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## TARGETCANCER FOUNDATION HOSTS INNOVATIVE ESOPHAGEAL CANCER RESEARCH MEETING

*Over 30 researchers and clinicians unite towards accelerating the identification of effective treatments for esophageal cancer*

**CAMBRIDGE, MA** – On October 19, 2015, TargetCancer Foundation will hold the Think Tank on Advancing Esophageal Cancer Research in Boston, MA. Organized by Adam Bass, M.D. of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Anil Rustgi, M.D. of the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, this innovative one-day meeting is designed to facilitate collaboration, information sharing, and informal discussion among attendees.

“In the study of esophageal cancer we have a lot of ground to catch up on. By bringing together a number of different investigators we hope to spark new collaborations and share ideas that can help move the field forward much more quickly,” said Dr. Bass, who is also a recipient of TargetCancer Foundation research grant funding.

In 2015, the National Cancer Institute estimates that there will be 16,980 new cases of esophageal cancer and 15,590 deaths. Composed primarily of two distinct subtypes– esophageal squamous cell carcinoma and esophageal adenocarcinoma– esophageal cancer is among the fastest growing cancers in America, yet there is a need for improvements in therapy.

The Think Tank on Advancing Esophageal Cancer Research aims to reach this unmet need, and it is the second Think Tank initiative of TargetCancer Foundation. The first Think Tank, held in November 2012, focused on [cholangiocarcinoma research](#). This unique opportunity for informal collaboration and brainstorming among colleagues from different disciplines led to experiments and projects that would not have happened otherwise.

### **About TargetCancer Foundation**

[TargetCancer Foundation](#) promotes the development of lifesaving treatment protocols for rare cancers. By granting seed funding to critical projects that otherwise would not be supported at their initial stages, TargetCancer Foundation supports young, courageous scientists who are committed to finding treatments for rare cancers, and, more broadly, all cancers. Since its founding in 2009, TargetCancer Foundation has provided over \$635,000 in rare cancer research grant funding, with a focus on cholangiocarcinoma and esophageal cancer.

Learn more at [www.targetcancerfoundation.org](http://www.targetcancerfoundation.org).