

Spotlight on New York City

The V Foundation funds all types of research across all cancer types, including adult and pediatric cancers, common and rare cancers, from the laboratory to clinics, and from prevention and detection through treatment and recurrence.

The V Foundation solicits competitive research proposals from the 73 National Cancer Institute Designated Cancer Centers and other exceptional institutions across North America.

There are six NCI-Designated Cancer Centers in the New York City area:

- Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Cancer Center
- Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center, Columbia University
- Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center, NYU Langone Health
- Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
- Montefiore Einstein Cancer Center
- Tisch Cancer Institute, Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai

Our Impact on Cancer Research in the New York City Region

We've funded

121 grants totaling over \$47 million.

V Foundation funded researchers in the New York City Region, over their careers, have:

Received

**894 grants and
\$3.59 billion in funding.**

Produced

**over 14,500
publications.**

Worked on

**115 clinical
trials.**

V Foundation Funded Researchers – Proven Positive Impact

- **David Tuveson, M.D., Ph.D.**, a 2016 Translational Grantee at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, studies what drives pancreatic cancer to metastasize to different parts of the body. Pancreatic cancer's ability to metastasize is what makes this cancer type so deadly.
- In an exciting 2023 publication in *Advanced Science*, he discovered that a protein called Engrailed-1 (EN1) allows pancreatic cancer cells to metastasize to other parts of the body.
- What is interesting about this discovery is that EN1 is traditionally needed for the development of neuronal cells and the developing nervous system and brain.
- It seems that cancer cells hijack cellular pathways for new uses. Here, Dr. Tuveson found that altered EN1 in pancreatic cancer cells was required for the ability of pancreatic cancer to 'hijack' cellular pathways.
- This work points out EN1 as a potential drug target in pancreatic cancer, particularly to block or reduce metastasis in this extremely deadly cancer type.
- Notably, Dr. Christopher Vakoc, a two-time V Foundation grantee, is also a collaborator on this project!



*David Tuveson, M.D., Ph.D.,
2016 Translational Grantee*