

Texas cancer probe draws NCI scrutiny

December 14 2012, by Paul J. Weber

(AP)—The federal National Cancer Institute says it's taking a fresh look at a troubled \$3 billion cancer-fighting effort already being scrutinized by prosecutors and lawmakers in Texas.

The U.S. government's [cancer research](#) agency confirmed Friday that upheaval within the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas caught its attention. NCI spokeswoman Aleea Farrakh Khan told The Associated Press that officials are "evaluating recent events" at CPRIT.

CPRIT is on an exclusive list of NCI-approved funding entities, which includes the [American Cancer Society](#). The designation is a federal seal-of-approval that signals high peer review standards and conflict of interest policies.

Khan says NCI has made no decisions about CPRIT or contacted the agency directly.

Prosecutors are investigating CPRIT following an \$11 million award to a private company that bypassed review.

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