



Changing the Trajectory of Cancer Takes Focus – at Scale

By Andy Schmeltz

18.1 million¹. That's the total number of new cancer cases per year expected worldwide in 2018. In Europe specifically, the number of people who will be diagnosed with cancer this year is roughly 4.2 million¹. Mothers, fathers, daughters, sons, mentors, best friends, teachers. All of them grappling with a new reality; all of them deserving of the highest possible quality of care.

Jordan Mendelson is one of those people. Just before beginning a pre-medical program that would put him on the path to becoming a doctor, his own clinician told him he had lymphoma. The diagnosis blindsided him and threatened to derail his dreams. But after struggling to process the news, he chose to accept his new reality with determination. With the right treatment – and incredible support from family and friends – he's been able to complete his first year of his program.

“Cancer has been an obstacle to overcome,” he says. “But I haven't changed who I am or what I do.”

At Pfizer Oncology we are committed to advancing medicines wherever we can make a meaningful difference on the lives of patients. Patients like Jordan give us purpose. They drive us to uncover the next discovery and develop the next innovative medicine.

But we know that to make the biggest impact, we can't try to solve every problem. We can work at scale, but we have to be focused in our approach.

With common purpose and shared passion across the entire Pfizer enterprise, we identify where we might change the course of this disease, and then go all in. We are focused on translating the best science into new approaches and helping patients find the right medicine for their specific cancer.

In fact, this approach is on display this week at the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) Congress, where we are presenting new data in some of the toughest cancers, including breast, prostate, and renal cell carcinoma.

Over the years, our focus in this field has helped us to build an industry-leading portfolio of innovative cancer medicines and oncology biosimilars. Indeed, the largest percentage of Pfizer's R&D investments go toward oncology and we now have 12 innovative medicines in development. As of this fall, more than 10,000 patients are participating in Pfizer-sponsored clinical trials and more than 700,000 patients have been treated with our medicines.

Our work in oncology began nearly two decades ago, and when I look back at the milestones we've reached so far, I can only be inspired by the relentless dedication of our team – and our partners in the global oncology community. But in the years to come, our commitment – and our impact – will only be stronger. Through the focus and scale of the full oncology ecosystem, we will change the trajectory of cancer.

¹ <https://doi.org/10.3322/caac.21492>