

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE 2022 UCI ANTI-CANCER CHALLENGE EVENT IS BACK IN-PERSON TO RAISE FUNDS FOR CRITICAL CANCER RESEARCH

The ride, run and walk event will be held Saturday, Oct. 8 at UCI's Aldrich Park

ORANGE, CALIFORNIA - The sixth annual UCI Anti-Cancer Challenge, a ride, run and walk event dedicated to raising funds for critical cancer research, will resume on-site activities on Saturday, Oct. 8, 2022 at the main UCI campus after two years of hosting only virtual events.

All participant-raised funds support pilot studies and early phase clinical trials at the UCI Health Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, one of only 52 elite National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers and the only one based in Orange County. Through a partnership with Children's Health of Orange County (CHOC), a portion of the funds is directed to pediatric cancer research.

Since 2017, over 9,300 UCI Anti-Cancer Challenge participants have come together to raise more than \$2.6 million to enable the pursuit of 72 research grants aimed to produce meaningful insights into cancer prevention, treatment and cures – to save lives.

"The UCI Anti-Cancer Challenge advances our cancer center's mission by funding the most innovative basic, translational and clinical research that can potentially lead to the next breakthrough in cancer treatment," said Dr. Richard Van Etten, director of the UCI Health Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center and founder of the UCI Anti-Cancer Challenge. "Thanks to the UCI Anti-Cancer Challenge community, some of the studies have already significantly impacted our understanding of cancer and new approaches to treatment."

Individuals and teams are signing up now to help set new fundraising records and to get an early start on training for Challenge Day on Saturday, Oct. 8.

In-Person and Virtual Program

The 2022 UCI Anti-Cancer Challenge will host an in-person festival that will offer 14-, 35-, 60- and 100-mile bike routes and 5K and 10K run/walks. This family friendly event will include live entertainment, awards and activities for the community to enjoy. UCI Anti-Cancer Challenge rally events will return in July and September. Rally events are free and open to the public and provide an opportunity to learn more about the ride, run and walk event. Registration is required.

To build on the success of previous years' virtual program, the UCI Anti-Cancer Challenge will continue to offer ways for participants to virtually get involved. Through the mobile app, participants can track their miles that qualify them to earn great prizes. Participants also are encouraged to attend monthly educational webinars with renowned UCI Health physician-scientists.

Webinars are also free and open to the public. No registration is required.

- Webinar 1 focusing on sarcomas, took place at 1 p.m., Thursday, Apr. 21, 2022. Watch at <https://youtu.be/-jbyoZKGteo>.

- Webinar 2 focusing on prostate cancer will be at 1 p.m., Thursday, May 26, 2022. Watch at https://youtu.be/zr2aDb_reZc.
- Webinar 3 focusing on breast and gynecologic cancers will be at 1 p.m., Thursday, Jun. 23, 2022.
- Webinar 4 focusing on cancer & genetics will be at 1 p.m., Thursday, Jul. 28, 2022.
- Webinar 5 focusing on nutrition will be at 1 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 25, 2022.
- Webinar 6 focusing on neuroplasticity will be at 1 p.m., Thursday, Sep. 22, 2022.

For more information visit Anti-CancerChallenge.org

“We are excited to bring our program back in-person and invite our community to join us at UCI’s Aldrich Park on Oct. 8. Our participants’ dedication and support over the past few years is inspiring, and we hope to continue this success to raise over \$1 million for the UCI Health Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center this year” said Jennifer Sarraill, executive director of the UCI Anti-Cancer Challenge.

[Register now](#)

To register, visit www.anti-cancerchallenge.org or download the app for iPhone or Android devices. For information on event sponsorship opportunities, contact Jennifer Sarraill at Anti-CancerChallenge@uci.edu or call 714-456-7171.

About the UCI Anti-Cancer Challenge

The UCI Anti-Cancer Challenge is a community movement and annual ride, run and walk event to raise awareness and funds for cancer research at the UCI Health Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center and its pediatric cancer partner, CHOC. One-hundred percent of the dollars raised by participants goes to promising cancer research. For more information, visit www.anti-cancerchallenge.org.

About the UCI Health Chao Family Comprehensive Center

The UCI Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center is at the forefront of discovering new ways to fight cancer. As one of only 52 NCI-designated comprehensive cancer centers in the nation, the center combines leading-edge research, clinical trials and world-class care for patients. In 2020 alone, more than 7,250 new patients benefited from the advanced treatment provided by the center.

About the UCI Health

UCI Health is the clinical enterprise of the University of California, Irvine. Patients can access UCI Health at primary and specialty care offices across Orange County and at its main campus, UCI Medical Center in Orange, California. The 418-bed acute care hospital provides tertiary and quaternary care, ambulatory and specialty medical clinics, as well as behavioral health and rehabilitation services. UCI Medical Center is home to Orange County’s only National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center, high-risk perinatal/neonatal program and American College of Surgeons-verified Level I adult and Level II pediatric trauma center and regional burn center. UCI Health serves a region of nearly 4 million people in Orange County, western Riverside County and southeast Los Angeles County.