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The National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Cancer Information Service (CIS) educates the public about cancer prevention, risk factors, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, and research.

- CIS specialists provide the latest, most accurate information about cancer by telephone, TTY, instant messaging, and e-mail.
- The CIS operates the NCI's Smoking Quitline (1-877-44U-QUIT).
- Through its Partnership Program, the CIS works with established national, regional, and state organizations to reach those most in need of cancer information.
- The CIS takes part in health communications research to find new and better ways to educate people about health.

For information and publications, call 1-800-4-CANCER (1-800-422-6237) or visit <http://www.cancer.gov>.

NCI Press Releases & Information

Available at <http://www.cancer.gov/newscenter> or as otherwise noted.

- Comparative Effectiveness Grants in Genomic and Personalized Medicine Announced (10/21/09)
- Strategy Sensitizes Tumors while Protecting Normal Tissues in Mice  from Radiation Damage (10/21/09)
- Centralized Review Process Markedly Expedites Approval of Cancer Clinical Trials (10/19/09)
- Gene Therapy Method Slows Tumor Growth in Mice (10/9/09) 
- Consortium of Researchers Discover Retroviral Link to Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (10/8/09)
- Prostate Tumors Can Change the Function of Immune Cells in Mice (10/7/09) 
- Short Strand of RNA May Help Predict Survival and Response to Treatment for Patients with Liver Cancer (10/7/09)
- Gene Mutation Linked to Type of Childhood Cancer (10/5/09)
- Gene Duplication Identified in an Uncommon Form of Bone Cancer (10/4/09)
- United States and Four Latin American Countries Partner to Battle Cancer (10/1/09)
- Drug That Crosses  Blood-Brain Barrier Reduces Formation of Brain Metastases in Mice (9/29/09)
- MicroRNAs as Prognostic Biomarkers for Esophageal and Colon Cancers (9/29/09)

Clinical trials results:

Available at <http://www.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials/results-all> or as otherwise noted.

- Modified Chemotherapy Regimen Effective in Advanced Ovarian Cancer (10/7/09)

National Health Observances

This calendar comes from the National Health Information Center Web site:

<http://www.healthfinder.gov/nho/nhoyear.asp?year=2009>.

November observances:

Great American Smokeout (19th)
Lung Cancer Awareness Month
National Family Caregivers Month
National Healthy Skin Month
National Hospice Palliative Care Month
Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

Looking forward to December:

National Aplastic Anemia and MDS
Awareness Week (1-7)

NCI Fact Sheet Collection

New, revised and reviewed titles, from <http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/factsheet>.

In English:

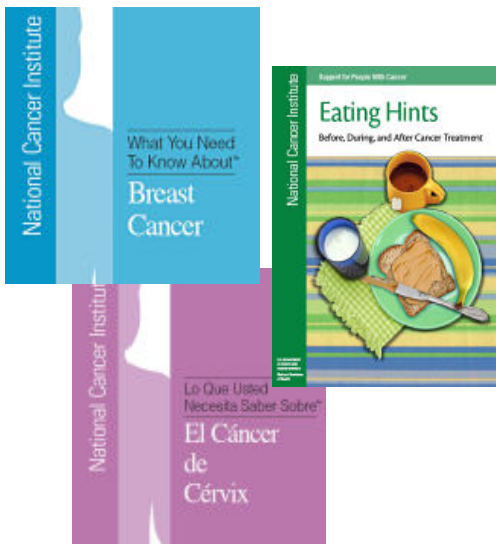
- Hair Dyes and Cancer Risk (F.S. 3.18, 10/7/09)
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccines (FS 4.21, 9/23/09)
- Vitamin D and Cancer Prevention: Strengths and Limits of the Evidence (FS 4.29, 9/23/09)

NCI Publications and Items of Interest

Available at <https://cissecure.nci.nih.gov/ncipubs> or as otherwise noted.



