



PennState
College of Medicine



PennState Health
Milton S. Hershey
Medical Center

**Director, Penn State Cancer Institute
Penn State College of Medicine
Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center
Hershey, Pennsylvania**

THE SEARCH

[Penn State College of Medicine](#) (PSCOM) and [Penn State Health](#) (PSH) are seeking an inspirational and people-centered academic physician leader to serve as Director of the [Penn State Cancer Institute](#) (PSCI). An accomplished researcher, outstanding clinician, and dedicated educator, the next Director will have the opportunity to lead PSCI into its next era of growth and national prominence, advancing an integrated vision for cancer research, clinical care, education, community engagement, and philanthropy across Penn State.

The Director will join PSCI at a pivotal time. Leaders across Penn State, the College of Medicine, and Penn State Health share a commitment to strengthening cancer research and more closely integrating it with the clinical enterprise. With the scientific breadth of a major research university, the clinical reach of an expanding academic health system, and established strengths across the cancer continuum, Penn State is well positioned to build a more integrated and nationally distinctive cancer enterprise.

A central priority will be advancing PSCI toward National Cancer Institute designation. With commensurate authority and institutional support, the Director will build on areas of scientific and clinical strength, recruit and develop exceptional faculty, expand interdisciplinary and translational research, grow investigator-initiated and NCI-funded clinical trials, and strengthen the infrastructure and collaborative culture needed to elevate PSCI's national profile. This will include leadership of clinical research strategy and trial prioritization, staffing and recruitment, resource allocation, trial activation and accrual. The Director will also serve as a compelling advocate for cancer across Penn State and externally, cultivating philanthropic and strategic partnerships that expand investment and support future growth.

Penn State's land-grant mission and regional reach also provide a distinctive platform for reimagining how an academic cancer center serves its communities. The Director will help expand access to advanced cancer care, clinical trials, prevention and screening, and emerging

models of care across central Pennsylvania, while developing approaches with relevance well beyond the region.

The successful candidate will bring a bold and unifying vision for the future of cancer at Penn State. Working across disciplinary, organizational, and geographic boundaries, the Director will harness the collective strengths of PSCI, Penn State College of Medicine, Penn State Health, and the broader University to accelerate discovery, translate innovation into better outcomes for patients, and build programs of national distinction. The role offers the chance to shape the future of a growing academic cancer enterprise and significantly expand its impact regionally, nationally, and internationally.

PENN STATE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Penn State College of Medicine is the medical school of The Pennsylvania State University, one of the nation's leading public research universities. Penn State's research enterprise ranks among the top 30 in the nation per the National Science Foundation's Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) Survey, with twelve disciplines ranking in the top ten nationally for research expenditures, and more than \$1.44 billion in annual university-wide research expenditures, an enterprise that extends across Penn State's full network of Commonwealth Campuses and colleges throughout Pennsylvania.

In 1963, the Milton S. Hershey Foundation offered a landmark \$50 million gift to Penn State University to establish a medical school and teaching hospital in Hershey, Pennsylvania, joined by \$21.3 million from the U.S. Public Health Service. Penn State College of Medicine opened its doors to its first class of 40 students in 1967, who received their M.D. degrees in 1971. Nearly six decades later, the College stands as Penn State's top NIH-funded research college, a distinction reflecting a sustained institutional commitment to discovery that has propelled the College into the top 50 medical schools nationally in the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research rankings, with two basic science departments ranked among the top 13 in the nation in NIH funding. Additionally, Penn State was the first medical school in the country to establish Departments of Humanities and of Family and Community Medicine. In 2019, the College expanded its footprint with a Regional Medical Campus at University Park, strengthened through collaboration with Mount Nittany Health.

Nearly 1,500 faculty members drive a research enterprise generating well over \$150 million annually in extramural funding, with NIH support representing more than half of that total. The enterprise is further strengthened by a prestigious NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award and a deep bench of nationally recognized investigators. Approximately 580 medical students, 60 PA students and 200 nursing students, learn alongside 193 graduate students and 560 residents

and fellows in a tightly connected academic community across the College of Medicine and Penn State Health.

