



Memorial Sloan Kettering  
Cancer Center

GIVING

# The MSK Campaign

Leading Science.  
Changing Lives.

**2025 Impact Report**



## The MSK Campaign Co-Chairs

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**Marie-Josée Kravis**  
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**Scott Stuart**  
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**Louis V. Gerstner, Jr.**  
Member of the Board of Trustees

**Douglas “Sandy” A. Warner III**  
Member of the Board of Trustees

# Thanks to The MSK Campaign. Thanks to you.

One year ago, we invited the MSK Giving community to join an ambitious effort to raise \$6 billion by 2030 to advance MSK’s mission of ending cancer for life — The MSK Campaign: Leading Science. Changing Lives.

The MSK Campaign is a unique opportunity to redefine the boundaries of cancer care. Organized across six strategic initiatives, it was launched to ensure that the world’s top cancer doctors and scientists have the resources needed to create new treatments and cures, turning MSK’s legacy of innovation into impact.

It is my privilege and honor to share just a few of the transformational efforts that The MSK Campaign has made possible to date. Progress that *you* have made possible. This past year alone, the MSK Giving community contributed \$510 million toward our efforts, bringing us to more than \$3.5 billion already raised for The MSK Campaign, and every dollar is making a real difference in the way we treat and understand cancer.

Accomplishing so much, so soon, is a hallmark of this community, and these early achievements fill me with hope for the future we are building together. Thank you for being part of The MSK Campaign.

With gratitude,



Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
President and CEO  
Douglas A. Warner III Chair





# 1

## Innovate in Care Delivery

At MSK, we are committed to empowering people with cancer to live the lives they choose, during cancer treatment and beyond. With this in mind, MSK is dedicated to cancer care innovation, aiming to transform patient-centered cancer care at MSK and worldwide. Corita Grudzen, MD, MSHS, Fern Grayer Chair in Oncology and Patient Experience, was recruited as the inaugural Head of the Division of Supportive and Acute Care Services to lead these efforts.

Already, your support has allowed Dr. Grudzen and her team to:

- Develop effective ways to care for patients at home.
- Reduce wait times by more than 40%.
- Reduce emergency admissions by proactively helping patients.
- Research home vs. hospital care to better understand the benefits and challenges of both options, allowing patients and families to make the most informed choice.

When progress happens at MSK, it doesn't stop here. Dr. Grudzen is actively sharing her findings across the global cancer community through publications and collaborations that will elevate the standard of care for people with cancer worldwide. So that every single person with cancer can benefit.

**Thanks to The MSK Campaign. Thanks to you.**

Genitourinary medical oncologist Emmett Wynter, MD, consults with a patient.

# 2

## Pioneer Discovery Science

Funding a new cancer drug is a long, expensive process that requires years of preclinical research and clinical trials. The MSK Giving community is an essential source of support for MSK researchers as they continue to break barriers, find new treatments for even the rarest types of cancer, and explore new ways to use existing drugs to save more lives.

The FDA approved 11 drugs in 2024 based on significant contributions by MSK investigators. These drugs treat a wide range of rare and common cancers and include:

- The first new treatment for people with low-grade glioma, a type of brain cancer, in 20 years. The MSK clinical trial that led to FDA approval of vorasidenib (Voranigo®) showed that the oral drug significantly improved progression-free survival in some patients.
- A new three-drug immunotherapy combination for ER-positive and HER2 breast cancers based on an MSK clinical trial. This treatment combines a new drug called inavolisib (Itovebi™) with two older drugs and was shown to more than double progression-free survival time.

Since 2019, research at MSK has led to more than 30 FDA approvals, accelerated approvals, or Breakthrough Therapy Designations for drugs or drug combinations across a range of cancer types.

**Thanks to The MSK Campaign. Thanks to you.**

The MSK Campaign funds fellowships for early-career scientists who conduct laboratory research, allowing them to explore new ideas that may shape the future of cancer care.





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I am incredibly touched and grateful to the MSK Giving community for recognizing the value of my team's work and investing in an evolving field of cancer research. The MSK Campaign makes it possible for us to take risks and pursue bold ideas to answer cancer's biggest questions. Your support allowed us to conduct research that resulted in a 100% remission rate.

—Andrea Cercek, MD

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## Harness the Immune System

With the support of The MSK Campaign, MSK is breaking down research silos and creating new, better cancer immunotherapies that help more people with more kinds of cancer.

