

**Open Access****Second Annual International African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium Conference**Miami, FL, USA
12-13 May 2008

Edited by Camille C. Ragin and Emanuela Taioli

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Camille Ragin and Emanuela Taioli

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Editor-in-Chief
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Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome you Miami and to the 2nd Annual African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium (AC3) Conference! Thank you for your active participation and interest in the AC3 project. For several years, ongoing studies 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. This meeting builds on the initiatives of collaborators from the University of Pittsburgh and Columbia University and began with a satellite meeting at the Caribbean Health Research Council, 52nd Annual Council and Scientific meeting on May 4, 2007 in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

The African Caribbean Cancer Consortium focuses on the study of viral, genetic, environmental, and lifestyle risk factors for cancer in populations of African descent and provides a unique collaborative opportunity for cancer research among investigators throughout the various islands in the Caribbean, United States and Africa. To date we have 45 active research investigators that are members of the AC3 and 7 ongoing research projects that involve a number of sites in the United States, The Bahamas, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Nigeria.

I extend a special welcome to our international attendees. Thanks to generous awards from the University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health and the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute we are able to host all of the AC3 member scientists. I would also like to thank our sponsor Roche Diagnostics for their generous support of this meeting.

This Conference could not have been made possible without the dynamic contributions of our Organizing Committee. I am also deeply grateful to our Scientific Review Committee for their evaluation of the abstracts that were submitted. Last but certainly not least, I must also thank the AC3 advisory board for their full support of this project.

I am confident that you will find the content of this conference of great interest. I hope that you will enjoy the science and of course, seeing old friends and making new ones!

Warmest regards,



Camille C. Ragin

Camille C. Ragin, PhD, MPH
Principal Investigator, African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium Project
Assistant Professor of Epidemiology
University of Pittsburgh

Organizing Committee



Pictured: Barbara Stadterman, Stacy Eckstein, Jamie Murphy

Stacy Eckstein, MT (ASCP), is a Research Specialist in the Department of Epidemiology, University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, and Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Science at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute.

Jamie Murphy, BA Journalism and Public Relations, is an Administrative Assistant in the Department of Epidemiology, University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, and Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Science at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute.

Barbara Stadterman, BS Biology and Chemistry, is a Research Specialist in the Department of Epidemiology, University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, and Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Science at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute.

Natalie Thurman, BS Biology, is a Research Specialist in the Department of Epidemiology, University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, and Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Science at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute.

Delegate Information

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The registration and information table is located at the Concierge Desk on the second floor near the conference rooms.

SESSION ROOMS

All Monday sessions will be held in the Yankee Clipper Room.

On Tuesday our main sessions will take place in Pan Am 4. During the concurrent sessions to discuss future studies the Prostate group will meet in Pan Am 4, while the Cervical and Head and Neck group will meet in Fairchild and Breast group will meet in Sikorsky.

CELL PHONES AND BEEPERS

As a courtesy to your colleagues, please turn off your cell phone or beeper, or set it on "vibrate" before you enter any room in which a lecture session is taking place

MEALS AND BREAKS

A lunch buffet will be served in the Rickenbacker Restaurant on Monday and Tuesday.

On Monday evening, the cocktail reception and poster viewing will be held in the in the Pan Am Ballroom followed by dinner in the Rickenbacker Restaurant.

A continental breakfast will be available Tuesday morning in the foyer area of the Pan Am Ballroom

Continuous refreshments will be available in the conference room break area on Monday afternoon and all day Tuesday.

POSTERS

Posters will be on display in the Pan Am Ballroom. Please note that any poster not removed by 6pm on Tuesday will be discarded

NO SMOKING

Please be reminded that smoking is not permitted in any public areas with the exception of the area in front of the hotel and by the pool.

LOST AND FOUND

Please contact the hotel's front desk for assistance with any lost items

INTERNET CAFÉ

The Internet Café is located in the lobby south of the front desk.