The College's mission is direct and ambitious: to enhance the quality of life through improved health, prepare those who will serve the health needs of others, discover knowledge that benefits all, and become a world leader in the transformation of health care and the advancement of health for people everywhere.

PENN STATE HEALTH

Penn State Health (PSH) is a \$5 billion integrated academic health system built on a system-wide model of care, five adult acute care hospitals, and more than 1,300 licensed beds across Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, St. Joseph Medical Center, Holy Spirit Medical Center, Hampden Medical Center, and Lancaster Medical Center, complemented by Penn State Health Golisano Children's, extending the system's reach into pediatric health care. The network is further supported by over 180 outpatient practices and a workforce of nearly 22,000 team members. Rather than concentrating care in a single flagship, PSH's strategic goal is expanding clinical care across an array of ambulatory, retail and acute care assets that serve patients and communities closer to home.

In fiscal year 2026, that network delivered more than 1.7 million outpatient visits, 60,784 inpatient admissions for acute care, and approximately 214,278 emergency room visits across the system. Pediatric specialty care is a particular strength, with more than 200 pediatric medical and surgical specialists and subspecialists system-wide, complemented by 88 adult inpatient rehabilitation beds supporting recovery across the network.

PSH's system approach extends deliberately into the community: the system provided approximately \$275 million in community health benefits in FY2025 and reached approximately 1.3 million people through community outreach initiatives, health education, screening, and prevention programs designed to extend the system's impact well beyond its hospital walls. PSH has also pursued strategic partnerships to accelerate this model, including a more than \$1 billion joint investment with Highmark Health to build a high-value, community-based health care network that keeps care local while expanding support for medical education and research at Penn State College of Medicine.

PENN STATE CANCER INSTITUTE

Penn State Cancer Institute (PSCI) is the academic and clinical hub for cancer research and care across Penn State College of Medicine and Penn State Health. Originally chartered in 2000, patient care at the Institute has been ongoing since 2008, and PSCI has been in its current physical home, a 178,000-square-foot facility on the campus of Penn State Health Milton S.

Hershey Medical Center, since 2009. Recognized as an American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer accredited facility, PSCI brings together basic, translational, clinical, and population science with multidisciplinary cancer care, education, and community engagement. As one of Penn State's interdisciplinary research institutes, PSCI operates within a broader research environment that enables collaboration across colleges, campuses, institutes, and scientific disciplines.

PSCI serves a 28-county catchment area encompassing approximately 4.2 million people, nearly one-third of Pennsylvania's population across rural, urban, and Appalachian communities in central Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania's five NCI-designated cancer centers are concentrated in the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh regions, giving PSCI a distinctive opportunity to expand access to advanced cancer care, research, clinical trials, prevention, and emerging therapies across a large and geographically diverse region.

PSCI's research enterprise includes 126 faculty members representing 45 departments across nine Penn State colleges and schools, organized around three integrated scientific programs: Mechanisms of Carcinogenesis, Next Generation Therapies, and Cancer Control. Investigators are supported by shared resources in Biostatistics & Bioinformatics, Flow Cytometry, Metabolomics, and Organic Synthesis, as well as the broader research infrastructure of Penn State College of Medicine and Penn State. Together, PSCI investigators generated more than \$25 million in annual direct extramural research funding, including \$7.0 million from the National Cancer Institute and \$9.6 million in broader NIH support. Since 2020, Institute members have authored more than 1,000 publications, including 191 in high-impact journals.

Clinical and translational research represents a significant area of growth and strategic opportunity for PSCI. PSCI is a member of the Big Ten Cancer Research Consortium and participates in National Clinical Trials Network cooperative group research through ECOG-ACRIN Cancer Research Group and NRG Oncology, with Penn State faculty serving in national leadership and study roles. PSCI is focused on expanding the scale, breadth, and impact of its clinical research enterprise, including investigator-initiated and NIH-funded studies, with a goal of enrolling at least 300 patients annually in interventional therapeutic studies and 500 patients across all cancer-related clinical trials.