Want to keep up to date on NCI news releases, fact sheets, clinical trial results and other information coming out of NCI? You can subscribe to the NCI RSS feed. See full details at <http://www.cancer.gov/rss>.



- Phenotypes and Endophenotypes: Foundations for Genetic Studies of Nicotine Use and Dependence. NCI Tobacco Control Monograph 20 (August 2009)
- Lo que usted necesita saber sobre™ el cáncer de cérvix (What You Need To Know About™ Cancer of the Cervix) (August 2009)
- Support for People with Cancer: Eating Hints – Before, During and After Treatment (September 2009)
- Understanding Breast Changes: A Health Guide for Women (September 2009)
- What You Need To Know About™ Breast Cancer (October 2009)
- What You Need To Know About™ Stomach Cancer (October 2009)

NCI has recently launched a portal page specifically intended for newly diagnosed adolescents and young adults (AYA). The information will help them learn more about their cancer treatment options, participate in treatment-related decisions, and get the emotional/coping support they need. Information is also provided for friends, family and health care professionals. See <http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/aya>.



Smokefree.gov (<http://smokefree.gov>) offers science-driven tools, information, and support that have been effective in helping smokers quit. The Web site was created and recently redesigned by the Tobacco Control Branch of the National Cancer Institute.

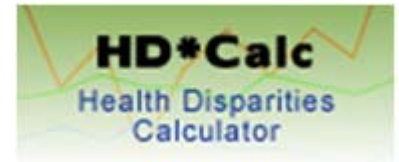


NCI Features: *Breast Cancer Awareness* was recently updated in honor of October's Breast Cancer Awareness month. The Web page provides links to recent advances and selected resources, including a video. Understanding risk, detection and treatment and life after breast cancer are explored. See the feature page at <http://www.cancer.gov/features/breastcancer2009>.

NCI Publications and Items of Interest *(continued)*

New Statistical Software Aids Health Disparities Research

The Health Disparities Calculator (HD*Calc) is a new statistical software designed to generate data summaries to evaluate and monitor health disparities (HD). HD*Calc can be used either as an extension of SEER*Stat, which allows users to easily import Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) incidence data and National Center for Health Statistics mortality data, or on its own with other population-based health data. HD*Calc allows researchers to use a range of HD measures and test them in different situations.



Cross-sectional and trend data (e.g., cancer rates, survival, stage at diagnosis) categorized by disparity group (including socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, and geographic area) can be used with HD*Calc to generate 11 summary measures of disparity. Several of these measures are not commonly used to evaluate cancer-related health disparities. The output is presented in both tabular and graphic formats allowing users to specify different conditions and formats, and the tables and graphs can be exported from the program. In addition to summary measures, HD*Calc also allows users to explore underlying trends in the data. Tutorials are available on the Web site for users to develop experience with the software.

The application extends the work published in the National Cancer Institute Surveillance Monograph Series entitled *Methods for Measuring Cancer Disparities*, <http://seer.cancer.gov/publications/disparities/>, which evaluates measures of health disparities included in HD*Calc. To download the HD*Calc Version 1.0.5. Beta, or to access the exercise tutorials, visit <http://seer.cancer.gov/hdcalc/index.html>.

Other Items of Interest



What's New at AHRQ's Health Care Innovations Exchange

The AHRQ Health Care Innovations Exchange Web site features profiles of innovative health service delivery tools. Recently highlighted was the topic of Worksite Wellness, which discussed innovations and tools that demonstrate the benefits of offering employee health screenings, counseling, and workshops.

Another recent topic explored the development of Medical Homes for a variety of populations (low-income, at-risk, special needs, disabled, elderly). The Innovations Exchange contains more than 300 searchable innovations and 1,400 searchable QualityTools on an array of other topics such as culturally competent care, women's health, obesity and overweight, and many others. Go to the "What's New" archive to find the above stories, at <http://www.innovations.ahrq.gov/whatsnew.aspx>, or visit the home page to explore all the features, at <http://www.innovations.ahrq.gov>.

