

# NCI Community Cancer Centers Program

## Health Disparities Resources

**Goal:** The purpose of this section is to provide a guide to NCI, NIH, and DHHS cancer health disparities resources and programs for NCCCP sites.

**Audience:** Key Staff at NCCCP sites

### I. Health Disparities Defined

What is a “health disparity?”

“Health disparities are differences in the incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of diseases and other adverse human conditions that exist among specific population groups in the United States.”

<http://healthdisparities.nih.gov/whatare.html>

What are “cancer health disparities?”

The NCI defines “cancer health disparities” as “differences in the incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of cancer and related adverse health conditions that exist among specific population groups in the United States.”

<http://crchd.cancer.gov/definitions/defined.html>

### II. Cancer Health Disparities Background and Reports

These reports and publications have been identified as some of the most influential in the field of cancer health disparities, along with the health disparities research priorities of NCI and NIH.

#### A. Reports and Publications

Examining the Health Disparities Research Plan of the National Institutes of Health: Unfinished Business

<http://www.iom.edu/CMS/3740/22356/33275.aspx>

Eliminating Health Disparities: Strengthening Data on Race, Ethnicity, Language in the U.S.

<http://www.ncvhs.hhs.gov/051107rpt.pdf>

Making Cancer Health Disparities History <http://www.chdprg.omhrc.gov/pdf/chdprg.pdf>

Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care

<http://www.iom.edu/report.asp?id=4475>

Facing Cancer in Indian Country <http://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/pcp/YakamaBook.pdf>

Voices of a Broken System <http://156.40.135.142:8080/webisodes/pcpvideo/ClickHere.html>

The Unequal Burden of Cancer <http://www.iom.edu/CMS/3740/5646.aspx>

Enhancing Interactions to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities: An NCI-wide Workshop

[http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/Final\\_HD\\_Proceedings.pdf](http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/Final_HD_Proceedings.pdf)

Trans-HHS PRG Report <http://www.cancer.gov/newscenter/pressreleases/CHDPRG>

National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics Health Disparities Report

<http://www.ncvhs.hhs.gov/051107rpt.pdf>

## **B. Health Disparities Research Priorities of NCI and NIH**

The NCI Strategic Plan for Leading the Nation to Eliminate the Suffering and Death Due to Cancer  
[http://strategicplan.nci.nih.gov/pdf/nci\\_2007\\_strategic\\_plan.pdf](http://strategicplan.nci.nih.gov/pdf/nci_2007_strategic_plan.pdf)

NIH Strategic Research Plan and Budget to Reduce and Ultimately Eliminate Health Disparities  
[http://ncmhd.nih.gov/our\\_programs/strategic/pubs/VolumeI\\_031003EDrev.pdf](http://ncmhd.nih.gov/our_programs/strategic/pubs/VolumeI_031003EDrev.pdf)

OBSSR Strategic Plan for Health Disparities Research  
[http://obsr.od.nih.gov/Content/Strategic\\_Planning/Health\\_Disparities/HealthDisp.htm](http://obsr.od.nih.gov/Content/Strategic_Planning/Health_Disparities/HealthDisp.htm)

## **III. Assessing the Health Disparities Issues in Your Area**

The facts and figures in this section display the impact of cancer health disparities and have been divided into two sections (1) statistics in health disparities and (2) health disparities statistical tools.

### **A. Statistics in Health Disparities**

NCI Cancer Statistics  
<http://www.cancer.gov/statistics/>

National Center for Health Statistics  
The Nation's principal health statistics agency that compiles statistical information to guide actions and policies to improve the health of all people. <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about.htm>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Health Disparities in Cancer  
<http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/healthdisparities/statistics/ethnic.htm>

Eliminating Health Disparities: Measurement and Data Needs <http://newton.nap.edu/catalog/10979.html>

### **B. Health Disparities Statistical Tools**

NCI Health Information National Trends Survey (HINTS)  
HINTS collects nationally representative data routinely about the American public's use of cancer-related information. <http://hints.cancer.gov/hints/>

Cancer Control P.L.A.N.E.T.  
The Cancer Control P.L.A.N.E.T. is a portal that provides access to data and research-tested resources that can help planners, program staff, and researchers to design, implement, and evaluate evidence-based cancer control programs. <http://cancercontrolplanet.cancer.gov>

SEER Methods for Measuring Disparities  
This report raises some conceptual issues and reviews different methodological approaches germane to measuring progress toward the goal of eliminating cancer-related health disparities.  
<http://seer.cancer.gov/publications/disparities/>

State Cancer Profiles  
The objective of the State Cancer Profiles Web site is to provide a system to characterize the cancer burden in a standardized manner in order to motivate action, integrate surveillance into cancer control planning, characterize areas and demographic groups, and expose health disparities.  
<http://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/help/about/>

## Cancer Mortality Maps & Graphs

The Cancer Mortality Maps & Graph Web Site provides interactive maps, graphs (which are accessible to the blind and visually-impaired), text, tables and figures showing geographic patterns and time trends of cancer death rates for the time period 1950-1994 for more than 40 cancers.

