

FISCAL YEAR 2025 STEWARDSHIP REPORT



Ivy Brain
Tumor Center

at the BARROW NEUROLOGICAL INSTITUTE

Barrow
Neurological Foundation



Discovering Tomorrow's Treatments Today

IvyBrainTumorCenter.org

OUR GRATITUDE

Your support and dedication to the Ivy Brain Tumor Center enable us to provide patients with access to therapies unavailable anywhere else in the world. It is with your partnership that we continue to discover new treatments for glioblastoma and other incurable brain tumors, changing the future of brain cancer.

With a five-year survival rate of less than 5%, glioblastoma is both the most common and the most lethal brain cancer in adults. As a valued partner in this mission, you know the dire need for more effective therapies, especially given a tumor's ability to resist standard treatments. Unfortunately, no new, effective drugs have been identified in over 25 years, and conventional clinical trials still require years to determine efficacy. With a median life expectancy of less than 16 months, our patients simply cannot wait.

Your generosity impacts every clinical trial we launch, every patient we enroll, and every breakthrough we achieve. Your support allows us to expand the reach of our innovative Phase 0 clinical trials program, which gives brain tumor patients and their families something they've never had before—answers in days, not years.

This report highlights the tangible progress you've made possible. We are dramatically accelerating discovery, reducing wasted time, and giving patients faster access to the most promising new treatments—bringing hope to patients, families, and caregivers at the most difficult moment of their lives.

With gratitude,

Dr. Nader Sanai

Francis & Dionne Najafi Chair in Neurosurgical Oncology
Director, Ivy Brain Tumor Center
Barrow Neurological Institute



YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

Fueling Measurable Success in Brain Cancer Research

In just eight years, we have screened more than 7,000 patients, and over 700 patients have enrolled in Ivy Center clinical trials. Through our innovative Phase 0 clinical trials program, patients are given a short course of an individualized therapy days before their scheduled surgery, and when the tumor is removed, our scientists test whether the drug actually reached their tumor and affected its biology. If it does, patients continue treatment immediately; if not, we avoid exposing them to an ineffective therapy and pivot to another. This novel approach is the fastest, smartest path to lifesaving breakthroughs, and it's fueled by philanthropy.

Your investment directly supports this cutting-edge method, revolutionizing how we understand and combat brain cancer. It allows us to rapidly identify effective new treatment options, ensuring patients receive truly impactful therapies when time is of the essence, and accelerating our pursuit of a cure.

PURSUIT OF FDA APPROVAL

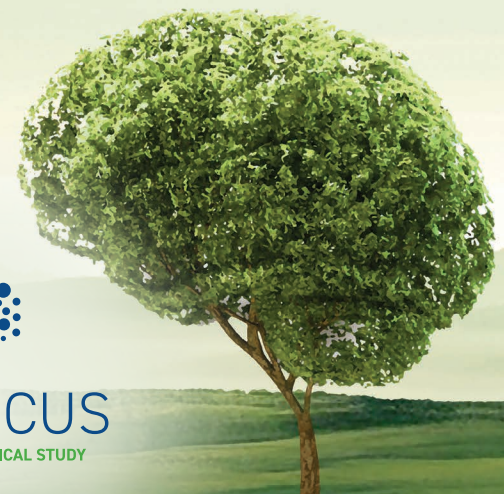
Phase 3 Gliofocus Study Advancement

Thanks to compelling interim clinical trial data from the Ivy Brain Tumor Center at Barrow Neurological Institute, the U.S. FDA has granted Orphan Drug Designation (ODD) to niraparib for the treatment of malignant glioma, including glioblastoma (GBM). This special status is awarded by the FDA to medicines intended to treat, diagnose, or prevent rare diseases, and it provides critical incentives such as regulatory support, tax credits, and potential market exclusivity. These protections are designed to accelerate the development of treatments for patients with rare and life-threatening conditions, reflecting the urgent need our patients face.

