President Paul Kagame has been named to the 2025 list of 100 global leaders recognized for their contributions to the prevention, treatment and control of cancer, according to *OncoDaily*, an international health publication.

The list highlights political leaders, scientists, advocates and health professionals whose leadership and influence have helped shape cancer policy, expand access to care and promote innovation in oncology worldwide. Kagame was cited for his role in advancing health system reforms and mobilizing resources for cancer prevention and treatment in Rwanda and across Africa.

Through his leadership in African Union health initiatives, Kagame has supported efforts to strengthen health financing mechanisms and attract investment into public health systems. Funding mobilized through these efforts has contributed to the adoption of modern technologies for cancer screening, diagnosis and treatment in Rwanda and other African countries.

Rwanda has made notable progress in cervical cancer prevention, particularly through nationwide vaccination programs, and has expanded universal health coverage to improve access to essential medical services. In July, cancer treatment services were added to the Community-Based Health Insurance scheme, reducing out-of-pocket costs for patients.

The country has also invested in specialized cancer care infrastructure. Rwanda is home to international-standard facilities dedicated to oncology, including the Butaro Hospital of Excellence, which treats a range of cancers. In 2023, the IRCAD Institute established its African headquarters in Rwanda, offering advanced surgical care, including technology-assisted cancer surgery.

Kagame’s engagement on health issues extends beyond national borders. During his tenure as chairperson of the African Union from 2018 to 2019, he elevated the fight against noncommunicable diseases, including cancer, and integrated them into the continent’s development priorities. He has also supported the expansion of digital technologies in health care through his involvement with the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development, emphasizing the role of digital infrastructure in modern medical services.

Other figures named on the *OncoDaily* list include Dr. Steven A. Rosenberg, a

pioneer of cancer immunotherapy, and Dr. Hagop Kantarjian, a leading expert in leukemia treatment and oncology training. The list also features global advocates, researchers and policymakers recognized for advancing cancer care worldwide.

In announcing the list, *OncoDaily* said it seeks to highlight leadership that is driving progress in cancer prevention and treatment while continuing to amplify voices shaping the future of global health.