Cancer is the leading cause of death in Kentucky and Appalachia, but for some patients with cancer in these areas, finding successful treatment options can be difficult. To help solve this problem, the UK Markey Cancer Center created its new Research Network.

When conventional cancer therapies are not successful, patients may benefit from new novel therapies available only through clinical trials. The goal of the Research Network is to bring these clinical research studies focused on the prevention, early detection and treatment of cancers to community hospitals in Kentucky and Appalachia. By offering this research locally, Markey is making it easier for patients to obtain leading-edge therapies and treatments while being cared for by their local doctors and supported by their communities.

The Research Network includes four cancer treatment centers in Kentucky and Appalachia:

- Hardin Memorial Health, Elizabethtown, Ky.
- King’s Daughters Medical Center, Ashland, Ky.
- St. Claire Regional Medical Center, Morehead, Ky.
- St. Mary’s Regional Cancer Center, Huntington, W.Va.

Following success of Markey’s outreach efforts, the new Network expands clinical trials access across Appalachia.

The Research Network conducts investigations initiated by Markey doctors and scientists as well as national studies available through Markey’s membership in the National Cancer Institute’s National Clinical Trials Network. “It is our mission to decrease the cancer burden in Kentucky, and we want to make sure patients have access to the latest therapies,” said Tim Mullett, MD, director of the Research Network.

“As a hub for clinical research in this region, we provide powerful, evidence-based clinical trials for patients needing more than standard therapies.”

– Tim Mullett, MD

The Research Network follows the growth of the Markey Affiliate Network, a group of 15 health care facilities across Kentucky. These facilities provide high-quality cancer services and programs in their communities with the support and guidance of Markey. The Affiliate Network’s vision is for all Kentuckians to have access to excellent cancer care.