMA
FOUNDATION**

2025 ACCOMPLISHMENTS **FOR THE LMS COMMUNITY**



PATIENT-FAMILY/CAREGIVER PROGRAMS

Continue offering a wide range of Patient-Family/Caregiver virtual programs, all posted on NLMSF.org, to help participants find and learn about key updates across the cancer journey and proactively address unmet informational needs.

NLMSF PATIENT-CAREGIVER CIRCLE OF HOPE ROUNDTABLE

Launched January 8—a community “think tank” that brings together sarcoma patients and families alongside other patient advocacy foundations to identify and prioritize unmet needs in treatment and care, and to develop strategies that improve the overall patient experience.

PETE’S BLANKETS OF HOPE

Collaborated with the Foundation to provide crocheted chemo care sets—blankets with matching head coverings and optional mittens—for patients undergoing chemotherapy. Each hand-stitched item symbolizes hope, encouragement, caring, and compassion throughout the patient’s journey.



FUNDED RESEARCH



FREDERIC AMANT, M.D.
BELGIUM

Exploiting the Immunomodulatory Effect of PI3K/mTOR Inhibitors to Improve Immunotherapy Response in Leiomyosarcoma



MARISA NUCCI, M.D.
BOSTON, MA

Exploiting High-throughput Deep Learning to Improve Uterine Leiomyosarcoma Diagnostics - Deep ULMS



ROBERT J. CANTER, M.D.
SACRAMENTO, CA

Pre-Clinical Evaluation of Placental-Derived Natural Killer (NK) Cells to Target Leiomyosarcoma

[Learn more about each of these projects.](#)

Support LMS SPORE project endorsed and supported by the NIH.

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) established the Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPORE) program to accelerate collaborative, interdisciplinary translational cancer research. The Leiomyosarcoma (LMS) SPORE—led by the Rogel Cancer Center in partnership with an international team—advances research on this rare cancer through large-scale genomic studies, biomarker development, and genetic risk analysis, strengthened by global collaborations, specialized shared-resource cores, and initiatives that foster innovation and career development.

INVESTED IN EARLY-CAREER RESEARCHERS THROUGH TWO AWARDS

The **Brian Van Tine, MD Memorial Peer Recognition Award** and the **Early Career Award**—to sustain current research efforts and attract new early-career researchers to the field. Awardees commit to contributing annually to the **International LMS Research Roundtable** and participating in one of the five active Roundtable workgroups.

LAUNCHED NEW SPECIAL INITIATIVE—TARGET LMS IMAGING

To advance novel imaging strategies for leiomyosarcoma. The TARGET Project was initiated by **Dr. Scott Okuno (Mayo Clinic)** as an outgrowth of the most recent International LMS Research Roundtable.

MORE 2025 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

TRACER PROJECT

A collaborative partnership with the Gujral Lab at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, with a planned 2026 launch that will enable patients to participate and advance this research initiative. In parallel, **coordination with CURE ID (FDA)** continues through an additional taskforce focused on repurposing drugs for sarcoma.

NLMSF.ORG WEBSITE

Refreshed the NLMSF website (nlmsf.org) to improve navigation and expand support resources for patients and families.

SNAPSHOT NEWS

Launched a brief, biweekly update highlighting research developments, well-being topics, and practical resources to help patients and families navigate their journey. Snapshot News complements the biweekly *Community Connections* newsletter; together, these communications provide an impactful way for the community to stay informed about the latest research updates and Foundation initiatives.

In addition to sharing regular research article updates, we **added companion lay-language summaries** to help patients and families better understand the meaning and implications of new studies and clinical trial developments.



NEW RESEARCH & TRIAL INFORMATION GATEWAY

Planned for **2026 launch**, the new platform will help patients **access clinical trials** and includes **lay-language explanations** to support trial review and informed discussions with their oncologist. While the website is primarily designed as a **non-public collaboration hub for the research community** to coordinate LMS research and clinical trial efforts, it will include a dedicated **Patient Portal**.

<https://lmsresearch.net/>