As the academic and clinical anchor of the Penn State Health Cancer Services, PSCI connects cancer expertise and services across a growing regional health system. At the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, patients have access to multidisciplinary cancer care, specialty clinics, inpatient services, seven-day-a-week outpatient infusion, and comprehensive supportive services through the Cancer Resource and Education (CARE) Center. The broader cancer network extends through Penn State Health's community hospitals at Hampden Medical Center, Holy Spirit Medical Center, Lancaster Medical Center, and St. Joseph's Hospital. Together, these sites create

a regional platform for extending specialty expertise, clinical research, innovative therapies, and coordinated cancer care closer to patients and communities.

Pediatric hematology/oncology represents one of PSCI's most distinctive areas of research strength, anchored by Penn State's distinctive tradition of philanthropy. Four Diamonds has supported childhood cancer care and research at Penn State for more than five decades, helping ensure that eligible families at Penn State Health are not responsible for cancer-related medical expenses not covered by insurance while also providing substantial support for research and program development. Its reach is amplified by Penn State THON, the world's largest student-run philanthropy and Four Diamonds' sole beneficiary since 1977. Together, Four Diamonds and THON have created an unusually deep and visible connection between pediatric cancer, the University, and the broader Penn State community. [Learn more about Four Diamonds and its partnership with THON.](#)

That foundation supports a pediatric cancer research enterprise with reach well beyond Penn State, including leadership of the Beat Childhood Cancer Research Consortium. Led by Penn State Health, the consortium brings together more than 50 hospitals and research institutions internationally to accelerate the development of new therapies for children, adolescents, and young adults with cancer. Its work spans collaborative clinical trials, precision medicine, immunotherapy, translational research, and early-phase therapeutics, giving Penn State a prominent role in the development and testing of novel pediatric cancer treatments. [Learn more about the Beat Childhood Cancer Research Consortium.](#)

PSCI is entering a pivotal period of growth as Penn State more closely aligns its cancer research and clinical enterprises and invests in areas of emerging scientific opportunity. Its strengths in multidisciplinary science, regional reach, clinical care, and access to Penn State's broader research enterprise provide a powerful platform for expansion. Institutional investments in areas including precision health, artificial intelligence, microbiome research, and adolescent and young adult cancer research through Four Diamonds further strengthen the Institute's ability to develop distinctive programs with regional and national impact. Together, these assets position PSCI to accelerate its scientific and clinical trajectory, build programs of national distinction, and advance its long-term pursuit of National Cancer Institute designation.

ROLE OF THE DIRECTOR

The Director of the Penn State Cancer Institute will serve as the senior academic and strategic leader for cancer across Penn State, with the opportunity to shape the next era of an integrated cancer enterprise spanning research, clinical care, education, community engagement, and philanthropy. The Director steps into this role at a moment of exceptional institutional momentum, joining a Cancer Institute already advancing toward National Cancer Institute

designation on the strength of the foundation described above. This provides an exceptional platform from which an ambitious leader can build programs of national distinction, accelerate scientific discovery and its translation to patients, and expand Penn State's impact on cancer regionally, nationally, and internationally.

Reporting directly to the Dean of the College of Medicine, with a dotted-line relationship to the Senior Vice President for Research at Penn State University and working in close partnership with the CEO of Penn State Health, the Vice President of the Cancer Services (who will have a dotted line reporting relationship to the Director) and Chief Clinical Officer, the Director will provide enterprise-wide leadership to align cancer priorities across the College of Medicine, Penn State Health, and the broader University. Leading a multidisciplinary team that includes a deputy director, associate directors, and the Community Advisory Board. The Director will work closely with department chairs, vice deans, and senior leaders to establish a bold and unifying vision for cancer at Penn State and translate that vision into strategy, investment, and measurable results. Few academic cancer leadership opportunities offer this combination of scientific strength, clinical reach, philanthropic engagement and strong institutional commitment for transformative growth.

The Leadership Mandate

The Director will be charged with translating Penn State's considerable strengths and institutional commitment into a more integrated, nationally distinguished cancer enterprise. Central to that mandate is advancing PSCI toward National Cancer Institute designation, an ambitious institutional priority that represents both an extraordinary opportunity and a significant leadership challenge. Success will require more than achieving a designation; it will require building the scientific depth, clinical research infrastructure, organizational alignment, talent, resources, and culture of collaboration expected of a leading comprehensive academic cancer center.