The Ivy Center's Phase 3 Gliofocus Study, supported by GSK, compares niraparib monotherapy to the standard of care, temozolomide, in adult patients with newly diagnosed GBM tumors that lack a key chemical modification, called MGMT unmethylated. In approximately 60% of GBM tumors, the MGMT promoter is unmethylated, making the tumors resistant to temozolomide. The historical median overall survival for patients in this category is just 12.7 months. Positive interim data from the Ivy Center's Phase 0/2 clinical trial of niraparib in GBM provided the foundation to advance the drug to a Phase 3 study. In that trial, niraparib achieved drug concentrations and target modulation in excess of any other studied PARP inhibitor. No new safety signals were identified.



"Niraparib receiving Orphan Drug Designation is a pivotal moment in our singular goal to discover new treatments for glioblastoma and other incurable brain tumors," says Dr. Nader Sanai, director of the Ivy Brain Tumor Center and study chair. "This designation from the FDA not only recognizes the dire need for more effective therapies but underscores the promising results we observed in our Hybrid Phase 0 Study of niraparib. For patients, families, and caregivers, it brings hope during the most difficult moment of their lives."



REAL LIVES, **REAL IMPACT**

Our pursuit of scientific discovery and innovation is always anchored by our absolute commitment to patients.

This foundation of hope invigorates our team, providing strength and comfort to patients, caregivers, and families as they confront the unique challenges of brain cancer. Each story we tell reflects the incredible resilience of individuals and the profound impact of your unwavering support, which directly enables their advanced care and treatment. Your generosity isn't solely advancing groundbreaking research; it's igniting hope and opening critical avenues of opportunity for those facing their most difficult moments.



[Scan here](#)

READ MORE STORIES:

These inspiring stories are possible because of your generosity. Together, we are bringing hope to patients like Jeff, Marializa, and Joshua, and changing the future of brain cancer care.



MARIALIZA HOLDEN

NAVIGATING BRAIN CANCER: MARIALIZA'S PURSUIT OF NEW TREATMENTS AT THE IVY BRAIN TUMOR CENTER

In late 2022, Marializa Holden received devastating news that her migraines, which she initially thought were triggered by a change in hormones after giving birth, were caused by a diffuse midline glioma, H3 K27M-Mutated. She was referred to the Ivy Brain Tumor Center at Barrow Neurological Institute, where she and her husband, Christian, met with Dr. Nader Sanai.

After undergoing multiple operations, chemotherapy, and several weeks of radiation, Mari enrolled in an Ivy Center clinical trial, ONC 201. This Phase 3 trial investigated ONC201, a new investigational drug that specifically targets H3 K27M-mutant diffuse glioma and aims to treat tumor cells.

Mari says she found her support and true community in Dr. Sanai and her entire Ivy Center team, including Yoshie Umemura, MD, Chief Medical Officer, and William Kennedy, MD, neuro-radiation oncologist. She states that since the start of her journey, "everyone's arms and ears have been open. They've heard us, they've understood where we're coming from, and they've cared for us and nurtured us through every step of the way."

Watch Marializa's story:



[Scan here](#)



JEFF MUSE

PARK RANGER, AUTHOR NAVIGATES WILD TERRAIN AFTER GLIOBLASTOMA DIAGNOSIS

In New Mexico, during the summer of 2023, Jeff Muse's world changed. While serving as a park ranger and publishing his first book, he went from protecting public lands to entering uncharted territory when he was diagnosed with glioblastoma. Jeff, 56, now in a clinical trial at the Ivy Brain Tumor Center, has found a way to navigate each day. He calls it "an equation for life." Not a cure, not a solution, just a path—simple, hard-won, and very personal. From agony and endurance to comfort and pleasure, Jeff navigates each of these steps every day. He says they are his new map with routes that guide each well-lived moment.

Jeff shares his advice with others facing a GBM diagnosis: "Let it rip! Anger, sadness, fear—whatever you experience. Your shock and unexpected pain are real, but so is laughter, cheering, and feeling so driven by purpose and grit that you just might be more thankful for life than ever. All in one day!"