<http://www3.cancer.gov/atlasplus/index.html>

## **IV. Programs in Cancer Health Disparities Research:**

The following sections describe health disparities research and training programs across NCI and NIH.

### **A. NCI**

#### Cancer Disparities Research Partnership Program (CDRP)

The Program supports the planning, development, and conduct of radiation oncology clinical trials in institutions that care for a disproportionate number of medically underserved, low-income, ethnic and minority populations but have not been traditionally involved in NCI-sponsored research. In addition, CDRP supports the planning, development, and implementation of nurturing partnerships between applicant institutions and committed and experienced institutions actively involved in NCI-sponsored cancer research. <http://www3.cancer.gov/rrp/CDRP/index.html>

#### Centers for Population Health and Health Disparities (CPHHD)

The Centers for Population Health and Health Disparities supports transdisciplinary multi-level, integrated research to elucidate the complex interactions of the social and physical environment, mediating behavioral factors, and biologic pathways that determine health and disease in populations, leading to an understanding and reduction of health disparities.

<http://www.dccps.cancer.gov/populationhealthcenters/index.html>

#### Community Networks Program (CNP)

The Community Networks Program (CNP) aims to reduce cancer health disparities through community-based participatory education, training, and research among racial/ethnic minorities and underserved populations. NCI awarded \$95 million in 5-year grants to 25 institutions participating in the CNP that began in May 2005. <http://crchd.cancer.gov/cnp/cnp-project-listing.html>

#### Minority-Based Community Clinical Oncology Program (MBCCOP)

The Minority-Based CCOP will: 1) provide support for expanding clinical research in minority community settings; 2) bring the advantages of state-of-the-art treatment and cancer prevention and control research to minority individuals in their own communities; 3) increase the involvement of primary health care providers and other specialists in cancer prevention and control studies; 4) establish an operational base for extending cancer prevention and control and reducing cancer incidence, morbidity, and mortality in minority populations; and 5) examine selected issues in Minority-Based CCOP performance (e.g., patient recruitment, accrual, eligibility).

<http://www.cancer.gov/prevention/ccop/>

#### Minority Institution/Cancer Center Partnership (MI/CCP)

The objectives of the Minority Institution/Cancer Center Partnership program are to increase the participation of MSIs in the nation's cancer research and research training enterprise, to increase the involvement and effectiveness of the Cancer Centers in research and research training and career development related to minorities, and to develop more effective research, education and outreach programs that will have an impact on minority populations.

<http://minorityopportunities.nci.nih.gov/institutions/miccp.html>

#### NCI Cancer Centers

The NCI and its Cancer Centers Program are dedicated to the advancement of cancer research to ultimately impact on the reduction of cancer incidence, morbidity, and mortality.

<http://cancercenters.cancer.gov/>

#### NCI CURE Program

The CURE (Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences) philosophy of research training and career development builds on the success of *the Research Supplement for Underrepresented Minorities* and strategically addresses each level of the biomedical research and educational pipeline to:

- A) increase the pool of underrepresented minority candidates;
- B) emphasize scientific areas of greatest need; and
- C) expand and extend the period of training and career development

<http://minorityopportunities.nci.nih.gov/mTraining/index.html>

#### Office of Cancer Survivorship (OCS)

The Office of Cancer Survivorship (OCS) supports research examining the physiological, psychosocial, and economic sequelae of cancer and its treatment, and interventions that may ameliorate or prevent them. <http://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/ocs/healthdisp.html>

#### Patient Navigation Research Program (PNRP)

The Patient Navigation Research Program (PNRP) aims to develop innovative patient navigation interventions to reduce or eliminate cancer health disparities and test their efficacy and cost-effectiveness. These interventions are designed to decrease the time between a cancer-related abnormal finding, definitive diagnosis, and delivery of quality standard cancer care services.

<http://crchd.cancer.gov/pnp/pnpr-research-sites.html>

### **B. NIH**

#### Research Centers in Minority Institutions

The Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Program enhances the research capacity and infrastructure at minority colleges and universities that offer doctorates in health sciences.