The Director will be expected to establish a clear strategy and measurable path forward while building the relationships and institutional alignment necessary for execution. The priorities below are deeply interconnected and collectively define the opportunity for the Director to strengthen PSCI's foundation, accelerate its trajectory, and position cancer at Penn State for sustained national impact.

Advance PSCI toward NCI designation

The Director will establish and execute a clear, credible strategy for achieving National Cancer Institute designation. This will require assessing current strengths and gaps, setting measurable priorities, and aligning the scientific, clinical, operational, and financial investments needed to compete successfully. The Director will help determine where PSCI should invest, grow, and

differentiate itself nationally, while building an exceptional cancer enterprise for which NCI designation is both a major milestone and a reflection of sustained excellence.

Build a unified and nationally distinctive cancer research enterprise

The Director will bring greater focus, alignment, and ambition to cancer research across Penn State College of Medicine, Penn State Health, and the broader University. Building on substantial strength in basic science, the Director will help define areas of national distinction; deepen translational, clinical, and population science; expand collaborative and multi-investigator research; and strengthen connections across colleges, campuses, institutes, and clinical programs. Success will also require clear priorities and accountability, stronger cancer-focused extramural and industry-sponsored funding, and more effective translation of discovery into clinical, societal, and commercial impact.

Transform and scale the clinical trials enterprise

The Director will lead the continued development of a high-performing clinical trials enterprise that supports PSCI's scientific ambitions and expands patient access to innovative therapies. Priorities will include growing investigator-initiated and NCI-funded trials, increasing accrual, improving activation and execution, strengthening infrastructure and staffing, and recruiting clinician-investigators with strong research portfolios. The Director will also work to extend clinical research more broadly across Penn State Health's regional network.

Recruit, develop, and retain exceptional faculty and leaders

PSCI's future growth will depend on attracting outstanding scientists, physician-scientists, clinicians, and emerging leaders while creating an environment in which existing faculty can thrive. In partnership with department chairs and institutional leadership, the Director will identify strategic recruitment priorities, strengthen mentorship and research support, expand opportunities for collaboration and leadership, and help faculty build successful and enduring careers at Penn State.

Integrate cancer care and research across the Penn State enterprise

In close partnership with the Vice President of Cancer Services, department chairs, and other leaders, the Director will strengthen connections among clinical care, research, and academic programs across disciplines and locations. The goal is a more integrated cancer enterprise in which discoveries move more quickly into care, clinicians and researchers collaborate more effectively, and patients across the region have greater access to advanced therapies and clinical trials. Penn State's geographic reach also creates a distinctive platform for extending high-level cancer care and research into rural and underserved communities.

Expand philanthropy and external partnerships

The Director will be a visible and compelling advocate for cancer at Penn State and an active partner in securing the resources needed to advance PSCI's ambitions. Working with development and institutional leadership, the Director will articulate investment priorities, engage donors and grateful patients, and deepen relationships with foundations, industry, and other external partners. Building on Penn State's distinctive philanthropic culture in cancer, these partnerships will help support faculty recruitment, emerging science, research infrastructure, clinical trials, and other strategic investments.

Experience and Leadership Attributes

The successful candidate will be an accomplished physician-scientist and academic leader with the stature, experience, and leadership capabilities to advance Penn State Cancer Institute's ambitious vision. Candidates should demonstrate the following qualifications, experience, and attributes:

Qualifications and Experience

- **MD or MD/PhD** with a distinguished record of accomplishment in cancer research and a deep understanding of basic, translational, clinical, and population-based cancer science.
- **National recognition as a physician-scientist and academic leader**, with scholarly and professional accomplishments that would warrant appointment as a tenured full professor at Penn State College of Medicine.
- **Progressive senior leadership experience within a complex academic medical center or cancer enterprise**, with demonstrated success developing and executing strategy, leading organizational growth and managing across academic, research, and clinical environments.
- **An outstanding record of scientific leadership and sustained NIH funding**, including developing research programs and infrastructure, fostering collaborative and interdisciplinary science, and advancing innovative research with clinical and scientific impact.
- **Direct experience with NCI Cancer Center designation or redesignation**, ideally in a significant leadership role, with firsthand knowledge of the scientific, clinical, operational, governance, and community engagement requirements necessary to compete successfully for designation.
- **Leadership experience with an NCI Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG)**, such as contributing to its development, award, management, and/or renewal, with a sophisticated understanding of NCI expectations, review criteria, and processes.