New AHRQ Toolkit Improves Study Participant Recruitment Process

Also new from AHRQ is a free toolkit to help researchers obtain potential research participants' informed consent and authorization to use their health data in accordance with the Privacy Rule of the Health Insurance Portability and Accounting Act (HIPAA). The toolkit provides information on how to ensure that people of all health literacy levels understand what studies entail and to what they are consenting when they agree to participate. AHRQ developed the toolkit because researchers often use long consent forms that potential study participants can find difficult to comprehend. Research also shows that a large proportion of study participants did not understand what they had consented to when they joined a study. There is evidence that Institutional Review Boards often fail to meet their own standards for the reading level of consent and data-use forms. The AHRQ Informed Consent and Authorization Toolkit for Minimal Risk Research, which was developed by AHRQ and tested by researchers from Boston University, includes recommendations for improving the informed consent and authorization process; sample consent and HIPAA authorization documents in English and Spanish; recommendations for adapting and testing the documents; statutory requirements and exceptions; and a tool for researchers' certification of consent and authorization. Find the toolkit at <http://www.ahrq.gov/fund/informedconsent>.

Other Items of Interest *(continued)*



A new curriculum has been developed by the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Policy Research Center to support Native communities in their efforts to understand and manage research efforts. It is designed for tribal leaders, Native students, and other Native community members. The curriculum, called “Research that Benefits Native People”, is available at <http://www.ncaiprc.org/research-curriculum-guide>.



Press releases of interest:

- FDA Approves New Treatment for Advanced Form of Kidney Cancer (10/19/09)
<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm187174.htm>
- FDA Approves New Indication for Gardasil to Prevent Genital Warts in Men and Boys (10/16/09)
<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm187003.htm>
- FDA Approves New Vaccine for Prevention of Cervical Cancer (10/16/09)
<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm187048.htm>
- Information for Women with Disabilities about Breast Cancer [CDC] (10/13/09)
<http://cdc.gov/Features/BreastCancerDisabilities>
- Sister Study Exceeds Recruitment Goal: Now The Real Work Begins [National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences] (10/5/09) <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/oct2009/niehs-05.htm>
- FDA Transparency Task Force to Hold 2nd Public Meeting on Ensuring That Agency Information is Useful, Understandable, Accessible (10/2/09) <http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm184886.htm>
- Recovery to Discovery: \$5 Billion Recovery Act Investment in Scientific Research and Jobs [The White House] (9/30/09) http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Fact-Sheet-Recovery-to-Discovery-5-Billion-Recovery-Act-Investment-in-Scientific-Research-and-Jobs
- Majority of Americans not Meeting Recommendations for Fruit and Vegetable Consumption [CDC] (9/29/09)
<http://www.cdc.gov/media/pressrel/2009/r090929.htm>
- FDA Approves First Drug for Treatment of Peripheral T-cell Lymphoma (9/25/09)
<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm183799.htm>
- Panel Urges Further Research to determine which DCIS Patients may be Candidates for Less-Invasive Therapy [NIH] (9/24/09) <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/sep2009/od-24a.htm>
- Childhood Leukemia [National Library of Medicine] (9/23/09)
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/videos/news/leukemia_092309.html
- Candy and Fruit Flavored Cigarettes Now Illegal in United States; Step is First Under New Tobacco Law (Spanish) [FDA](9/22/09) <http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm183261.htm>
- Scientists Discover Another RNA in Saliva [National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research] (9/14/09)
<http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/Research/ResearchResults/ScienceBriefs/CurrentSNIB/September/SalivaRNA.htm>



National Funding Opportunities

Health Impact Assessment Demonstration Projects

Deadline: Applications accepted on a rolling basis until all grant funds are committed; Web conference on November 5, 2009.

