

National Cancer Institute

Division of Cancer Prevention



**Nutritional
Science
Research
Group**

U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes
of Health

ABOUT US

The Nutritional Science Research Group (NSRG) is located within the Division of Cancer Prevention (DCP) at the National Cancer Institute (NCI), which is one of the 27 institutes and centers at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The NSRG plans, develops, directs, and coordinates extramural research programs in diet, nutrition, and cancer as it relates to cancer prevention. The NSRG also:

1. Generates and tests hypotheses relating diet to the causation and prevention of cancer
2. Develops quantitative methods to monitor nutritionally relevant biomarkers for cancer prevention
3. Fosters research to identify the molecular action of bioactive food components
4. Oversees diet, nutrition, and cancer activities, coordinating these with related activities in other research and health agencies

RESEARCH PRIORITIES

In fiscal year 2005, NIH led all federal agencies in support for nutrition research and training, spending about \$1.0 billion. NCI contributed 22% of the funds, according to the Human Nutrition Research Information Management (HNRIM) Database. NCI support for nutrition research comes from the NSRG, other groups within the DCP, and many other areas within the institute. NSRG research priorities include:

- Nutritional modulation of genetic pathways
- Diet, epigenetic events, and cancer prevention
- Diet-induced changes in cancer processes
- Nutrient interactions
- Temporal exposure to bioactive food components and cancer risk
- Validation of biomarkers for exposure, effect, and susceptibility
- Use of surrogate markers to determine the impact of bioactive food components on cancer

SCIENTIFIC STAFF AND INTEREST AREAS

John Milner, PhD; Chief

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nutrigenomics; breast cancer; phytochemicals; allyl sulfurs

Cindy Davis, PhD

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nutrient interactions; exfoliated cells; colon cancer; selenium

Nancy Emenaker, PhD, RD

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genetic polymorphisms; angiogenesis; metastasis; colon cancer; butyrate; fiber

Young Kim, PhD

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molecular targets; inflammation; prostate cancer; indole-3-carbinole

Sharon Ross, PhD, MPH

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diet & epigenetics; obesity; pancreatic cancer; folate; tea polyphenols

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toxicology; chemistry; carcinogenesis; mutagenesis; mutagenesis; lung cancer

Elaine Trujillo, MS, RD

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clinical nutrition; nutrition education

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database and statistical analysis

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Nutrition and Cancer Prevention Research Practicum

The practicum is a one-week educational opportunity for post-baccalaureate nutrition students, dietetic interns, dietitians, and graduate students sponsored jointly with the Department of Nutrition at the NIH Clinical Center. The practicum provides specialized instruction in the role of diet as modifiers of cancer incidence and tumor behavior. The program includes pre-clinical and clinical findings related to the following topics in cancer prevention:

- Cancer Trends
- Bioactive Food Components
- Nutrigenomics
- Molecular Targets and Biomarkers
- Bioenergetics
- Nutrition-Related Databases
- Ethics and Health-Related Messages

The practicum is typically held every March. Contact Elaine Trujillo (trujille@mail.nih.gov) for more information.

"Stars in Nutrition and Cancer" Lecture Series



This lecture series features extraordinary contributors or "stars" in the field of cancer and nutrition research. Speakers highlight the important role that nutrition plays in modifying cancer development. The lectures aim to facilitate interdisciplinary interactions among basic scientists, clinicians, and behavioral and social scientists. Lectures typically occur each fall and spring. For more details about this series and other events, visit: www.cancer.gov/prevention/nutrition/events.html

NUTRITION LISTSERV

The Nutritional Science Research Group offers a listserv which provides updates on the latest NCI funding opportunities, workshops, and other resources related to nutrition and cancer prevention. To subscribe to the NSRG listserv:

1. Send an email to LISTSERV@LIST.NIH.GOV.
2. Include the following within the text of the email:
SUBSCRIBE NUTRITIONCANCER
3. More information on LISTSERV commands can be found by sending the message HELP in the text of E-mail to LISTSERV@LIST.NIH.GOV.

COLLABORATIONS

The NSRG collaborates with national and international, federal, non-profit, and professional organizations related to nutritional science research and cancer prevention, including:

- Across the National Institutes of Health
- U. S. Food and Drug Administration
- U. S. Department of Agriculture
- U. S. National Science Foundation
- American Institute of Cancer Research
- American Dietetic Association
- World Cancer Research Fund

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