



# THE INSTITUTE FOR PALLIATIVE MEDICINE

*at San Diego Hospice*

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INTERNATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE  
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE



## **Dr. Joe B. Harford**

**Director, Office of International Affairs  
National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health**

Joe Harford received a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Maryland Medical School and conducted basic research in molecular biology and cell biology. He has published over 100 scientific papers and is one of the founding editors for *Current Protocols in Cell Biology*.

In 1993, Dr. Harford became the chief scientist for RiboGene, Inc., a biotechnology company where he managed four drug discovery programs in infectious diseases.

From 1996 to 1999, he served as Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of RiboGene, Inc, and served in a similar capacity for SynerGene Therapeutics, Inc., an early-stage biopharmaceutical company that focuses on molecular therapeutics for cancer. Dr. Harford is a co-inventor on two issued U.S. patents related to drug discovery. In 1996, he returned to the NIH where he served as Associate Director of the NCI and Chief of Staff of the Office of the Director.

In July 2002, he was named Director of the Office of International Affairs of the National Cancer Institute. In this capacity, he has responsibility for a number of bilateral and multilateral interactions between the NCI and foreign cancer research institutions and other foreign entities. He serves as the Chair of the Strategic Advisory Group of the Ireland-Northern Ireland-NCI Cancer Consortium and as NCI liaison to the Middle East Cancer Consortium, the US-Japan Cooperative Cancer Research Program, the African Organization for Research and Training in Cancer, the American-Russian Cancer Alliance, and the International Network for Cancer Treatment and Research. Joe has represented the USA to the Governing Council of the WHO's International Agency for Research on Cancer and represented NIH for two years as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Human Frontier Science Program, an international non-governmental, nonprofit association devoted to the promotion of basic research. In July 2006, Dr. Harford was named as Strategic Leader for Knowledge Transfer by the International Union Against Cancer (UICC). In 2008, UICC altered its committee structure, and Dr. Harford was named to the UICC Board of Directors (NCI Liaison), the Solidarity Fund Taskforce, the Childhood Cancer Taskforce, and the Strategic Coordinating Committee. Dr. Harford has been appointed by the Irish Minister for Health and Children to the National Expert Group on Cancer Biobanking.

In 2007, Dr. Harford was recognized by the Arab Medical Association Against Cancer with an award, the citation of which reads "In recognition for his significant contribution to enhance the status of cancer care and cancer research in the region and for his unwavering efforts to support needed infrastructure and create opportunities in cancer education, training and capacity building to help cancer patients and their families throughout the Arab world."