

# The Best Treatment of Cancer is its Prevention



**Frank Meyskens**

Professor of Medicine, Biological Chemistry, Public Health, and Epidemiology  
Director Emeritus and Senior Advisor, Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center  
Senior Advisor and mPI

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### Repurposed compounds to prevent cancer and other diseases encompassing basic and translational research

Of the seven most common cancers in the US, melanoma is the only one whose incidence is increasing [1]. The fight against cancer has come a long way, as evidenced by the recent breakthroughs in personalized (and precision) medicine, but perhaps the most effective management of cancer is its prevention. Dr. Frank Meyskens, Professor of Medicine, Biological Chemistry, Public Health, and Epidemiology and Founding Director (1989-2013) of the NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of California, Irvine, is a pioneer in "chemoprevention" who uses dietary and standard chemical compounds to prevent human cancer. His influences in the cancer field are many. He gained national and international recognition—especially for his early work in the 1980's—on the chemopreventive effects of retinoids, a class of chemical compounds that are chemically related to Vitamin A. Based on 25 years of basic laboratory and translational studies, early phase clinical trials of difluoromethylornithine (a repurposed drug), and the very promising results of a phase III trial to prevent colon cancer, Dr. Meyskens in 2008 co-founded Cancer Prevention Pharmaceuticals, the first company to be dedicated to cancer prevention. A prominent translational medical oncologist with a deep basic science foundation, Dr. Meyskens has not only done extensive studies on colon cancer, but has also treated melanoma patients for the past 35 years. He now hopes to expand this work, as well as to explore the unique and less known properties and practical applications of melanin (the pigment that determines skin color).

Basic science demands...

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## AFFILIATION



University of California, Irvine

## EDUCATION

- M.D., 1972. University of California, San Francisco

## AWARDS

- Grace A. Goldsmith Award, American College of Nutrition, 1989
- Year 2000 Award, National Cancer Institute, 1990
- Daniel G. Aldrich, Jr. Endowed Chair, UCI, 2006
- Distinguished Achievement Award, American Society of Preventive Oncology, 2006
- Annual Cancer Prevention Awardee, American Association of Cancer Research, 2008
- and 2 more...

## RESEARCH AREAS

Life Science, Diagnostics, Genomics / Congenital, Oncology / Cancer

## FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support Dr. Frank Meyskens' research at the University of California, Irvine, as he works across international borders to advance the therapeutic prevention of human cancer. A donation of \$50,000/year will assure critical support of key personnel for his work on cancer prevention. A \$2,500,000 gift will result in a Named Program. A \$5 million gift will result in a Named program to support melanin research at the basic translational and clinical level. Fund Dr. Meyskens.