AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN CANCER CONSORTIUM

For the study of viral, genetic, environmental, and lifestyle risk factors for cancer in populations of African descent

May 4, 2007
2 pm.

Facilitators:
Camille Ragin PhD, MPH
Research Assistant Professor
Dept. of Epidemiology
Graduate School of Public Health and
Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Science
University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute
University of Pittsburgh, USA

Clareann Bunker PhD, MPH
Associate Professor
Dept. of Epidemiology
Graduate School of Public Health
University of Pittsburgh, USA
Several ongoing collaborations on prostate, breast and cervical cancer have been conducted by faculty at the University of Pittsburgh in collaboration with investigators from University and centers located in the Caribbean Islands and West Africa. The consortium will be an opportunity to formalize and coordinate these collaborations, with the final goal to seek funding from the US National Cancer Institute to support case control studies of cancer risk across these populations which share considerable genetic ancestry but may differ in exposure to other factors.

The Afro-Caribbean Consortium will provide new collaborative opportunities for cancer research among investigators throughout the various islands in the Caribbean, United States and Africa and will address a significant need for studies related to cancer in individuals of African descent. The opportunities for expanding collaborative studies involving populations of African descent will advance scientific knowledge of the roles that viral and other environmental risk factors, along with genetic risk factors play in cancer etiology among minority populations. These studies would lead to targeted interventions in order to reduce the incidence and mortality rates of cancer in these minority populations.

The following investigators have expressed an interest in participating in the Afro-Caribbean Cancer Consortium. Others investigators who are interested in collaborating are cordially invited.

**List of interested collaborators**

**US Collaborators:**

University of Pittsburgh  
Clareann Bunker, PhD, MPH  
Frank Jenkins, PhD  
Camille Ragin, PhD, MPH  
Emanuela Taioli, MD, PhD

Columbia University  
Alfred Neugut, MD, PhD

Long Island University  
Carol Magai, PhD

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
Jacqueline Ford, MD

State University of New York- Stony Brook  
M. Cristina Leske, MD, MPH, DSc

**Caribbean Collaborators:**

Grenada  
Robert Yearwood, MD

University of the West Indies – Mona  
Norma McFarlane-Anderson, PhD

University of the West Indies – Cave Hill  
Anselm J. Hennis, MBBS, PhD, FRCP

Tobago Health Studies  
Alan Patrick, MD, FRCP  
Victor Wheeler, MBBS, MRCOG

**Nigerian Collaborator:**

University of Benin  
Michael N. Okobia, MBBS, MPH, PhD

Florida A&M University  
Folakemi Odedina, PhD
African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium – program

2:00pm Welcome and Introductions: Purpose of the African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium

Dr. Camille Rose Ragin – Dept of Epidemiology and Div. of Cancer Prevention and Population Science, Univ. of Pittsburgh

Presentations: African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium Collaborators

Topic: Prevalence of cancer-associated viral infections in the African-Caribbean population

2:15pm Topic: National Cancer Registry of Trinidad and Tobago

Dr. Alan Patrick (on behalf of - Ms. Veronica Roach)
Dr Elizabeth Quamina Cancer Registry - Trinidad

2:30pm Topic: Studies conducted in Jamaica

Dr. Norma McFarlane-Anderson
University of the West Indies - Mona

2:45pm Topic: Barbados National Cancer Study Group

Dr. Anselm Hennis
University of the West Indies – Cave Hill

3:00pm Topic: Studies conducted in Trinidad and Tobago

Dr. Alan Patrick
Dr. Clareann Bunker
Tobago Health Studies and Dept of Epidemiology, University of Pittsburgh

3:15pm Presentations from the floor

3:30pm Roundtable discussion: Future potential studies - Consortium collaborations

Facilitator: Dr. Clareann Bunker - Dept of Epidemiology, University of Pittsburgh