

# 2017 Impact Report

“2017 was filled with firsts. We activated several important trials, introduced exciting programs, published high-impact results, and launched a new website. The website includes, for the first time, our patient volunteers. Thanks, team, for a year full of fresh faces, new ideas, and good science.”

*Charles D. Blanke, MD*

Charles D. Blanke, MD,  
SWOG Group Chair



Jean Cowan,  
SWOG trial  
participant



## Our Data

**12**

SWOG trials activated

**4,307**

patients registered to all SWOG-run trials, not counting screening failures

**12**

SWOG trials closed

**62**

journal articles published

**57**

clinical and translational medicine trial concepts reviewed by leadership

**36**

percent published in high-impact journals

**4**

requests for trial data granted

**80**

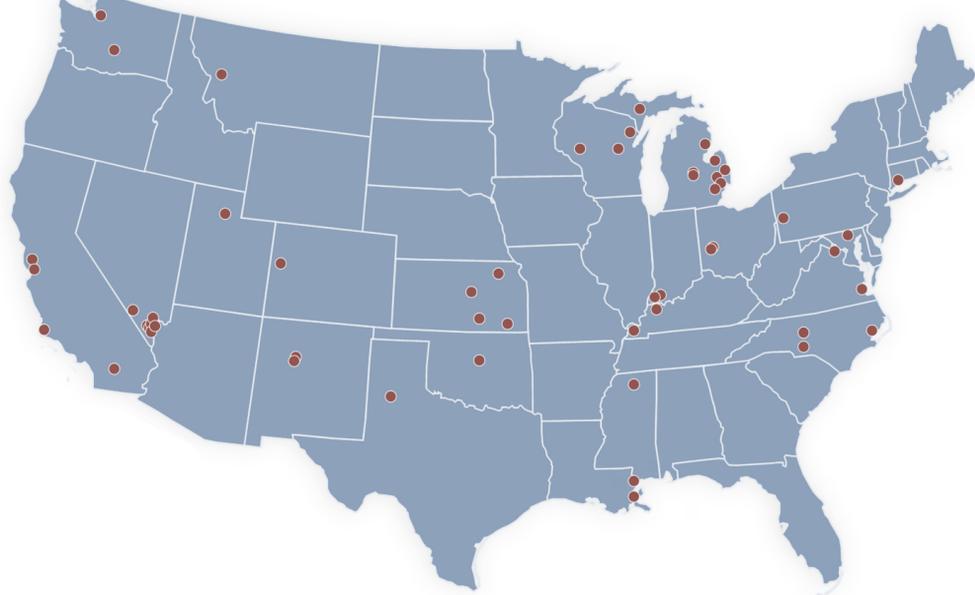
oral or poster presentations made

**29**

percent of presentations were oral

**Dawn Hershman, MD**, SWOG Vice Chair for NCI Research, gave an oral presentation on acupuncture trial S1200 at the 2017 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium – results that attracted international attention.

## 53 new member sites



## Our Highlights

- We activated **S1609**, known as **DART**, the first federally-funded immunotherapy trial for rare cancers. The trial is open at more than 300 sites, and has registered nearly 200 patients.
- We launched **SWOG.org**, the first major redesign of our website in 12 years. The site is now easy to use on tablets and smartphones, and features all-new search tools, a single sign-on, fresh content and a clean, modern design.
- We created a new private Facebook page, **SWOG Oncology, just for members**. A project of SWOG's digital engagement committee, the page is designed to provide members one-stop shopping for SWOG news, The Hope Foundation funding opportunities, and a platform to talk cancer clinical trials.
- We helped save ourselves, and our NCI partners, a lot of time and money. In a unique partnership with ASCO and three NCI programs, SWOG members and staff led the creation of a consistent, centralized process for conducting an insurance coverage analysis – saving nearly \$300 and six hours for every trial activated. The ASCO/NCI team published a case study of the project in June in the *Journal of Oncology Practice*.
- We delivered a lot of high-caliber conference presentations. With 32 presentations, 20 on SWOG-led trials, we had our biggest ASCO showing in nearly a decade. That included the study showing that people gained over 3 million years of life thanks to SWOG trials, at a cost of only \$125 for every year gained. Members also made a splash at GI ASCO, the American Urological Association annual meeting, and the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium.



**Don Dizon, MD**, is chair of the digital engagement committee, which in 2017 launched a private Facebook group for members and created the group's first social media policy

• We made an impressive showing in major cancer journals. SWOG published important study results in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology* and *JAMA Oncology*, results that got press attention in news outlets that included the Chicago Tribune, STAT, Reuters, and The Oregonian.

## THE HOPE FOUNDATION

*Because answers to cancers come from clinical trials*

The Hope Foundation provided more than **\$2,313,000** in charitable funding to SWOG and its members.

**Paul Barr, MD**, is the first mid-career investigator given an award under The Hope Foundation's Dr. Charles A. Coltman, Jr. Fellowship Program



“This year we launched the SWOG Leadership Academy, honored former breast and lung committee chair Dr. Robert Livingston through an endowed lectureship, and developed a travel support program for CRAs and nurses. We also built on our successes by welcoming our first mid-career Coltman fellow, Dr. Paul Barr, who is using his award to oversee S1608, a new, high-impact lymphoma trial.

We also celebrated our seventh consecutive rating as a 4-Star charity by Charity Navigator. It's an honor we don't take lightly. We're thankful for our committed donors, who trust us with their gifts and who make all of this possible.”

*Johanna R. Horn*

Johanna R. Horn,  
President & CEO,  
The Hope Foundation