Read Jeff's story:



[Scan here](#)



JOSHUA ZAHN

FATHER BEATS MEDULLOBLASTOMA, A RARE BRAIN CANCER IN ADULTS

Sometimes life gives us lemons. For Joshua and Alycia Zahn of Gilbert, Arizona, it was more of a clementine. In early 2023, Joshua learned he had a cancerous tumor the size of a clementine orange growing in the cerebellum of his brain. Shaped like a half circle, the cerebellum sits at the base of the skull and helps to control balance, coordination, and several complex motor functions.

Joshua's biopsy at Barrow Neurological Institute confirmed he had a medulloblastoma. Like most other medulloblastomas, Joshua's tumor grew rapidly—not only occupying important real estate in his brain but also threatening to invade other parts of his body.

Thanks to the world-class care at the Ivy Center, combined with Joshua's strong support system and own determination, he overcame his aggressive tumor and returned to his life.

"He kind of defied all odds," said his wife, Alycia. "It's been amazing to watch."

Read Joshua's story:



[Scan here](#)

TRANSFORMING BRAIN CANCER CARE

The Ivy Brain Tumor Center's central strategy is to introduce patients to novel treatment paradigms, identify combined-agent strategies that sidestep brain tumor resistance mechanisms, and validate the utility of promising new regimens using randomized controlled clinical trials. Taken together, our innovative efforts in clinical trial design, expansive roster of new experimental agents, and access to the nation's largest brain tumor patient population, position the Ivy Brain Tumor Center to redefine drug development for patients with brain tumors.

DRIVING INNOVATION

- **Accelerated Clinical Trials:** In days—not months or years—we identify therapies that work and eliminate those that don't, giving patients faster access to lifesaving options.
- **Personalized Medicine:** We use advanced genetic profiling to tailor experimental treatments to each patient's unique tumor, offering hope where standard care falls short.
- **Cutting-Edge Technology:** From breakthrough neurosurgical techniques to experimental drug therapies, our patients benefit from the latest advancements before they're available anywhere else in the world.

BUILDING IMPACTFUL PARTNERSHIPS

Collaboration fuels progress. With support from pharmaceutical partnerships and biotech partners, we can access and test the most promising therapies. Generous contributions from donors like you provide the resources needed to fund these partnerships and expand our reach.

PUTTING PATIENTS FIRST

Every decision we make centers on improving patient outcomes. From providing compassionate care to offering clinical trial opportunities unavailable anywhere else, our mission is to save lives and create hope.

Your unwavering support empowers our team to stay at the forefront of innovation, attract top talent, and build the infrastructure needed to transform brain cancer care.

AMPLIFYING OUR MESSAGE

Raising awareness is fundamental to the Ivy Center's mission of discovering tomorrow's treatments today. Our Marketing and Communications team spearheads this effort, strategically sharing compelling patient stories, expert insights, and groundbreaking clinical breakthroughs. This work inspires action, amplifies our message, and expands our global reach. Through dynamic digital campaigns, impactful community engagement, and strategic media partnerships, the Ivy Center is forging vital connections with patients, caregivers, and advocates around the world.

TURNING INTERACTION INTO ACTION

Your support has enabled us to build a global platform for hope, with millions engaging with us on our platforms last year.



10+

Success Stories Highlighted: Offering hope and guidance to others on similar journeys.



130+

Countries Reached: Expanding our mission to a truly global audience.



759

Earned Media Mentions: Bringing attention to cutting-edge brain cancer research.



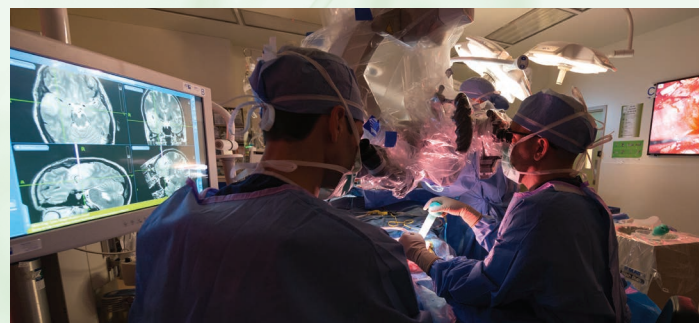
1M+

Social Media Engagements: Inspiring a movement to accelerate change.