The internet is accessible for conference participants is also available in the Business Center which is located on the second floor near the Concierge Desk. The Business Center is open from 8am until 6 pm Monday through Friday.

LOST AND FOUND

Please contact the hotel's front desk for assistance with any lost items.

PARKING

There is a parking garage on the east side of the hotel. Self parking is included in your conference package free of charge. Please stop at the valet stand before entering to get the code of the day.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE

MIA has foreign currency exchange booths at six locations on Level 2 and in the Concourse E Greeter's Lobby on Level 1. The booth in Concourse E operates from 5:30 A.M. to 11 P.M.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

You may access the surrounding Miami area by train, bus or taxi all of which can be accessed at or near the hotel.

TAXES

The sales tax for the city of Miami is 7% and the hotel tax is 13%.

TIPPING

The current accepted rate for tipping is between 18% and 25 %.

HOTEL CHECK IN: 3:00 pm
CHECK OUT: 11:00 am

LUGGAGE HOLDING

If you are leaving on Tuesday after the conference we will have a room available in our meeting area to safely store your luggage until the conference has ended.

Invited Speakers

Raleigh Butler, MD,

Dr. Raleigh Butler received his Bachelor of Medicine; Bachelor of Surgery Degree from the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica after being awarded a scholarship by Bahamas Supermarket. In May of 1990 he was awarded his Membership and certification into the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, United Kingdom.

He then served as the Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in Freeport Grand Bahama, Bahamas at the Rand Memorial Hospital. He soon became aware of the paucity of oncology service within his beloved country and was inspired to pursue career in that field.

He received a Commonwealth scholarship where he joined Professor Campbell's research team at the University of Southampton in England focusing on molecular genetics in specific the genes that may be used as indicators of gynecological malignancies. He co-authored several publications during that period including "Loss of Heterozygosis on chromosomes 4, 5, 9, and 11 as a feature of cervical intra-epithelial neoplasia and cervical carcinoma tumorigenesis"

On leaving Southampton, he worked at the first recognized gynecologic oncology unit in the world with Dr. John Monaghan at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Newcastle, England, prior to completing his fellowship in Gynecology Oncology at the University of Toronto in June 2000.

Since returning to the Bahamas he has served in the capacity of Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Director of Gynecologic Oncology and Surgical Oncology at the Princess Margaret Hospital, Nassau. He serves as the national coordinator for cervix cancer prevention in the Bahamas, a member of the Pan American Health Organization cervical cancer working group for the Latin America, Chairman of Tumor Board and Director of Oncology services, and Associate Lecturer at the University of the West Indies Nassau Bahamas.

His research interest include, screening for cervical cancer via visual inspection of the cervix, cervical cancer and HIV, neoadjuvant chemotherapy for ovarian cancer, role of nodal debulking in treatments of cervical cancer.

Invited Speakers... cont'

Folakemi T. Odedina, Ph.D.

Dr. Odedina is Full Professor and Division Director of the Economic, Social and Administrative Pharmacy division at Florida A&M University (FAMU.) She is also the Director of the FAMU Center for Minority Prostate Cancer Training and Research; a member of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center; and Visiting Professor at the MD Anderson Cancer Center. Dr. Odedina was a recent recipient of the 2006-07 U.S. Fulbright Scholar Award. As the 2006-07 African Regional Research Fulbright Scholar to Nigeria, Dr. Odedina represented the US in Nigeria to establish open communication and long-term cooperative relationships for cancer research and training.

Dr. Odedina's general research focus is on *health promotion and disease prevention in African American men*. Primary interest is to develop a comprehensive intervention to eliminate prostate cancer disparities experienced by African American men. Ongoing research includes (1) The development of a behavioral model to explain the participation of African American men in prostate cancer screening; (2) Exploring factors influencing African American men's participation in cancer clinical trials, and (3) Migration study of prostate cancer among Black men of West African ancestry.

