Part 2: Innovations in Early Detection of Cancer

Wednesday, May 5



GLORIA D. CORONADO, PhD

Dr. Gloria Coronado is an epidemiologist and the Mitch Greenlick Endowed Distinguished Investigator in Health Disparities Research at Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research. Through her practice-based research, Dr. Coronado champions affordable, long-term solutions to health disparities issues. She leads a well-funded portfolio of research that inspires health system leaders to make sensible, evidence-informed choices to successfully engage hard-to-reach populations in life-saving preventive behaviors. Dr. Coronado has developed several innovative and cost-effective interventions to improve rates of participation in cancer screening among patients served by community health centers. Her innovative work has led to successful partnerships with large health plans, state institutions, and community clinics. She currently directs or co-directs three programs that use systems-based approaches to raise the rates of colorectal cancer screening and follow-up care in health plans and clinics in Washington, Oregon and California. Over the course of her career, Dr. Coronado has served as a PI or co-I on over 35 federally funded grants; she has co-authored over 180 peer-reviewed manuscripts



SHELLY DUSIC, MA

Shelly Dusic works for WVU Cancer Institute's Cancer Prevention and Control as the Policy and Environmental Change Community-Clinic Linkage Specialist for the West Virginia Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program. Shelly serves as Chair of Mountains of Hope, West Virginia's Comprehensive Cancer Coalition, and on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee at WVU Health Sciences. Also a self-motivated entrepreneur, Shelly owns two small businesses including a 501-c3 nonprofit dedicated to advancing health equity in West Virginia. Shelly is an outspoken cervical cancer survivor and in 2016 she received recognition by the WV Immunization Network for her HPV vaccination advocacy work same year, she also represented West Virginia at the United Nations for World Cancer Day. The NBCCEDP recently highlighted policy change work she has done with employers in West Virginia With over 30 years of volunteer and civic engagement history, her ambitions include advancing policy and environmental changes to address the social determinants of health in Appalachia and eliminating cervical cancer as a global epidemic in her lifetime. Shelly resides in Fairmont, West Virginia with her husband and three rescue cats, where they share many hobbies including cosplay, fencing, and RPG gaming. She can be contacted at sdusic@hsc.wvu.edu.



OPHIRA GINSBURG, MD, MSc, FRCPC

Dr. Ophira Ginsburg is a medical oncologist and global women's health researcher with nearly 20 years of experience in cancer prevention and control. She is the Director of the High-Risk Cancer Genetics Program at the Perlmutter Cancer Center, NYU Langone Health, and Associate Professor in the Section for Global Health, Department of Population Health at New York University Grossman School of Medicine. Formerly based at the University of Toronto, she was a Medical Officer at WHO (2015-2016) and continues to serve as an ad hoc consultant to several UN agencies. Her research is focused on improving equitable access to breast and cervical cancer control globally, with funding from Grand Challenges Canada, Canadian Institutes for Health Research, and the U.S. National Institutes of Health. She has authored >100 publications including in high impact journals such as The Lancet, The Lancet Global Health, Journal of Clinical Oncology, and Nature Reviews Clinical Oncology. She led a 3-part Series: "Health, equity, and women's cancers", published in The Lancet in 2016, and Co-chairs a new Lancet Commission on women and cancer.

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MANASI JAYAPRAKASH, MD, MPH

Dr. Manasi (said "Mansi") Jayaprakash is a public health practitioner with background in community medicine. She is the Program Operations Director at Center for Asian Health Equity (CAHE) at University of Chicago directing the implementation of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention funded program to increase colorectal cancer screening rates with partnering health systems in Illinois. Manasi has been with CAHE since the past 3 years. Her prior background included engaging with Federally Qualified Health Centers in Illinois for quality improvement and public health initiatives as part of Illinois's Primary Care Association. She led and delivered technical assistance, developed tools to improve clinical measures and conducted trainings. Her passion is to strengthen primary health care systems and develop strong linkages with communities.



LAWSON KOEPPEL, MSW

Lawson Koeppel is a person in long-term recovery who focus is on active substance use, policy, and mental health. He co-founded Virginia Harm Reduction Coalition (VHRC) in 2018 to prevent overdose deaths and empower people who use drugs. Since its founding, VHRC has distributed more than 60,000 doses of naloxone.



ERIN MATTHEWS THOMAS, MPH, HSAS

Erin Matthews Thomas is the Senior Program Officer at Potomac Health Foundation. She is responsible for implementing and administering the Foundation's grant making, as well as, organizing and supporting the convening of grantees and community partners in support of the Foundation's mission. Prior to joining Potomac Health Foundation, she was with the DC Department of Health as a Public Health Analyst and Cessation Specialist. In her role, she led the "DC Calls It Quits" cessation campaigns and oversaw the DC Tobacco Quitline. She has a BS from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, a MS from the University of South Carolina, and a Health Services Administration Specialist degree from The George Washington University. Ms. Matthews Thomas is Co-Chair of the Greater Washington, DC Regional Chapter of PEAK Grantmaking and an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. – Psi Psi Omega Graduate Chapter, Stafford, Virginia.

