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It is very difficult to condense 50 years of work in Oncology to one page. I will, therefore, highlight some of the programs in which I have been involved.

After arriving at Brown University as the first chairman of Radiation Medicine it was important to get a Radiobiology program in place. I appointed John Leith as the first director of this program and he and I were responsible for many publications in this field. At the same time I was working with Jim Holland at what was the ALGB (now CALGB) and organized the first Radiation program in a multidisciplinary cancer group. The importance of standardization of radiation treatment at multiple centers in clinical trials led to the Quality Assurance Review Center (QARC), a concept that has since been emulated in all cooperative groups and other multicenter discipline clinical trials.

About ten years ago, Paul Calabrese and I were concerned that Rhode Island had the highest cancer incidence (and death rates) of all the states. We believed that a statewide cancer education program and coordinated care could improve the situation. Rhode Island had a significant number of recognized oncologists of national repute and reasonably comprehensive clinical facilities. We approached the state legislature for funding which led to the establishment of the RI Cancer Council (RICAN). With continuous support for the last ten years there has been a significant drop in the death rate although the incidence rate remains high. RICAN reaches over 50,000 people face-to-face each year with innovative education programs (Pawsox and Prostate – an educational program at the local baseball franchise; Breast health awareness). Our website: www.ricancercouncil.org has 4 million hits a year. The oncologists in the state have provided assistance and support to continue to make this a successful program. Although I wanted to retire this year, the state legislature asked me to continue to lead this program. Thus at age 86+ I continue to provide leadership for RICAN and am actively pursuing new community education programs as well as research programs with Brown University, the University of Rhode Island faculty, and with the Rhode Island Department of Health.