- **A demonstrated commitment to medical education**, including experience training and mentoring physician-scientists, residents, fellows, and students across the continuum of cancer research and clinical care, and fostering an academic culture that integrates education with scientific and clinical excellence.
- **Demonstrated success recruiting, developing, and retaining exceptional faculty and leaders**, including physician-scientists and investigators, and building high-performing multidisciplinary teams.
- **Strong strategic and financial acumen**, with experience aligning resources and investments with institutional priorities and the ability to make disciplined decisions in support of long-term growth.
- **Experience cultivating philanthropy and external partnerships**, including working effectively with development leaders, donors, foundations, industry partners, and other stakeholders to secure resources in support of research, clinical care, education, and strategic priorities.

Leadership Attributes

- **A bold and strategic thinker** who can articulate a compelling vision for the future of cancer at Penn State and translate that vision into focused priorities, measurable goals, and sustained execution.
- **An accomplished relationship-builder and enterprise leader** who can navigate the complexity of a major academic health system, build trust across organizational boundaries, and align diverse stakeholders around shared priorities.
- **A collaborative and inclusive leader** who values the perspectives and expertise of scientists, clinicians, faculty, staff, trainees, and community partners while creating an environment that encourages interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation.
- **A decisive and accountable leader** who is comfortable making difficult choices, setting clear expectations, measuring progress, and holding themselves and others accountable for results.
- **An exceptional communicator and advocate** who can inspire faculty and staff, engage patients and communities, cultivate donors and external partners, and effectively represent PSCI within Penn State and on the national stage.
- **An empathetic and empowering leader** who develops people, recognizes excellence, supports emerging leaders, and creates a culture in which faculty, staff, and trainees can thrive.
- **An agile and forward-looking leader** who understands the rapidly evolving landscape of cancer research and care and can identify emerging scientific, technological, clinical, and market opportunities that position PSCI for continued growth and distinction.

LEADERSHIP

[**Karen Kim, MD, MS**](#), was named Dean of the Penn State College of Medicine in 2023 and serves as the Dorothy Foehr Huck and J. Lloyd Huck Chair in Rural Health Research. She leads the College's education, research and clinical missions and, as Physician-in-Chief, plays a central role in shaping the integrated academic health system.

Dr. Kim is a nationally recognized physician-scientist, with over 20 years of peer-reviewed federal research support from the National Cancer Institute, NHLBI, NIMHD, CDC and HHS. She currently leads the nation's largest pragmatic clinical trial focused on colorectal cancer screening across 188,000 patients. She is the founder and director of the Center for Asian Health Equity and has led national efforts, including work under the NCI's Beau Biden Cancer Moonshot Initiative, to expand inclusion of underserved populations in biomedical research, including the NIH's All of Us Research Program.

Previously, Dr. Kim served as Vice Provost for Research and Senior Research Officer at the University of Chicago, where she led science strategy and research administration across four divisions and seven schools. During her tenure she increased university research funding by more than \$150 million within two years and research expenditures by over 20%. She also held the Sara and Harold Lincoln Thompson Professorship of Medicine and served as Associate Director of the University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center. Since arriving at Penn State, she has grown the College of Medicine's research expenditures by 30% and NIH funding by 9%.

Dr. Kim has served extensively as a federal grant reviewer, including multiple terms on NCI Cancer Center Support Grant committees and NIH Special Emphasis Panels. Her leadership has earned national recognition, including the Cancer Prevention Laurel for Increasing Health Equity from the Prevent Cancer Foundation.

[**Michael Kupferman, MD**](#), joined Penn State Health as chief executive officer in June 2025, leading the \$5 billion integrated academic health system. He is focused on expanding access to high-quality care across central Pennsylvania, strengthening a culture of safety, and advancing research, innovation, and collaboration across Penn State Health and the College of Medicine to support workforce development.