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DANIEL PETEREIT, MD, FASTRO

Dr. Daniel Petereit is a radiation oncologist in Rapid City, SD, and is the PI of of the Walking Forward (WF) Cancer Disparity Program which has been funded by the NCI since 2002. The goal of the program is to lower cancer mortality rates for Northern Plains American Indians (Als) through patient navigation, clinical trial access, and identification of barriers to early detection and successful treatment. Published critical outcomes include establishment of trust within tribal communities, identification of barriers to cancer screenings, creation of research infrastructure, clinical-trial enrollment of 4,500 Als (the highest in the nation) and higher completion-of-treatment and patient-satisfaction rates for patients undergoing cancer therapies. WF recently completed a RCT testing multiple interventions for smoking cessation. In 2018 a lung cancer screening program for high risk smokers was initiated to increase the utilization of LDCTs. A palliative care project was recently initiated on the reservations to address the lack of palliative care.

Dr. Petereit has received national recognition for his expertise in brachytherapy, cancer disparities, and clinical trials. He has had leadership roles for the American Board of Radiology (ABR), the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO), and is the past president and current chair of the American Brachytherapy Society (ABS). He is leading a national ABS initiative, 300 in 10, where the goal is to train 30 competent brachytherapists per year over the next 10 years through a multifaceted approach. He has published over 115 articles in peer reviewed journals and has received 15 million dollars in research funding.



MARCUS PLESCIA, MD, MPH

Dr. Marcus Plescia is the Chief Medical Officer for the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO). He provides medical leadership and expertise across the agency and oversees ASTHO's portfolio of chronic disease prevention and control programs. ASTHO is the national nonprofit organization representing the public health agencies of the United States, U.S. territories, and District of Columbia, as well as the more than 100,000 public health professionals these agencies employ.

Dr. Plescia has served in public health leadership roles at the local, state and federal level for the past fifteen years in North Carolina and at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In these roles he has led successful efforts to enact systemic public health interventions including expanded cancer screening coverage, prescription drug and disease reporting requirements, revised clinical guidelines, and state and local tobacco policy. He has been prominent in nationwide efforts to transform public health practice to a more population-based, strategic framework, and led the implementation of the CDC's national colorectal cancer screening program based on this approach.

Dr. Plescia received his Medical Degree, Master of Public Health and Bachelor of Science from the University of N.orth Carolina at Chapel Hill. He trained in Family Medicine at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx, NY. He is Board Certified in Family Medicine and has practiced in a variety of settings serving homeless, urban poor and rural underserved populations. He has published extensively in the public health and family medicine literature.



ROBERT SMITH, PhD

Dr. Robert A. Smith is a cancer epidemiologist and Senior Vice President, Cancer Screening at the National Office of the American Cancer Society (ACS) in Atlanta, Georgia. He also is Adjunct Professor of Epidemiology at the Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University School of Medicine, and an Honorary Professor, Centre for Cancer Prevention, Wolfson Institute of Preventative Medicine at Queen Mary University of London. At the ACS he leads the development of cancer screening guidelines, and special research and policy projects focused on cancer prevention and control. Dr. Smith was one of the founding members of the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable and has served as its Co-Chair for 24 years. In 2011 he received the Medal of Honor from the International Agency for Research on Cancer. He received his PhD from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1983, and before joining the staff at the ACS, he held positions with the Boston University School of Public Health, and the CDC. He is the author of over 350 peer-reviewed scientific articles, reports, and book chapters, and a frequent lecturer on cancer screening issues. He serves on many international and national government and professional advisory committees, and in 2017 was a member of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Handbooks Working Group on Colorectal Cancer Screening.

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ELIZABETH WESTBROOK, MCHES

Elizabeth Westbrook is a Cancer Control Specialist with the University of Louisville Kentucky Cancer Program. She has more than 30 years of cancer control experience at the local, regional, and state level. She has served on numerous boards and committees. In addition to managing a 10-county geographic region, she is responsible for providing leadership to Cancer Control Specialists in Western Kentucky. Westbrook has extensive experience in mobilizing and engaging community coalitions and stakeholders. She is involved in promoting tobacco cessation and treatment, cancer prevention and early detection, provider education tools and resources, promoting resources and planning events and networking opportunities for cancer survivors.

Westbrook is Western Kentucky University graduate with a degree in Community Health. She is a Master Certified Health Education Specialist through the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC).

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JOSH OFMAN,, MD, MSHS

Dr. Josh Ofman is Chief Medical Officer and External Affairs at GRAIL. Josh also serves on the Board of Directors of Cell BT, Inc, an immuno-therapy company focused on the discovery and development of innovative cancer therapeutics. Previously, Josh spent more than 15 years at Amgen, where he most recently held the role of Senior Vice President, Global Health Policy. Prior to that, Josh was a faculty member in the Department of Medicine and Health Services Research at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Medicine, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, as well as Senior Vice President of Zynx Health Inc., a subsidiary of Cerner Corp. Josh holds a BA in history and philosophy of science from the University of California, Berkeley, and an MD from the University of California, Irvine, School of Medicine. Josh also has an MSHS from the UCLA School of Public Health