Over the past two decades, MSK has consistently led the world in the study and development of cancer immunotherapies. Today, international headlines are regularly touting our newest accomplishments, including:

- A remarkable 100% remission rate in an MSK clinical trial of a new immunotherapy approach to treat a type of rectal cancer. Based on these results, the immunotherapy dostarlimab (Jemperli®) received Breakthrough Therapy Designation from the FDA for rectal cancer on December 16, 2024, bringing it one step closer to everyone who needs it.
- The first-ever trial of personalized messenger RNA (mRNA)-based therapeutic vaccines in pancreatic cancer showed potential — and MSK is now enrolling patients in a stage 2 trial to further evaluate these vaccines in more people. With more research, this could prove to be the first effective vaccine to treat pancreatic cancer and allow people with this challenging form of cancer to live longer, healthier lives.

**Thanks to The MSK Campaign. Thanks to you.**

Andrea Cercek, MD, Co-Director of the Center for Young Onset Colorectal and Gastrointestinal Cancer and The Ford Family Chair, and nurse practitioner Natasha Pinheiro, MSN, NP, review scans in the clinic. At MSK, the entire care team collaborates to ensure the best patient outcomes and experience possible.



**The MSK Campaign  
by the Numbers**

TOTAL RAISED

**\$3.69B**

DONORS

**1.64M**

**80+ countries**

**50 states**



CLINICAL TRIALS LAUNCHED SINCE 2019

**1,726**  
**clinical trials**

FDA APPROVALS BASED ON MSK RESEARCH SINCE 2019

**30+ approvals**

FELLOWSHIPS FUNDED SINCE 2019

**52 fellowships**

**109,000**  
**DNA samples**

ANALYZED USING MSK-IMPACT®



# 4

## Expand Precision Oncology

Renowned jazz composer and pianist Michael Wolff recently celebrated a spectacular moment: While opening for the singer Billie Eilish at Madison Square Garden, his sons, musicians Nat and Alex Wolff, asked him to join them onstage to perform a song they had written about his cancer experience. At that moment, Michael says, “I felt like the luckiest man in the world.”

Michael was alive and well thanks to precision oncology — when the exact genetic mutation behind a person’s cancer is identified and targeted with a drug.

In 2015, Michael was diagnosed with a blood cancer so rare it affects only 300 people in the United States every year. Although there is no standard treatment for this cancer, his MSK physician, Mrinal Gounder, MD — who also trained at MSK — made use of the unsurpassed precision oncology resources available at MSK, beginning with sequencing Michael’s genes with MSK-IMPACT®, a genetic sequencing tool developed at MSK with the support of philanthropy. The goal: to find the genetic mutation that caused Michael’s cancer and match it with a cancer drug that targets this mutation.

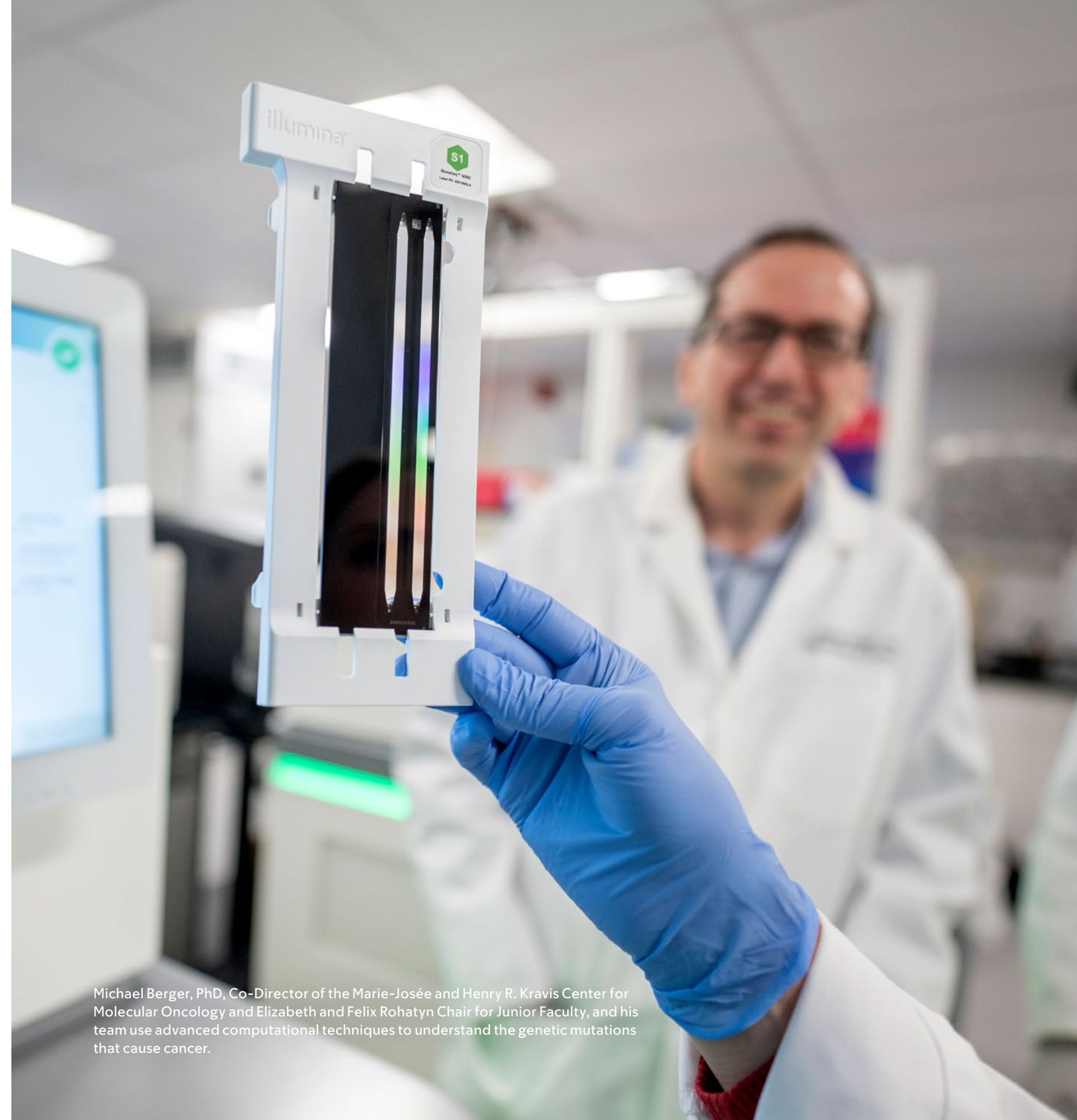
Dr. Gounder knew it was a long shot, but he was willing to try anything to save Michael’s life. “We were improvising on the fly,” he says. “His whole treatment was very much like jazz music.”

