

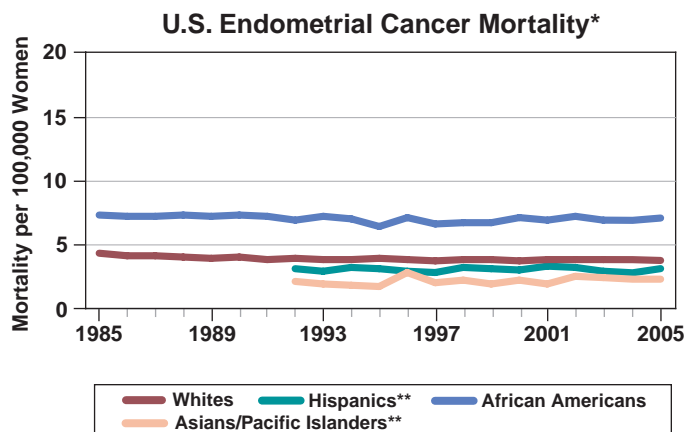
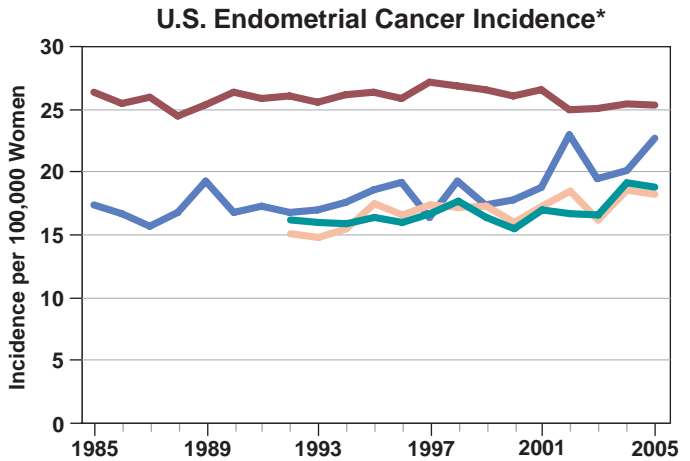
Incidence and Mortality Rate Trends

Endometrial cancer is both the most common type of uterine cancer and the most common cancer of the female reproductive system, accounting for approximately 6 percent of all cancers in women in the United States. The mortality rate has declined slightly over the past 20 years among white and African American women, but it has increased slightly among Asians and Pacific Islanders and remained at the same level among Hispanics. Although the incidence rate of endometrial cancer is lower in African American women than in whites, the mortality rate is nearly twice as high.

It is estimated that approximately \$1.8 billion¹ is spent in the United States each year on treatment of endometrial cancer.

Source for incidence and mortality data: Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program and the National Center for Health Statistics. Additional statistics and charts are available at <http://seer.cancer.gov/>.

¹Cancer Trends Progress Report (<http://progressreport.cancer.gov/>), in 2004 dollars, based on methods described in *Medical Care* 2002 Aug; 40 (8 Suppl): IV-104–17.



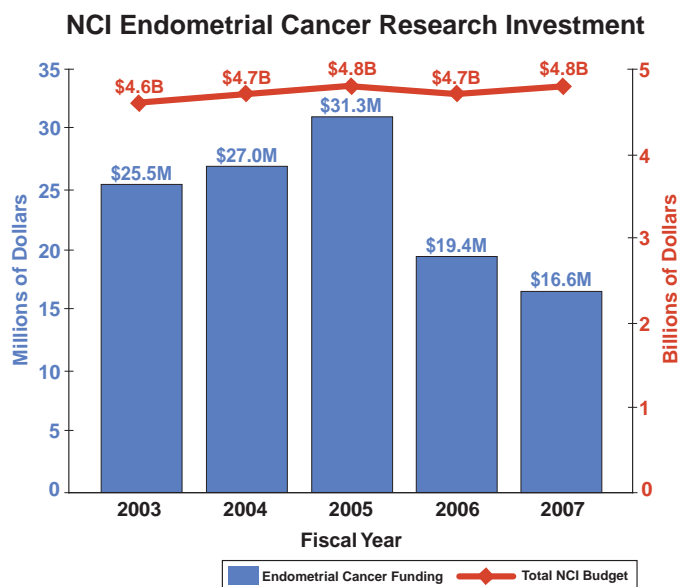
*Significant data for American Indians/Alaskan Natives not available.
**Data for Hispanics and Asians/Pacific Islanders not available before 1992.