A fellowship-trained head and neck cancer surgeon, Dr. Kupferman trained at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, where he subsequently served as senior vice president for clinical and academic network development. He led the growth and integration of clinical oncology and research programs across MD Anderson's national and international network.

Prior to Penn State, Dr. Kupferman served as president of Banner University Medicine and senior vice president of the physician enterprise for Banner Health, where he oversaw academic medicine, system strategy, hospital and medical group operations, patient access, and network performance across one of the nation's largest health systems.

In his role, Dr. Kupferman works closely with College of Medicine Dean Dr. Karen Kim to strengthen alignment between clinical and academic enterprises. He continues to care for head and neck cancer patients and teaches trainees as a professor of otolaryngology–head and neck surgery.

Dr. Kupferman earned his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania, completed residency training at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, and holds an MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. He is board-certified in otolaryngology–head and neck surgery.

[Neeli Bendapudi](#), PhD became Penn State's nineteenth president in May 2022 and has since led one of the most transformative periods in the University's recent history, balancing the budget ahead of schedule and delivering a record-breaking \$560 million fundraising year with nineteen gifts over \$5 million. She has strengthened Penn State's national leadership in research, achieving record expenditures and advancing its role in public impact innovation, while launching a multi-year reimagining of its Commonwealth Campus system. Previously the president of the University of Louisville, she drove enrollment growth, expanded research, and stabilized the university's finances and health system. With experience spanning senior academic leadership and the private sector, including executive roles at Huntington National Bank and consulting for major organizations, she is also a widely published scholar in consumer behavior. Bendapudi holds a PhD from the University of Kansas and serves on national boards, including the American Council on Education and Internet2; she is recognized for her energetic, disciplined leadership and strong commitment to student success and institutional impact.

HERSHEY, PENNSYLVANIA

Located in the heart of Central Pennsylvania, Hershey offers an exceptional quality of life within a two-hour drive to Philadelphia or Baltimore, and three hours to New York City. The community combines the accessibility and amenities of a thriving region with the advantages of a smaller town, including highly regarded schools (Hershey High School is ranked in the top 20 of best public schools in Pennsylvania), welcoming neighborhoods, abundant outdoor recreation, and a cost of living that compares favorably with many major academic medical center markets. Harrisburg, Lancaster, and Lebanon are all nearby, while Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C., are within convenient driving distance.

Hershey's identity is deeply connected to the vision and philanthropy of Milton S. Hershey, whose legacy extends well beyond the chocolate company that bears his name. His commitment

to community and education shaped the development of Hershey and lives on through Milton Hershey School, which provides educational opportunities and support to students from across the country. That philanthropic spirit remains an important part of the community's identity today.

The broader region offers a rich mix of cultural, recreational, and family activities. Hershey is home to Hersheypark, Hershey Gardens, ZooAmerica, Hershey Theatre, and GIANT Center, home of the Hershey Bears and a major venue for concerts and entertainment. Central Pennsylvania also offers extensive opportunities for hiking, cycling, golf, and other outdoor activities, along with easy access to the cultural and culinary destinations of Harrisburg and Lancaster, the historic communities of Gettysburg and the Susquehanna Valley, and the rolling countryside for which the region is known.

The area's location provides another significant advantage. Harrisburg International Airport is within a short drive of Hershey, and Amtrak service from nearby Harrisburg provides convenient rail access to Philadelphia, New York City, and destinations throughout the Northeast Corridor. Major highways connect the region to Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, D.C., New York City, and Pittsburgh, providing access to major metropolitan centers while allowing residents to enjoy the pace and quality of life of Central Pennsylvania.

For physicians, scientists, and academic leaders considering Penn State, Hershey offers the opportunity to build an exceptional career within a nationally recognized academic health environment while enjoying a community that is highly livable, connected, and rich in educational, cultural, recreational, and family opportunities.

Additional information can be found at <http://hmc.pennstatehealth.org>; <http://med.psu.edu>; and <http://www.psu.edu>.

APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and CVs with cover letters should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website:

[Isaacson, Miller Listing](#)

Patricia Hastie, Partner

Tiffany Weber, Managing Associate

Samuel Ruth, Senior Associate

Sarah Sweeney, Senior Search Coordinator

Isaacson, Miller

www.imsearch.com

The University is committed to equal access to programs, facilities, admission and employment for all persons. It is the policy of the University to maintain an environment free of harassment and free of discrimination against any person because of age, race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, creed, service in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, marital or family status, pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions, physical or mental disability, gender, perceived gender, gender identity, genetic information or political ideas. Discriminatory conduct and harassment, as well as sexual misconduct and relationship violence, violates the dignity of individuals, impedes the realization of the University's educational mission, and will not be tolerated. Direct all inquiries regarding Penn State's [non-discrimination policy](#) to the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access, The Pennsylvania State University, 328 Boucke Building, University Park, PA 16802-5901, Email: oeoa@psu.edu, Tel (814) 863-0471.

Appendix I

Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center

The Milton S. Hershey Medical Center is the main academic hub of Penn State Health (PSH), a growing multi-hospital health system serving patients and communities across 29 counties in central Pennsylvania. Currently licensed for 631 beds, it is located on the main campus in Hershey and is a full-service, quaternary care hospital with all major services represented in both pediatric and adult medicine. In FY 2025, there were 30,200 admissions, more than 978,000 outpatient clinic visits, approximately 77,619 emergency room visits, and more than 36,300 surgical procedures. Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center is the only Level I Trauma Center for both the adult and pediatric populations in the area. The critical care surgery arm provides post-injury or major surgery care in a 30-bed surgical intensive care unit, and the acute care surgery practice meets the needs of patients requiring emergency general surgery, as well as follow-up after surgery. PSH shares an integrated strategic plan and operations with Penn State College of Medicine, the University's medical school.

In addition to the Medical Center, the system includes the Penn State Health Golisano Children's Hospital, a 160-bed hospital and the only Level I pediatric trauma center between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, and Penn State Cancer Institute, both based in Hershey, Pennsylvania; PSH St. Joseph Medical Center in Reading, Pennsylvania; PSH Hampden Medical Center in Enola, PA; and PSH Lancaster Medical Center in Lancaster, PA. Additionally, the system jointly operates various healthcare providers, including PSH Rehabilitation Hospital, Hershey Outpatient Surgery Center, Hershey Endoscopy Center, and Horizon Home Healthcare.

U.S. News & World Report has recognized Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center as one of the best hospitals in 2025 for gastroenterology, GI surgery, otolaryngology, and orthopedics. The Medical Center was also recognized as "high performing" in six additional specialties: cancer, geriatrics, neurology and neurosurgery, pulmonology, and urology. It was also listed as "high performing" in eight of nine adult procedures and conditions.

Penn State Health Golisano Children's Hospital

Penn State Health opened its Children's Hospital on the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center campus in February 2013, and it remains the region's most comprehensive pediatric program, one of only four Level I Pediatric Trauma Centers in Pennsylvania and home to the region's only Level IV (highest-level) neonatal intensive care unit. Recognized in U.S. News & World Report's Best Children's Hospitals, the hospital is staffed by roughly 200 pediatric medical and surgical specialists and extends care through outpatient and community sites across Berks, Dauphin, Cumberland, Lancaster, Lebanon, York, and surrounding counties allowing families to access

pediatric expertise close to home while remaining connected to a single, integrated academic children's program.

The Children's Hospital is also the clinical home of Penn State's pediatric oncology program, PSCI's largest area of research activity. Through the Four Diamonds Pediatric Cancer Research Center, discoveries move directly from lab to bedside, and Four Diamonds covers 100% of treatment costs for eligible childhood cancer patients while supporting dozens of dedicated specialty care providers who serve the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of patients and families. This work is fueled in large part by THON, the Penn State student-run dance marathon and the world's largest student-run philanthropy, which has raised tens of millions of dollars for Four Diamonds, a distinctive philanthropic engine. For more information, visit <https://www.pennstatehealth.org/childrens>.

Penn State Medical Group

Penn State Medical Group (PSMG) comprises approximately 1,400 physicians and over 1,000 advanced practice providers who care for adults and children across all medical specialties and subspecialties. It includes Penn State faculty physicians and employed non-faculty community-based providers.

Medical Group physicians and advanced practice clinicians provide care at Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and PSH affiliates, centers, institutes, and clinics. These practices account for more than 1.1 million outpatient visits a year. The 63 ambulatory practice sites are in locations throughout central Pennsylvania.