The Health Impact Project call for proposals (CFP) is seeking applicants to undertake health impact assessment (HIA) demonstration projects. The goal of the CFP and subsequent HIAs is to demonstrate the effectiveness of HIAs and promote their incorporation into local, state, tribal, and federal decision-making. Government agencies, educational institutions and nonprofit organizations are encouraged to apply. Up to 15 HIA demonstrations ranging from \$25,000 to \$150,000 will be funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and The Pew Charitable Trusts.

Applicants are invited to join the Health Impact Project on November 5, 2009 at 1:30 PM (ET) for an informational Web conference. Registration is required. Interested applicants will have an opportunity to ask questions during the call. The conference will be recorded and archived on the Health Impact Project's Web site. Proposal requirements, Web conference registration, and online application available at <http://www.healthimpactproject.org/call>.

National Cancer Institute (NCI) announces the 2010 Introduction to Cancer Research Careers (ICRC) Program

Deadline: November 18, 2009

The ICRC is designed to encourage individuals from populations underrepresented in science and/or financially disadvantaged backgrounds to seek internship opportunities at the NCI. Successful ICRC applicants will take part in a 2-day campus visit to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, Maryland, where they will have the opportunity to learn about the various scientist-in-training programs, participate in laboratory tours, interview for either a summer or post-baccalaureate (1-year) internship. Participants selected for internships receive a monthly stipend, round-trip travel, and summer housing.

The goal is to encourage a diverse group of talented students to explore careers in biomedical research. Please refer to the ICRC website for additional information, at <http://icrc.nci.nih.gov>.

Expansion of the NCI Community Cancer Center Program (NCCCP) (ST10-002)

Deadline: November 19, 2009

The pilot phase of the NCI Community Cancers Center Program (NCCCP) is testing the concept of a national network to expand cancer research and deliver the latest, most advanced cancer care to more Americans in their home communities. A Request for Proposals has been issued for expansion of the NCI Community Cancer Centers Program (NCCCP). The RFP provides funding for up to 14 additional community cancer centers to enter the program. Half of the new sites will be community cancer centers on their own, and the other half will be community cancer centers partnered with major academic research institutions that are already included in the network of NCI-designated Cancer Centers. Please see the RFP posted to FedBizOpps.gov at <http://bit.ly/aJKRg>.

Community Networks Program (CNP) – Centers for Reducing Cancer Disparities through Outreach, Research and Training (U54) (RFA-CA-09-032)

Letters of Intent Receipt deadline: November 15, 2009

Application Receipt deadline: December 15, 2009

This initiative will support the establishment of Community Networks Program (CNP) centers that will utilize a community-based participatory research approach to reducing cancer disparities through a combination of outreach, research and training. This opportunity is open to all qualified applicants regardless of whether or not they participated in the previous CNP issuance. Please see the RFA at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-09-032.html>.

National Funding Opportunities *(continued)*

Community Participation Research Targeting the Medically Underserved (R21) (PAR-08-076)

Letters of Intent Receipt Deadline: April 14, 2010

Application Submission/Receipt Deadline: May 14, 2010

The ultimate goal of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) issued by the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health (NIH) is to solicit Exploratory/Developmental (R21) grant applications that propose research on health promotion, disease prevention, and health disparities that is jointly conducted by communities and researchers and targets medically underserved areas (MUAs) and medically underserved populations (MUPs) as defined by the Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The FOA will ensure that the health issues of underserved communities and populations are addressed using CBPR research strategies. Announcement details at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-08-076.html>.

PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT

The National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Cancer Information Service (CIS) Partnership Program will end January 14, 2010.

Our final newsletter will be the December 2009 edition (next month).