Trends in NCI Funding for Endometrial Cancer Research

The National Cancer Institute's (NCI's) investment² in endometrial cancer research decreased from \$25.5 million in fiscal year 2003 to \$16.6 million in fiscal year 2007.

Source: NCI Office of Budget and Finance (<http://obf.cancer.gov/>).

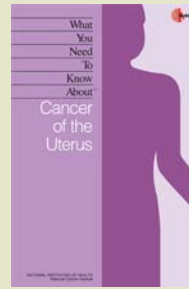
²The estimated NCI investment is based on funding associated with a broad range of peer-reviewed scientific activities. For additional information on research planning and budgeting at the National Institutes of Health, see <http://www.nih.gov/about/>.



Examples of NCI Activities Relevant to Endometrial Cancer

- Two gynecologic cancer-specific **Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPOREs)** focus on treatment and prevention of gynecologic cancers, including the development of risk and predictive biomarkers for endometrial cancer. <http://spores.nci.nih.gov/current/gyn/gyn.html>
- The **Gynecologic Cancer Intergroup (GCIG)**, an organization of international cooperative groups for clinical trials in gynecologic cancers, is identifying treatments for endometrial cancer. <http://ctep.cancer.gov/resources/gcig/index.html>
- **Clinical Trials** are actively recruiting endometrial cancer patients to test new treatments and treatment combinations. <http://www.cancer.gov/search/ResultsClinicalTrials.aspx?protocolsearchid=5050269#>
- Through the **Case Control Study in Poland and the Breast Cancer Detection Demonstration Project (BCDDP) Follow-Up Study**, NCI investigators are conducting epidemiologic research to identify factors that might influence endometrial cancer risk. These factors include family history of breast cancer, use of exogenous hormones, physical activity, body-mass index, smoking, and alcohol use. <http://dceg.cancer.gov/hreb/research/breast>
- The **Exploratory Studies in Cancer Detection, Diagnosis, and Prognosis** initiative includes a study designed to explore the genes that contribute to development of endometrial cancer. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-299.html>

What You Need to Know About™ Cancer of the Uterus



This booklet discusses possible causes, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation. It also has information to help patients cope with endometrial cancer.

Risk factors for endometrial cancer include: age, endometrial hyperplasia, hormone replacement therapy (HRT), obesity and related conditions, tamoxifen use, race, and history of colorectal cancer.

<http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/wyntk/uterus/page1>

Information specialists can also answer questions about cancer at 1-800-4-CANCER.

- The **Gynecologic Oncology Group (GOG)** is a cooperative research group that conducts clinical trials focused on women with pelvic malignancies, including endometrial cancer. <http://www.gog.org/>
- The **Breast and Gynecologic Malignancies Faculty** facilitates interactions among basic, epidemiological, and clinical researchers to promote the prevention, diagnosis, and cure of breast and gynecologic cancers. <http://ccr.cancer.gov/faculties/faculty.asp?facid=129>
- The **Endometrial Cancer Home Page** directs visitors to up-to-date information on endometrial cancer treatment, prevention, genetics, causes, screening, testing, and other topics. <http://www.cancer.gov/endometrial>

Selected Advances in Endometrial Cancer Research

- Women with a higher baseline body-mass index and greater adult weight gain have a greater risk of endometrial cancer. However, a recent study found that women who gained at least 20 kg (44 lbs) and used menopausal hormone therapy (MHT) had a lower risk of endometrial cancer than those who had never used MHT. <http://dceg.cancer.gov/newsletter/Linkage0707.html#article10>
- A recent study showed that 11 mutations in the fibroblast growth factor receptor 2 (FGFR2) gene are associated with the development of endometrial cancer. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17525745>
- Researchers found that women with atypical endometrial hyperplasia, a type of excessive cell growth, have a much higher risk of endometrial cancer. The women's cancer risk remained high for at least 5 years after discovery of the hyperplasia. <http://dceg.cancer.gov/newsletter/Linkage0308.html#article12>
- Taking estrogen plus progestin either sequentially or continuously, even for long periods of time (5 years or more), does not increase endometrial cancer risk. <http://dceg.cancer.gov/newsletter/Linkage1107.html#SciHigh>