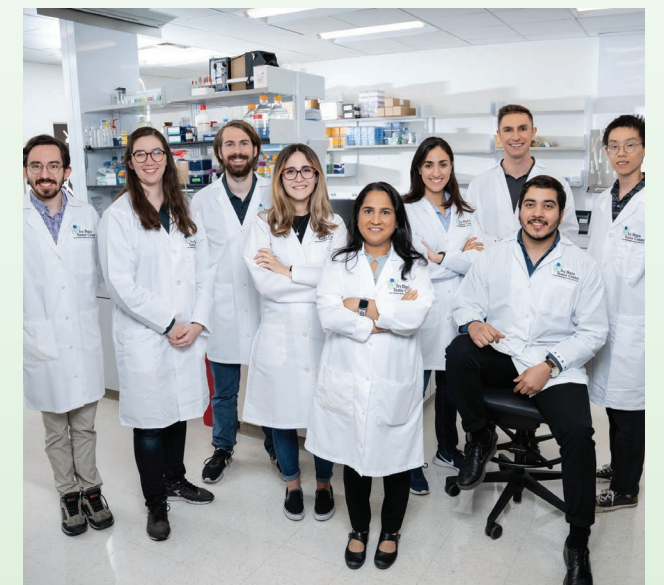
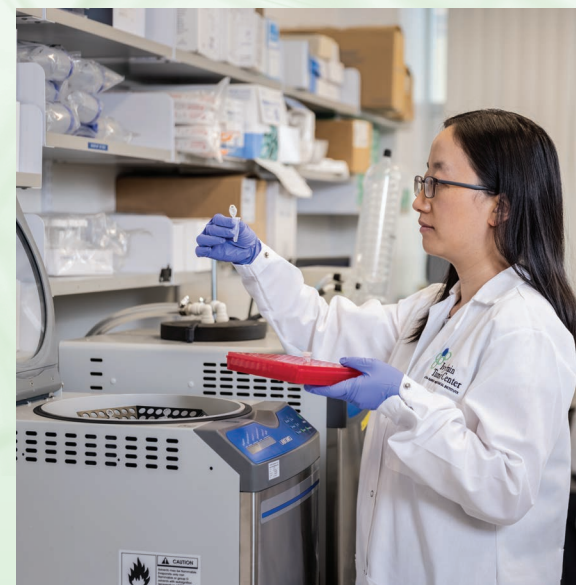


504,000

Website Visits: Providing a trusted resource for patients and families worldwide.



TOGETHER, WE'RE NOT JUST
CHANGING LIVES—
**WE'RE CHANGING
THE FUTURE**
OF BRAIN CANCER TREATMENT.



TOGETHER, WE'RE ADVANCING
THE FIGHT AGAINST BRAIN CANCER

At the Ivy Brain Tumor Center, our multidisciplinary team is dedicated to providing expert care, preserving patients' quality of life, and advancing treatment options through groundbreaking clinical research. We are profoundly grateful for your continued support, which drives our mission to improve outcomes and transform brain tumor research and treatment for those affected by this disease.

As we expand therapeutic options for our patients, philanthropic support remains crucial. With the backing of a group of dedicated and generous contributors like you, we are seizing this pivotal moment to accelerate research for this historically underfunded disease. Your steadfast commitment fuels lifesaving innovations and brings hope to brain tumor patients and their families across the globe.

Thank you for being an essential part of this transformative work. As we look ahead, your continued partnership will allow us to accelerate this progress.

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TOGETHER, WE CAN ACHIEVE
**EXTRAORDINARY
BREAKTHROUGHS.**

BY THE **NUMBERS**



1,300+

Brain tumor surgeries performed annually – the largest volume in the U.S.



28

Clinical trials launched



700+

Patients enrolled in Ivy Center trials



55

New drugs analyzed for advancement to clinical trial



7,000+

Patients screened for clinical trials



12+

Countries represented by our trial patients

Barrow
Neurological Foundation

Barrow Neurological Foundation
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