[http://www.ncrr.nih.gov/resinfra/ri\\_rcmi.asp](http://www.ncrr.nih.gov/resinfra/ri_rcmi.asp)

#### Institutional Development Award (IDeA) Program

The Institutional Development Award (IDeA) Program broadens the geographic distribution of NIH funding for biomedical and behavioral research. The program fosters health-related research and enhances the competitiveness of investigators at institutions located in states where the aggregate success rate for applications to NIH has historically been low.

[http://www.ncrr.nih.gov/resinfra/ri\\_idap.asp](http://www.ncrr.nih.gov/resinfra/ri_idap.asp)

#### Community-Based Participatory Research Program

The goal of this program is to support community intervention research studies using community-based participatory research (CBPR) principles and methods to reduce and eliminate health disparities in any disease or condition of major concern to the community with emphasis on racial and ethnic minorities.

<http://www.nchmd.nih.gov>

#### Centers of Excellence in Partnerships for Community Outreach, Research on Health Disparities and Training (Project EXPORT)

The program aims to build research capacity at designated institutions enrolling a significant number of students from health disparity populations and to promote participation and training in biomedical and behavioral research among health disparity populations.

[http://ncmhd.nih.gov/our\\_programs/project\\_export\\_awards/PrjExpFY03Awards.asp](http://ncmhd.nih.gov/our_programs/project_export_awards/PrjExpFY03Awards.asp)

## **V. Health Disparities Tools & Resources**

Provides links to educational, media, and web health disparities resources.

### **A. Educational**

#### Patient Navigation Research Program Resource Manual

The Patient Navigation Research Program Resource Manual clusters patient education materials (treatment-specific and general cancer support materials) across the cancer continuum to facilitate ease of use by navigators when working with patients facing breast, cervical, prostate or colorectal cancer diagnosis. The material is used as part of NCI's Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities Patient Navigation Research Program, and is also available to clinicians and health educators for use beyond the scope of this research program. The Patient Navigation Research Program Resource Manual can be downloaded in its entirety or by section at: <http://www.ncipoet.org/Patientnavigator/>.

#### SPN *CANCER* Supplement

The *CANCER* Supplement, sponsored by CRCHD, highlights the activities and accomplishments of the Special Populations Networks (SPN) program. SPN was a five-year, nationwide NCI-funded project to reduce cancer health disparities in minority and underserved populations. The *CANCER* Supplement can be downloaded in its entirety or by article at: <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/jissue/113386997?CRETRY=1&SRETRY=0>

#### Excessive Cervical Cancer Mortality

Compilation of recommendations from the more than 180 multidisciplinary experts who participated in the Cervical Cancer Mortality Project convened by NCI's Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities. <http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/excess-cervcanmort.pdf>

#### The Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities Fact Sheet

[http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/crchd\\_factsheet.ppt](http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/crchd_factsheet.ppt)

The Community Networks Program Fact Sheets [http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/cnp\\_factsheet.ppt](http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/cnp_factsheet.ppt)

The Patient Navigation Research Program Fact Sheet

[http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/pnpr\\_factsheet.ppt](http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/pnpr_factsheet.ppt)

#### The Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities Brochure

[http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/crchd\\_brochure.pdf](http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/crchd_brochure.pdf)

The Community Networks Program Brochure [http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/cnp\\_brochure.pdf](http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/cnp_brochure.pdf)

The Patient Navigation Research Program Brochure

[http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/pnpr\\_brochure.pdf](http://crchd.cancer.gov/attachments/pnpr_brochure.pdf)

### **B. Media**

#### Disparities-related NCI News Releases

News releases from the NCI about cancer health disparities.

<http://www.cancer.gov/newscenter/search?keyword=Racial+Disparities&startMonth=1&startYear=1998&endMonth=1&endYear=2007&page=1>

### **C. Web**

NCI Health Disparities Portal <http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/types/disparities>

#### Cancer.gov en Español

The Web site is tailored to the cultural and linguistic online cancer information needs of Latinos in the U.S. Cancer.gov en español addresses themes of prevention, detection and diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship. Highlights of the Web site include myths and beliefs and support as well as resources in the community. <http://www.cancer.gov/espanol>

#### CRCHD E-Bulletin

The CRCHD E-Bulletin is a monthly e-mail communication providing timely information on cancer health disparities research, training, and awareness efforts. Each issue includes: CRCHD announcements; Cancer news from NCI, NIH, and other Federal Agencies; News from the field; Funding, training, and employment opportunities; and Upcoming meetings and events. To subscribe to the CRCHD bulletin visit: <https://list.nih.gov/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=cancer-disparities&A=1>

**For more information on the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities (CRCHD) and cancer health disparities visit: <http://www.crchd.cancer.gov>.**