MSK-IMPACT wound up revealing mutations in several genes, and Dr. Gounder recognized one of these from a recent MSK publication linking it to a subset of lung cancers. Based on this connection, Dr. Gounder’s research uncovered a treatment that might work: a pill called trametinib (Mekinist®), which had been approved to treat melanomas with certain mutations based on clinical trials led by another MSK doctor.

After Michael was on the medication for only two days, all of his symptoms had disappeared, and a decade later he is still doing well.

Michael’s story illustrates the potential of precision oncology, but today only about one-third of people with cancer benefit from this science. The MSK Campaign will help physicians and scientists to one day identify all gene changes that cause cancer and develop drugs to target each and every one. It’s a lofty goal, but this is what the MSK Giving community does: tackle cancer’s biggest questions.

**Thanks to The MSK Campaign. Thanks to you.**



Michael Berger, PhD, Co-Director of the Marie-Josée and Henry R. Kravis Center for Molecular Oncology and Elizabeth and Felix Rohatyn Chair for Junior Faculty, and his team use advanced computational techniques to understand the genetic mutations that cause cancer.





# 5

## Transform Data Into Cures

Data science is at the core of today's most innovative cancer research.

MSK is uniquely situated to lead the cancer data revolution. We are home to high-quality genomic and digitized imaging data representing decades of tumor sample analyses and correlated clinical data from more than 100,000 patients with rare and common cancers. We knew collecting this data was important before precision oncology was even a concept, and this visionary optimism paid off. Today, our doctors and scientists are using data science and AI to make sense of this data and improve cancer care and outcomes — at MSK and worldwide.

Using data analysis, MSK researchers and their collaborators at the University of British Columbia, BC Cancer, and Harvard Medical School have pinpointed what could be the early genetic origins of breast cancer: cancer-like cells appearing in the cells of healthy people. They accomplished this by analyzing the genomes of more than 48,000 individual breast cells from people without cancer, using novel techniques for decoding the genes of single cells.

Understanding how cancer develops is the first step toward new preventative strategies, treatments, and cures. This research continues and will potentially save lives.

**Thanks to The MSK Campaign. Thanks to you.**

Sohrab Shah, PhD, Chief of Computational Oncology in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Nicholls-Biondi Chair, analyzes complex data sets to predict how cancer evolves over time.

