

# Medical Experts, Health Professionals on Rare Childhood Cancers

Our industry is deeply committed to protecting the health, safety and environment of our communities – and we support fact-based and objective scientific research. Rather than sensationalizing tragedy, it's critical to look at independent medical experts on these matters.



## April 2019 Investigation

### KEY FINDINGS



“Incidence rates for the Ewing’s family of tumors and childhood cancers in Washington County and Canon-McMillan School District were not consistently and statistically significantly higher than expected.”



“Studies of children with Ewing’s tumors have not found links to radiation, chemicals or any other environmental exposures.”



“Overall, there were no conclusive findings indicating that the incidence rates of Ewing’s family of tumors...were consistently and statistically significantly higher than the rest of the state over the time periods reviewed.”

### What Independent, Medical Professionals Are Saying:



“There are no known lifestyle-related or environmental causes of Ewing tumors, so it is important to remember that at this time, nothing could have been done to prevent these cancers.” – *Cancer.Org*

“Ewing sarcoma can’t be prevented. This type of cancer is not inherited and there is no known link to any lifestyle or environmental issues.” – *MayoClinic.org*



“We have no data right now showing that there’s any environmental exposure, anything like that, that would lead to one developing Ewing sarcoma.” – *WPXI, 2/13/19*

“The cause of Ewing Sarcoma remains unknown so specific behavioral or environmental recommendations to decrease the risk are not available.” – *12/3/2013*



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“Studies of children with Ewing tumors have not found links to radiation, chemicals, or any other environmental exposures.” – *Cancer.Org*

“The majority of cancer cluster investigations across the United States do not find a common environmental exposure that is likely to be associated with the cases...the cause of Ewing sarcoma remains unknown so specific behavioral or environmental recommendations to decrease the risk are not available.” – *UPMC*



“Ewing’s sarcoma does not seem to be related to exposure to radiation, exposure to chemicals (or) other environmental factors.” – *Health.Harvard.edu*

“The cause of Ewing sarcoma is genetic — in that it comes from a person’s genes — but it is not inherited like some other childhood cancers. Parents can’t pass along the genetic changes associated with Ewing sarcoma to their children. The child’s own biological makeup and prenatal development will determine if he will develop Ewing sarcoma.” – *CHOP.edu*



“There is no known way for an individual to reduce his or her bone cancer risk.” – *CDC.gov*

“Most cases are thought to occur randomly, for no specific reason (sporadically). Chromosomal (cytogenetic) studies have found that Ewing sarcoma cells are often characterized by an abnormal change in their genetic makeup known as a reciprocal translocation.” – *RareDiseases.org*



Chromosomal studies have found that Ewing sarcoma cells are often characterized by an abnormal change in their genetic makeup known as a reciprocal translocation.” – *NIH.gov*

## MSC-API-PIOGA Public Health Research Statement

November 22, 2019

**PITTSBURGH, Pa.** – Following the announcement of new public health research today by Governor Wolf and Secretary of Health Dr. Levine, the Marcellus Shale Coalition, the Associated Petroleum Industries of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association issued the following joint statement:

“We appreciate and share Governor Wolf’s commitment to determining cause of these complicated and heartbreaking health issues.

“We continue to strongly support transparent, rigorous and objective research that comprehensively and thoroughly evaluates all potential factors and other efforts aimed at better understanding these highly complex and difficult matters.

“We are committed to working closely with the administration on this research – as noted in our letter to the governor earlier this year – and encourage state officials to neutrally, fairly and without bias evaluate all potential factors. “The concerns in these communities are shared with our industry. We live here too and have no higher priority than protecting and ensuring the health and safety of our communities, especially our kids and grandkids.”