



## ***Western Pancreatic Cancer Research Consortium Conference***

**November, 2005**

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*University of California, Irvine*

This Western Pancreatic Cancer Research Consortium (WPCRC) had its inaugural research meeting in 2005 and was attended by researchers from the UCI GERI, University of Washington and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center in Seattle.

Since [pancreatic cancer](#) is relatively rare, it takes years to conduct studies with enough patients to yield enough results to be statistically meaningful. To overcome this obstacle, UCI GERI has joined with Seattle researchers at the University of Washington and Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, as well as UC San Francisco researchers, to form the Western Pancreatic Cancer Research Consortium. As patients are enrolled in new studies, data is collected similarly, so that they may be pooled for analysis as a larger set of research data. Presently, the only undisputed factors known to increase the chances of getting pancreas cancer are cigarette smoking — which doubles risk — and a strong family history of the disease.