# 6

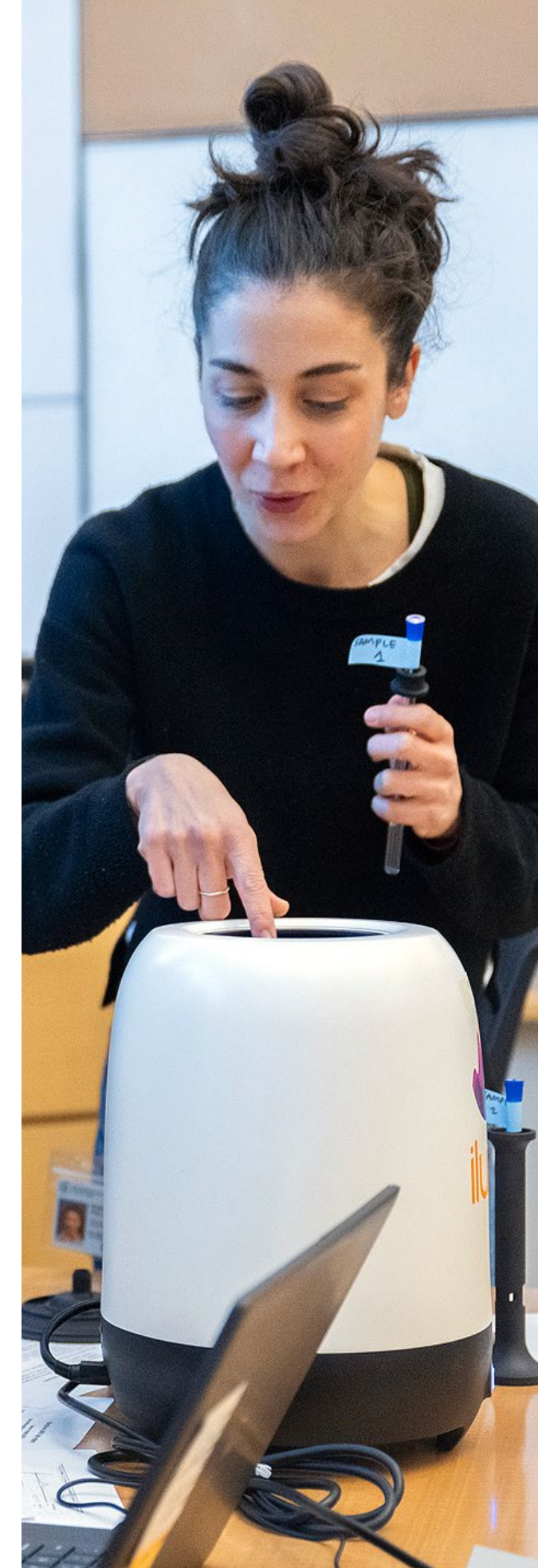
## Develop the New Generation of Leaders

Thanks to The MSK Campaign, MSK's Gerstner Sloan Kettering Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences launched the Pat and Ian Cook Doctoral Program in Cancer Engineering and enrolled its inaugural class of students in July 2024. This doctoral program is the first in the United States to provide biomedical engineering training applied exclusively to cancer science and medicine. The program is creating the cancer engineering brain trust of the future, training experts in both engineering and the biological sciences to tackle the most challenging questions in cancer, develop new technologies to diagnose and understand cancer, and become world leaders in technology-focused cancer research.

For instance, Cook PhD students use tabletop MRI machines to study magnetic relaxation properties of various materials. This research has significant implications for our ability to detect and diagnose cancer and monitor how cancer cells change over time. Optimizing this technology could help doctors diagnose cancer early and modify patients' treatment plans to outpace drug resistance.

**Thanks to The MSK Campaign. Thanks to you.**

A student in the Pat and Ian Cook Doctoral Program in Cancer Engineering explores a tabletop MRI machine.





## Thanks to The MSK Campaign. Thanks to you.

The MSK Campaign is an opportunity for our vibrant community to support MSK's mission of ending cancer for life. Every day, MSK doctors and scientists bring courage and creativity to answer cancer's biggest questions, apply discoveries to care, and train the next generation of leaders. Organized across six strategic initiatives, The MSK Campaign ensures MSK will have the resources needed to create new treatments and cures, turning a legacy of innovation into impact for people with cancer around the world. Thank you for being part of the Campaign and changing lives with us.

### About MSK Giving

MSK is a leader in patient care, research, and education. With expertise in over 400 cancer types and almost 2,000 clinical trials underway at a given time, MSK makes a massive difference in the lives of millions of people facing cancer around the world. MSK Giving is the donor-facing department that helps to advance and fund MSK's mission.

Learn more about The MSK Campaign at  
[giving.mskcc.org/msk-campaign](https://giving.mskcc.org/msk-campaign).



Research fellows discuss their work. MSK fosters a culture of collaboration and continuous learning, conducive to breakthrough discoveries.



## The MSK Campaign

Leading Science. Changing Lives.

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