National Events of Interest

National Conference to End Health Disparities II

November 3-6, 2009

Winston-Salem, NC

<http://www.ccehd.com>

American Institute for Cancer Research Annual Research Conference on Food, Nutrition, Physical Activity and Cancer

November 5-6, 2009

Washington, DC

http://www.aicr.org/site/PageNavigator/Research/ResearchConference/res_conference_home

Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) 60th Annual Conference

November 5-7, 2009

Philadelphia, PA

http://www.sophe.org/singlenews.asp?item_ID=13414

National Events of Interest *(continued)*



American Public Health Association (APHA) 137th Annual Meeting and Exposition – Water and Public Health

November 7-11, 2009

Philadelphia, PA

<http://www.apha.org/meetings>



NCI Office of Advocacy Relations Teleconference: NCI National Outreach Network ~ *NEW*

November 19, 2009, 2:00 - 3:00 PM EST

<http://advocacy.cancer.gov/activities/teleconferences>

Rural Multiracial and Multicultural Health Conference, National Rural Health Association – Blueprints for Success: Ideas for Change

December 9-11, 2009

Memphis, TN

<http://www.ruralhealthweb.org/go/left/programs-and-events/nrha-conferences/rural-minority-and-multicultural-health-conference>



Community-Campus Partnerships for Health's 11th Conference “Creating the Future We Want to Be: Transformation through Partnerships” ~ *NEW*

May 12-15, 2010

Portland, Oregon

<http://www.ccph.info>

Cancer, Culture & Literacy – 7th Biennial Conference ~ *NEW*

May 20-22, 2010

Clearwater Beach, FL

<http://moffitt.org/ccl>

Spirit of EAGLES American Indian/Alaska Native Leadership Initiative on Cancer's 8th National Conference – “Changing Patterns of Cancer in Native Communities: Strength Through Tradition and Science” ~ *NEW*

September 11-14, 2010

Seattle, WA

<http://www.nativeamericanprograms.org>



2010 International Cancer Education Conference

October 25-27, 2010

San Diego, CA

<http://aaceonline.com/AnnualMeeting2010.html>

Regional Spotlight

Recognizing our Partners

As you are aware, the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Cancer Information Service (CIS) Partnership Program will end January 14, 2010. As we have talked about the work that we have collaborated on in the Northwest Region over time, we recognize that much of it would not have been possible without the knowledge and experience of our partners.

We wanted to take this opportunity, on behalf of the NCI's CIS-Northwest Region to acknowledge public health professionals and organizations we have worked with over the years. Their commitment and dedication to decreasing health disparities and improving the lives of those affected by cancer have made a profound impact on the cancer burden in our region. We will be eternally grateful for their willingness to partner with us and work together toward a common goal, winning the war against cancer.

Sincerely,

The NCI's CIS Partnership Program-Northwest Region Staff

ALASKA

Melany Cueva, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium's Community Health Aide/Practitioner Education Program

Christine DeCourtney, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Comprehensive Cancer Control Program

Anne Lanier, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Epidemiology Program

Judith Link, Alaska Regional Hospital Cancer Center

Jozieta Slatton, Arctic Slope Regional Association

Rita Stevens, Alaska Tribal Health System Comprehensive Cancer Control Program

Julia Thorsness, Alaska Comprehensive Cancer Control Program

Alaska Health & Social Services, Breast & Cervical Health Check Program

Maniilaq Association

IDAHO

Benewah Wellness Center

Cancer Data Registry of Idaho

Comprehensive Cancer Alliance for Idaho

Idaho Department of Health & Welfare's Comprehensive Cancer Control Program

Idaho Department of Health & Welfare's Women's Health Check Program

Idaho Hospital Association

North Idaho Cancer Coalition

(list continues on the next page)

Regional Spotlight *(continued)*

NEVADA

Carla Brutico, Carson Tahoe Cancer Center

Ann Proffitt, Carson Tahoe Cancer Resource Center

OREGON

Tom Becker, Oregon Health & Science University

Gail Brownmiller, Susan G. Komen for the Cure - Oregon and Southwest Washington Affiliate