Dr. Odedina's research traverses across the world with an international consortium group in Africa, Europe and the U.S. She is well funded and well published and has received numerous awards for her work, including the 2007 American Association for Cancer Research – MSI Faculty Award in Cancer Research; 2006-2007 Fulbright Scholar Award; 2005 Role Model Award Citation by Minority Access Inc; 2004 Association of Black Health-system Pharmacists Research and Publication Achievement Award; 2004 FAMU Superior Accomplishment Award; 2004 Community Service Award for FAMU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; and 2002 & 1998 American Association for Cancer Research – HBCU Faculty Award in Cancer Research. She is noted in several publications of Who's Who.

Dr. Odedina serves on several international, national and state initiatives for cancer, including the Transatlantic Scientific Organization, Nigerian Cancer Community Advisory Group, Nigeria Cancer Consultative Committee, and the 2005 Florida Prostate Cancer Advisory Committee. She has served as the Interim Co-Chair for the Florida Cancer Plan Council and co-chairs the Florida Northwest Cancer Collaborative Group. Dr. Odedina's community outreach and services includes the creation of two TV programs, CancerLink© and HealthLink©, for community education on health issues. She is currently the Principal Investigator on a prostate cancer project to develop a theoretical framework for prostate cancer disparity among African American men. The U.S. Army Medical and Material Command fund this project.

As Director of the FAMU Center for Minority Prostate Cancer Training and Research, Dr. Odedina directs a prostate cancer research program that includes three pilot projects: (i) Racial/ethnic differences in prostate cancer risk and protective factors in the State of Florida; (ii) Microarray Comparison of Prostate Tumor Gene Expression in African American Men and in Caucasian Men; and (iii) The Role of Culture and Perceived Stress in African American Males' Prostate Cancer Screening Behavior.

Invited Speakers... cont'

Emanuela Taioli MD PhD

Dr. Taioli obtained her Medical Degree Magna cum Laude from the University of Milano, where she also completed her Residency in Cardiology. Her research work during that period was concentrated on the epidemiology of cardiovascular diseases and hypertension. Later she obtained an MS and a PhD in Epidemiology from Columbia University.

Dr. Taioli worked under a NATO fellowship at the American Health Foundation in New York, and then as Assistant Professor in the Department of Environmental Medicine at New York University. During that period, she conducted studies on genetic susceptibility to environmental factors in lung and breast cancer, and differences in estrogen metabolism with ethnicity in women. She was also involved in the study of environmental exposure to carcinogens in several superfund areas, among which Jersey City.

Subsequently Dr. Taioli accepted a position as Director of the Unit of Molecular and Genetic Epidemiology at the main University Hospital in Milano, Italy. She became the PI of the GSEC project, an International Study on Genetic Susceptibility to Environmental Carcinogens started in 1997, funded by the European Commission for Research. It is a pooled analysis of individual epidemiologic and genetic data including over 120,000 subjects, currently physically located at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI.) This study has given origin to numerous collaborative peer reviewed publications.

Dr Taioli served as technical advisor to the Italian Ministry of Health between 2002 and 2004. In that capacity, she was member of the European High Group of Reflection on Patients Mobility.

In 2005 she moved to Pittsburgh, where she accepted a position as Professor of Epidemiology in the School of Public Health, and Professor of Hematology and Oncology in the Medical School at the University of Pittsburgh. She is also the Director of the Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Science at UPCI.

Dr Taioli is the first recipient of the Endowed Chair in Cancer Prevention established at the University of Pittsburgh by a cancer survivor, Mr. Arnold Palmer. She is the co-author of over 200 peer reviewed papers.