PSMG is committed to providing safe, high-quality patient care with oversight through the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center Quality Committee. The Medical Group has had Medical Directors of Quality and an established infrastructure that embeds Quality Physician Leaders in clinical departments to engage and support faculty in quality, safety, and performance improvement.

Penn State Health and Highmark Health

The Penn State Health and Highmark Health strategic partnership is focused on improving access, quality, and affordability of health care close to home for people across south central Pennsylvania while creating new opportunities for medical education and research. At the heart of the partnership is a collective investment by PSH and Highmark Health of more than \$1 billion to develop a high-value, community-based healthcare network designed to keep care local and enhance collaboration with community physicians. Through this partnership, advanced population health management capabilities, analytics, and care models are being developed to more effectively manage chronic conditions, enhance health and wellness, improve outcomes, and lower

the total cost of care for patients, members, and the community. In addition, there will be an intentional focus on the exploration and development of innovative, patient-focused co-branded healthcare insurance products, and on expanding support for Penn State College of Medicine through funding for medical and health sciences education and advanced research. The partnership will reinforce the roles of Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and Penn State Children's Hospital as the region's premier destinations for advanced care for adults and children, ensuring no patient needs to leave the region for complex care.

Highmark Health has joined PSH as a minority member, with three seats on the 15-member Board of Directors, and one seat on the MSHMC Board of Directors.

The Penn State Clinical and Translational Science Institute

The [Penn State Clinical and Translational Science Institute](#) (CTSI) was established in 2007 and is a member of the National Institutes of Health Clinical and Translational Science Award Network. It is one of three network members in Pennsylvania and focuses on the health needs of the rural communities surrounding Penn State and PSH. The institute is one of seven interdisciplinary institutes under Penn State's Office of the Senior Vice President for Research.

The CTSI accomplishes its mission by providing research tools, advanced biostatistical expertise, funding programs to explore unique ideas, and a dedicated, diverse team to more effectively include the community in research. The Institute also trains the next generation of translational and clinical scientists. Through institute programs, Penn State has several opportunities for its medical and graduate students, including a dual degree in clinical and translational science. The institute also invests in Penn State's early-career scientists through a program that helps faculty devote more time to their research, promotes collaboration, and presents basic translational research.

The Penn State Neuroscience Institute

The Penn State Neuroscience Institute enables interdisciplinary teams of brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerve experts to collaborate and conduct research. Its mission is to be recognized worldwide as a center of excellence in research, patient care, and teaching. Emphasizing excellence in basic and clinical research studies, the Penn State Neuroscience Institute promotes the translation of research findings into new treatments for neurological disease, such as brain tumors, epilepsy, Parkinson's disease, and stroke.

The Center for Medical Innovation

The Center for Medical Innovation (CMI) helps Penn State College of Medicine clinicians, faculty, staff, and students move groundbreaking discoveries down the path to technology

commercialization and into the lives of patients around the world. This work has made the College of Medicine Penn State's leader in royalty-generating technologies—ranking first among all Penn State colleges in invention disclosures and accounting for approximately 75% of the University's total royalty income. Through its Pathways Program, CMI provides milestone-driven, non-dilutive seed funding to move promising innovations toward market readiness: Proof of Concept Awards of up to \$75,000 to generate the data needed to secure follow-on funding, and Innovation Accelerator Awards of up to \$100,000 to complete pivotal studies and attract licensees. Eligible technologies span drug therapeutics, medical devices, digital health, and diagnostics with cancer-focused innovation specifically encouraged, extending CMI's reach directly into the translational pipeline that supports PSCI's research mission.

Working in partnership with the Penn State Office of Technology Transfer, CMI serves Penn State Health, the College of Medicine, and the broader scientific community, building industry partnerships, engaging the region's economic ecosystem, and providing entrepreneurship and commercialization training that helps innovators navigate the intellectual property, regulatory, and business development pathways from lab to marketplace.

This document has been prepared based on the information provided by Penn State College of Medicine and Penn State Health. The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and information provided by Penn State College of Medicine and Penn State Health would supersede any conflicting information in this document.