Nancy Magathan, Columbia Memorial Hospital

Jacqueline Mercer, Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Northwest

Lin Rasar and the Siletz Tribal Community

Patricia Schoonmaker, Oregon Partnership for Cancer Control

Sue Sumpter, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society - OR, SW WA, ID and MT Chapter

Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board - Northwest Tribal Cancer Coalition

Oregon Breast and Cervical Cancer Program

Oregon Office on Disability and Health

Women with Disabilities Health Equity Coalition

WASHINGTON

Ellen Phillips-Angeles, Public Health Seattle & King County

Barbara Finkbonner and the Lummi Tribal Community

Sharon Fleming

Anne Gottlieb, Gilda's Club

Rose James, University of Washington

Roberta Kimberly and the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribal Community

Alice Park, Seattle Indian Health Board

John Simmons, South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency's Comprehensive Cancer Control Program

Cherie Skager, Susan G. Komen for the Cure – Puget Sound Affiliate

Maile Taulii, Urban Indian Health Institute

Zekkethal Vargas-Thomas and the Colville Tribal Community

Community Health Education and Resources

Spokane Regional Health District

Regional Events of Interest ~ Northwest Region

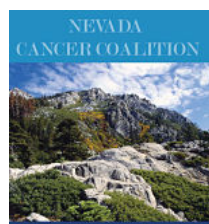
ALASKA

27th Annual Alaska Health Summit: “Small Steps - Big Impact” ~ **NEW**

December 7-9, 2009

The Sheraton Hotel, 401 E. 6th Avenue, Anchorage

<http://www.alaskapublichealth.org/summit.shtml>



NEVADA

Second Annual Nevada Cancer Control Summit ~ **NEW**

December 4, 2009

St. Rose Dominican Hospital/San Martin Campus Conference Center, Las Vegas

<http://www.medicine.nevada.edu/cme/nvccs09.htm>

OREGON

Oregon Partnership for Cancer Control, Breast Health Task Force – Strengthening Your Outreach through Cultural Competency

November 2, 2009 8 AM–12 PM

Portland State Office Building, 800 NE Oregon Street, Portland

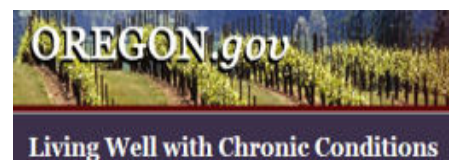
TeriLynn.L.Dyrud@state.or.us or 971-673-1102

Living Well with Chronic Disease Workshops ~ **UPDATED**

(Various dates and counties through April 2010; see Web site for details)

Information and the link to the list of workshops (updated monthly):

http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/livingwell/le_workshop_info.shtml



Managing Side Effects of Cancer Therapies ~ **NEW**

February 10, 2010 noon–1:05 PM

Richard Jones Hall, Room 4340 at OHSU, Portland

http://www.o-cim.org/Events/lecture_series.html



WASHINGTON

Gilda's Club Lectures & Discussions ~ **UPDATED**



- November 5: Navigating Your Health As a Cancer Survivor
- November 12: CyberKnife? New Cancer-Fighting Technology
- November 19: In Mandarin: Breast Cancer Treatment and Care

Events: 6:45–8:30 PM, at Gilda's Club, 1400 Broadway at Union, Seattle
Free, open to the public (sign-up/RSVP required). 206-709-1400.

Native People for Cancer Control: Tobacco Policy Summit ~ **NEW**

February 18-19, 2010

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

Johnny Mao, jmao@u.washington.edu or 425-213-8760



The *CIS Connection* from the CIS Northwest Region provides you with the opportunity to share regional and state events and conferences of interest. If you have a conference or event you would like us to know about in our five-state region (Alaska, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington), please call or e-mail the Partnership Program Manager, Kathy Briant, with details. (Contact information is on the last page.)

CIS Connection

Newsletter Editor: Pia Fish, Northwest Region

This edition produced by the Cancer Information Service, Northwest Region, which serves the states of Alaska, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon and Washington in cooperation with the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, WA.

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