Wallis Best Plummer PhD

Dr. Plummer is a former Lecturer at the University of Guyana 1988-2007 and is currently working as a freelance consultant in health research. She studied at the University of Guyana, University of Connecticut, Storrs, and University of the West Indies St. Augustine. Dr. Plummer is the recipient of LASPAU/Fulbright scholarship, Commonwealth Foundation Fellowship and PhD Training grant from the WHO/UNDP/World Bank Special Programmed for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases. Her PhD research focused on the epidemiology of malaria in Guyana and mechanisms of *P. falciparum* resistance to the antimalarials quinine and chloroquine. Interest in cancer evolved out of a student project which led to the creation of a cancer support club, The Periwinkle Club of Guyana, and a greater involvement in the work of the Cancer Registry of Guyana. The Periwinkle Club is registered as a not-for-profit company, and focuses on providing material and emotional support to cancer survivors during and post-treatment. It is also dedicated to educating the public on cancer prevention strategies and works collaboratively with the Guyana Cancer Registry on cancer awareness in Guyana.

Invited Speakers... cont'

Ms. Veronica Roach

In 1994, she was appointed Registrar to the Dr. Elizabeth Quamina Cancer Registry, the National Cancer Registry of Trinidad and Tobago. During her tenure as Registrar, she has received training in both basic and advanced Principles and Practice of Cancer Registration, Surveillance and Control. She also completed a program in Cancer Registration and Epidemiology at the International Agency for Research in Cancer, Lyons France. She is currently Acting Director of the Trinidad and Tobago Cancer Registry.

Michael N. Okobia, MD, Ph.D

Dr. Okobia obtained MBBS degree from the University of Benin in Nigeria in 1986. Dr. Okobia completed his residency training in surgery in Nigeria at the end of which he obtained fellowship of the National Postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria in Surgery (FMCS, 1994) and the West African College of Surgeons (FWACS, 1997). He had graduate training at the Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh obtaining a Masters degree in Epidemiology (MPH, 2001) and a Ph.D in Molecular Epidemiology (2005). He currently serves as an Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Benin in Nigeria and Consultant Surgeon/Oncologist at the University of Benin Teaching Hospital. In addition, he also serves as a Visiting Assistant Professor at the Department of Epidemiology and Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Science of UPCI. He is involved in academic research in the past decade and his main research interests are in the area of breast and prostate cancer. Dr. Okobia is responsible for developing the Cancer Registry at the University of Benin.

Program at a Glance

Monday May 12	Tuesday May 13
	Breakfast 7:30
	Breast Cancer Keynote Speaker Poster Session I
	Break 9:45
	Cancer Registration
Poster Set-up	
Lunch 12:00	Lunch 12:00
Opening Statement	
Prostate Cancer and HHV8 Keynote Speaker Poster Session I	Poster Viewing
	Future Studies – running concurrently Prostate Cancer Cervical and Head and Neck Breast Cancer
Break 2:45	
Cervical and other HPV Associated Cancers Keynote Speaker Poster Session II	Breakout Session Reports Closing Remarks
Sample Collection, Data Sharing and Confidentiality	Poster Removal
Building Infrastructure for Multi- Centered Studies	
Poster Viewing and Discussion Welcome Reception and Dinner	

Program Agenda-May 12th, 2008

11:00 - 12:00 Registration & Poster set-up

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch - The Rickenbacker Restaurant

1:00 - 1:15 Opening Statements and Welcome - Yankee Clipper

Session I: 1:15 - 2:45 Prostate Cancer and HHV8 Infections in Populations of African Descent
Yankee Clipper
Chairpersons: Clareann Bunker, PhD, University of Pittsburgh, USA
Robin Roberts, MD, University of the West Indies, The Bahamas

**Tracing the Root of Prostate Cancer Disparities in Black Men:
From West Africa to Caribbean Islands to United Kingdom.**

Keynote Speaker: *Folakemi T. Odedina PhD, Florida A&M University, USA*

ORAL POSTER SESSION I

MicroArray Analysis Uncovers Differential Gene Expression in Prostate Tumors
between African-American and Caucasian American Men
R. Renee Reams

Surgical versus Medical Castration in the Bahamas: A Male Macho Paradox
Robin Roberts

