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### **\$12-Million will support Prevention Research at The Cancer Institute of New Jersey**

*Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grant to advance a New Frontier in Unlocking the Mysteries of Cancer*

**New Brunswick, N.J., January 2, 2008** – When one thinks of cancer research, microscopes and glass beakers usually come to mind. But thanks to a \$12-million award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, researchers at The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ) will be able to expand on that vision. The Princeton-based foundation just announced it will make the grant to the Cancer Institute of New Jersey Foundation for a four-year project aimed at growing the research areas of cancer prevention, control and population science at CINJ, which is a center of excellence of UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and the state’s only National Cancer Institute –Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center.

The effort will concentrate on preventing cancer, and diagnosing cancer earlier. This type of research requires a large collection of data on such factors as lifestyle and diet, as well as genetic and environmental risks in developing cancer. The project also will focus on the building of a program dedicated to the unique needs of cancer survivors and will offer shared resources to other New Jersey health institutions including the dissemination of data findings and cancer-related educational materials.

“This award will help our world-renowned experts at CINJ reach new horizons in the fight against cancer. We greatly appreciate the support of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and its advanced vision in this area of community health,” said Leslie Logan Taylor, chair of the Cancer Institute of New Jersey Foundation Board of Directors.

Joseph R. Bertino, M.D., interim director and chief scientific officer at CINJ and university professor of medicine and pharmacology at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, notes, “We are committed to improving the current knowledge base for promoting overall reductions in cancer incidence. This award will allow us to better understand who among the general public are at a greater risk of getting cancer and to get this information out to physicians and family practices.”

Nearly 80,000 patient visits to CINJ are expected next year and an annual figure of 100,000 patient visits is expected by the end of the four-year grant period. Dr. Bertino says it is those increasing numbers that make it even more critical to dedicate concentrated resources toward such study. Bertino will be the lead investigator on the project.

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey Foundation raises funds to support cancer research, treatment, prevention and education programs at CINJ. Gifts are received from corporations, foundations, individuals, special events and through planned gifts. To make a tax-deductible gift to New Jersey’s only NCI -designated Comprehensive Cancer Center call 732-235-8614 or visit [www.cinjfoundation.org](http://www.cinjfoundation.org).

#### **About The Cancer Institute of New Jersey**

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey is the state’s first and only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, and is dedicated to improving the prevention, detection, treatment and care

of patients with cancer. CINJ's physician-scientists engage in translational research, transforming their laboratory discoveries into clinical practice quite literally bringing research to life. The Cancer Institute of New Jersey is a center of excellence of UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey Network is comprised of hospitals throughout the state and provides a mechanism to rapidly disseminate important discoveries into the community. Partner Hospitals: Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, Atlantic Health (Morristown Memorial Hospital and Overlook Hospital). Affiliate Hospitals: Bayshore Community Hospital, CentraState Healthcare System, Cooper University Hospital\*, Jersey Shore University Medical Center, JFK Medical Center, Raritan Bay Medical Center, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Hamilton (CINJ-Hamilton), Saint Peter's University Hospital, Somerset Medical Center, Southern Ocean County Hospital, The University Hospital/UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School\*, and University Medical Center at Princeton. \*Academic Affiliate

### **About The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change. The Foundation's Pioneer Portfolio supports innovative ideas and projects that may trigger important breakthroughs in health and health care. Projects in the Pioneer Portfolio are future-oriented and look beyond conventional thinking to explore solutions at the cutting edge of health and health care.

For more than 35 years the Foundation has brought experience, commitment, and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. When it comes to helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, the Foundation expects to make a difference in your lifetime.

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