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## **Northwell, Lustgarten expand sponsorship to fight pancreatic cancer**

NEW HYDE PARK, NY – In its second year of collaboration with the [Lustgarten Foundation](#), [Northwell Health Cancer Institute](#) announced today that it will be the exclusive hospital sponsor for the Foundation’s four New York metropolitan area walks and other fundraising events in 2020.

Northwell will again team with Lustgarten in supporting its community walks, which together drew more than 10,000 participants with the goal of increasing awareness about pancreatic cancer, promoting early detection, treatment advances and innovative research. In 2019, the Lustgarten walks sponsored by Northwell raised nearly \$2 million for pancreatic cancer research.

About 57,000 Americans will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2020 alone. Because pancreatic cancer tends to spread silently before diagnosis, it has one of the highest mortality rates. It’s expected that 47,000 people will die from the disease in the United States this year.

“With such low survival rates, it’s critical for Northwell to collaborate with the Lustgarten Foundation and experts in the oncology field to increase public awareness and move forward with novel research aimed at offering more pancreatic cancer clinical trials with the shared goal of finding a cure for this insidious disease,” said [Richard Barakat, MD](#), physician-in-chief and director of the Northwell Health Cancer Institute, and senior vice president of the health system’s Cancer Service Line.

In June 2019, Northwell’s Cancer Institute launched its [Pancreatic Cancer Center](#). The center features a multidisciplinary team of surgical, medical and radiation oncologists, gastroenterologists, interventional radiologists, pathologists, endocrinologists, genetic counselors, social workers and nutritionists, along with pain management and palliative specialists.

Northwell will sponsor the following Lustgarten Pancreatic Cancer Research Walks in 2020:

- [March 29, New York City;](#)

- [April 26, Westchester;](#)
- [September 13, Staten Island;](#)
- [October 4, Long Island.](#)

These walks bring together patients and survivors with family and friends for a day of hope and remembrance, where the community shares in a common goal of raising awareness and funding for pancreatic cancer. The family-friendly events, which include food, raffles and prizes from vendors, offer an empowering experience to those who are battling the disease and a support system for survivors.

“We are proud to align with Northwell Health again on our Lustgarten Walks and other signature special events,” said Kerri Kaplan, president and CEO of the Lustgarten Foundation. “Sponsorships, like the one from Northwell, ensure that we can continue making advancements that are already improving patient outcomes and enabling some patients to live longer. Our collaboration with Northwell extends to working together on a clinical trial that will bring new hope to patients. Together, we stand committed to changing the survival statistics for this disease.”

#### ***About Northwell Health***

*Northwell Health is New York State’s largest health care provider and private employer, with 23 hospitals, about 750 outpatient facilities and more than 13,600 affiliated physicians. We care for over two million people annually in the New York metro area and beyond, thanks to philanthropic support from our communities. Our 70,000 employees – 16,000-plus nurses and 4,000 employed doctors, including members of Northwell Health Physician Partners – are working to change health care for the better. We’re making breakthroughs in medicine at the Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research. We’re training the next generation of medical professionals at the visionary Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell and the Hofstra Northwell School of Graduate Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies. For information on our more than 100 medical specialties, visit [Northwell.edu](http://Northwell.edu) and follow us @NorthwellHealth on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.*

#### ***About the Lustgarten Foundation***

*The Lustgarten Foundation is the largest private funder of pancreatic cancer research in the world. Based in Woodbury, N.Y., the Foundation’s mission is to cure pancreatic cancer by funding scientific and clinical research related to the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of pancreatic cancer; providing research information and clinical support services to patients, caregivers and individuals at high risk; and increasing public awareness and hope for those dealing with this disease. Since its inception, the Lustgarten Foundation has directed \$188 million to research and has assembled the best scientific minds with the hope that one day, a cure can be found. Thanks to separate funding to support administrative expenses, 100% of your donation goes directly to pancreatic cancer research. For more information, visit [www.lustgarten.org](http://www.lustgarten.org).*