

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Massachusetts Cancer Nonprofit Has Launched Turkish Covid-19 Information Website

*Website will serve Turkic-speaking communities state, nation, and worldwide*

**CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS, USA** – April 9, 2020 – Cancer Education and Research Institute®, the first and only simplified and multi-language, global cancer nonprofit and winner of the United Nations UNIATF 2019 Award, continues saving lives worldwide and serving the public since the eruption of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cancer Education and Research Institute® launched a Turkish website ([canceredinstitute.org/koronavirus](https://canceredinstitute.org/koronavirus)) dedicated to inform the Turkic-speaking communities in Massachusetts, nation and worldwide on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) with up-to-date information and developing news.

Beside its first educational and informational updates on COVID-19 in English on March 1 on its designated website ([canceredinstitute.org/koronavirus](https://canceredinstitute.org/koronavirus)) and on its [Instagram](#), [Youtube](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#) social media sites, Cancer Education and Research Institute® started to regularly publish updates in Turkish on March 17.

The website is primarily dedicated to education, prevention, testing, stress relief, scientific explanations and updates. With this site, particularly **non-English speaking immigrants** in the U.S. will have access to information they otherwise cannot understand. Thus, Cancer Education and Research Institute® solves the pressing need for health information for a large number of immigrants of Turkic descent in Massachusetts and throughout the U.S., and true to its mission, making sure that a language and economical barrier will not have an affect on their health and safety.



“We have a large number of patients, followers, and subscribers from Turkic-speaking countries, and we just had to make sure that they are well-served in this critical time of the COVID-19 outbreak,” said Dr. Ayguen Sahin, CEO, Founder, and Cancer Lead of Cancer Education and Research Institute®. “During the early times of the outbreak, we have received many calls from Turkish or Azerbaijani immigrants who are not proficient in English, panicking about what to do, how to get tested, health insurance and doctor’s appointment issues. We helped them by giving guidance and directions, solving their health insurance and doctor’s appointments issues, and made sure that they are well educated about COVID-19 by following up with phone calls,” she continued.

There are around 500,000 Americans and immigrants of Turkic descent in the United States. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey, 528,324 adult Massachusetts residents either do not speak English at all or speak limited English. These people are often excluded from receiving proper health education and/or care due to lack of guidance, and Cancer Education and Research Institute® was founded to tackle this issue, making sure that health education and high quality treatment and care is provided for all, regardless of their cultural, economical, or linguistic barriers.

“Overall, and uniquely, we provide our cancer programs currently in eight languages. However, when the COVID-19 pandemic hit us in here in Massachusetts and we started to receive calls from panicking Turkic-speaking immigrants, I was surprised that neither the Mass.gov not the CDC.gov had any resources in Turkish language. This made us stretch our resources in these times of crisis and create our Coronavirus website in Turkish. We are now hoping to collaborate with the state and federal government to provide this educational and resources page to serve our immigrants and communities of Turkic decent in need,” said Dr. Sahin.

To donate to Cancer Education and Research Institute® visit: [canceredinstitute.org/donate](https://canceredinstitute.org/donate)

-###-

**About Cancer Education and Research Institute®:**

Cancer Education and Research Institute® ([canceredinstitute.org](https://canceredinstitute.org)), is an award-winning, independent, Boston-based, 501(c)(3) global non-profit organization. Its mission is to 1) make cancer and cancer research understandable for everyone; 2) bridge the gap between cancer professionals and cancer patients; 3) provide cancer research scholarships for promising high school students worldwide, career guidance, and mentorship; and 4) conduct in-house innovative cancer research and directly translate it to the public. Cancer Education and Research Institute® is the United Nations, UNIATF Award 2019 recipient.

**Media Contact:**

Reporters may contact Ayguen Sahin, M.Sc., Ph.D. for more information, or to schedule interviews.  
(617) 767-1070, [info\(at\)canceredinstitute.org](mailto:info(at)canceredinstitute.org)