Are food patterns associated with risk of prostate cancer in Jamaican men?
Maria Jackson

The Role of Meat, Fish, and Egg Intake in Prostate Cancer Risk among Nigerians
Flora Ukoli

Physicians Affective and Cognitive Variables Differentially Predict
"Initiation" versus "Maintenance" PSA Screening Profiles in Groups of
Caribbean Men
Nathan Consedine

2:45 - 3:00 Break

Program Agenda... cont'

Session II: 3:00 - 4:15 Cervical and Other HPV - Associated Cancers in Populations of African Descent
Yankee Clipper

*Chairpersons: Camille C. Ragin, PhD, MPH, University of Pittsburgh, USA
Norma McFarlane-Anderson, PhD, University of the West Indies, Jamaica*

Fact, Frictions and Fractions, HPV The Bahamian Experience

Keynote Speaker: *Raleigh Butler, MD, University of the West Indies, The Bahamas*

ORAL POSTER SESSION II

Hormonal contraceptive use in Jamaican women: is there an association with cervical lesions?

Norma McFarlane-Anderson

Common Cancers of the Afro-Guyanese Population: A silent issue for too long

Wallis Best Plummer

HPV and HIV: The Untold Story in Paradise

Dionne Dames

Comparison of type-specific distribution of HPV infections in populations of African descent

Camille Ragin

Special Topics:

4:15 - 5:45 Sample Collection, Data Sharing and Confidentiality
Yankee Clipper

Emanuela Taioli, University of Pittsburgh

The collection and storage of data and samples as well as the importance of standardization will be addressed.

Building Infrastructure for Multi-Center Studies

Judith Jacobson, Columbia University

This session will discuss the decisions and steps necessary in obtaining funding and implementing your collaborative study.

Program Agenda...cont'

6:00 - 8:00 Poster viewing / Poster discussion -Pan Am 4
Cocktail Reception - Pan Am Foyer
- Cash Bar

7:00 - 9:00 Dinner - The Rickenbacker Restaurant

Program Agenda-May 13th, 2008

7:30 - 8:30 Continental breakfast - Pan Am Foyer

Session I: 8:30 - 9:45 Breast Cancer in Populations of African Descent
Pan Am 4
Chairpersons: Emanuela Taioli, MD, PhD, University of Pittsburgh, USA
Michael Okobia, MD, University of Benin, Nigeria

Breast Cancer in Populations of African Descent

Keynote Speaker: *Emanuela Taioli, MD, PhD, University of Pittsburgh, USA*

ORAL POSTER SESSION I

Breast cancer incidence and mortality in Barbados, West Indies

Anselm Hennis

Leptin receptor Gln223Arg polymorphism and breast cancer risk in Nigerian women: A case control study

Michael Okobia

Neutropenia in Six Ethnic Groups from the Caribbean and the United States

Judith Jacobson

9:45 - 10:00 Break

Special Topics:

Pan Am 4 10:00 -11:30 Cancer Registration
Speakers: Veronica Roach – Dr. Elizabeth Quamina Cancer Registry
Wallis Best Plummer – Guyana Cancer Registry

Panelists: Veronica Roach, Wallis Best Plummer, Michael Okobia

This session will involve presentations of data from two existing cancer registries in the Caribbean. Panelists will discuss the establishments of cancer registries and the cancer registration process in developing countries.

12:00 - 2:00 Lunch - The Rickenbacker Restaurant

Poster viewing

Program Agenda...cont'

Breakout Sessions:

Locations as listed	2:00 - 3:00	Future studies and collaborations (concurrent): <i>Prostate cancer</i> - Pan Am 4 <i>Cervical and Head and Neck cancers</i> - Fairchild <i>Breast cancer</i> - Sikorsky
	3:00 - 3:45	Breakout session reports - Pan Am 4 Closing remarks and wrap-up
	4:15 - 5:30	Poster removal