Cancer Control
Research Training

UR MEDICINE | WILMOT CANCER INSTITUTE

Patient Oriented Research Curriculum

1. REQUIRED LECTURE:

"Biobehavioral Research in Cancer Prevention and Control" (by G. Morrow)

Topics: Issues of recruitment, sampling, design, assessment points, primary and secondary endpoints, patient assessment burden, forms design, database development, aspects of implementing and conducting cancer control clinical trials in a medical setting.

2. REQUIRED CORE COURSES:

(1) Social and Behavioral Medicine (PM 426) The course will focus on: 1) the application of behavioral, sociological, and anthropological science approaches to the etiology, prevention, treatment, and management of physical disease and illness; and 2) the identification of relationships among behavioral, sociological, anthropological, and biological factors in health. Students will acquire a familiarity with current theoretical and methodological issues in social and behavioral medicine, develop an understanding of evidence-based health promotion/disease prevention interventions in different content areas, consider cross-cultural perspectives, and develop critical thinking skills necessary to evaluate the research literature in these areas. **(D. Ossip-Klein is course coordinator, G. Morrow, J. Roscoe, K. Mustian, M. Janelsins, L. Peppone, C. Kamen)**

(2) Design of Clinical Trials (BST 465) Design, conduct, and analysis of clinical trials. Sample size, power, and randomization. Coordination, data management, compliance, interim analysis, and reporting procedures.

3. ELECTIVE COURSES:

- Biopsychology of Social and Clinical Behaviors (PSY 113)
- Social Psychology and Individual Differences (CSP 161)
- "He said...She said...:" Gender Differences in Communication (PSY 192Q)
- Neuropsychology (BCS 242)
- Behavioral Medicine (CSP 283)
- Exploring Research in Family Psychology I (PSY 377)

- Research in Motivation (PSY 398)
- Psychology of Health (CSP 568)

4. REQUIRED CORE SEMINARS:

Introduction to Clinical Research at the University of Rochester (July of 1st year)

This series constitutes four one-hour seminars, which will introduce the trainee to opportunities for transdisciplinary investigation within the University of Rochester and its Medical Center. These initial seminars will provide an overview of the types of clinical research taking place at the University, including patient oriented research, epidemiology, behavioral sciences and health services research. The goal of these sessions is to initiate the planning for each trainee's individual curriculum and research project as early as possible, and facilitate the identification of local research resources, populations, and databases.

Enhancing Clinical Research Skills

In the second semester of Year 1 (16 weeks) and the fall of Year 2 (14 weeks), weekly workshops will be held to improve the trainee's skills in clinical research. In Year 1, the skills of scientific communication will be the focus of the seminars. Trainees will initiate a writing project (e.g., a literature review, scientific proposal, case study, manuscript of prior research) which will be reviewed for clarity, organization, and content. Skills in critiquing a manuscript will also be taught at this time. Trainees will learn the principles of presentation of scientific work, including public speaking, working with the media, preparation of abstracts, preparation of slides, and the development of posters.

Techniques of computer-based presentation, including an introduction (or more advanced instruction, as befits the individual trainee) to software programs such as PowerPoint will be included. At the end of this series, the trainee will be able to prepare and present his/her results in written, visual, or oral form clearly and concisely. Under the supervision of their mentors, they will prepare and submit an abstract of some aspect of their ongoing research for presentation at a relevant scientific meeting such as the Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM), Multinational Association for Supportive Care in Cancer (MASCC), American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) or another.

University of Rochester NCI Community Oncology Research Program (URCC NCORP) Research Base

NCI Community Oncology Research Program: The NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP) is a national network of investigators, cancer care providers, academic institutions, and other organizations funded by the NCI. NCORP conducts multi-site cancer clinical trials in diverse populations in community-based healthcare systems across the United States. The overarching goal of NCORP is to bring cancer clinical trials (cancer control, prevention, screening, treatment, and imaging), as well as cancer care delivery research (CCDR), to individuals in their own communities, thus generating a broadly applicable evidence base that contributes to improved patient outcomes and a reduction in cancer disparities. The two components of the NCORP program are NCORP Research Bases and NCORP Community Sites.

NCORP Community Sites are consortia of community hospitals and/or oncology practices, and integrated healthcare systems. Sites accrue participants to cancer prevention, control, screening and

post-treatment surveillance clinical trials conducted by NCORP and to NCI's National Clinical Trials Network treatment, imaging and quality of life trials. NCORP's cancer care delivery research and comparative effectiveness studies may include patients, providers and their health organizations. Minority/Underserved (M/U) Community Sites are similar to Community Sites, but with patient populations comprised of at least 30% racial/ethnic minorities or rural residents. There are 46 NCORP Community and M/U Sites throughout the United States.

NCORP Research Bases are hubs that design and conduct the NCORP multi-center cancer prevention, control, screening and post-treatment surveillance clinical trials and cancer care delivery research (CCDR) studies. Research Bases consist of researchers with comprehensive expertise in cancer clinical trials. The bases are funded by the NCI to provide the established infrastructure including: administration, data management, scientific and statistical leadership, study operational processes and personnel, and regulatory compliance for clinical trials and cancer care delivery research.

University of Rochester NCI Community Oncology Research Program (URCC NCORP) Research Base: The URCC NCORP Research Base is one of seven currently funded research bases and has been continuously funded since the program was launched in 1983. Gary Morrow is the PI and Karen Mustian is the Deputy Director. Nineteen of the 46 Community Sites are associated with the Research Base. The Research Base is comprised of more than 40 faculty and staff with specific expertise that are responsible for ensuring the successful completion of trials. The Research Base has successfully implemented over 40 large (N ranging from 300 to 1500), multicenter pilot, phase II and phase III randomized and non-randomized clinical trials in the area of side effect management and cancer control. The following is a list of recent studies:

Active	Assessment of Cognitive Function in Breast Cancer and Lymphoma Patients Receiving Chemotherapy at Pre-Treatment, Post-Treatment, and at Six Month Follow-Up
	A Randomized Clinical Trial Comparing the Effectiveness of Yoga, Survivorship Health Education, and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Treating Insomnia in Cancer Survivors
	Multisite Feasibility Study of Electronic Patient Reported Data Capture for Symptoms in Patients with Lung Cancer
	Treatment of Refractory Nausea
	Phase II Study of Exercise and Low-Dose Ibuprofen for Cognitive Impairment in Colorectal Cancer Patients Receiving Chemotherapy
	Feasibility Pilot to Examine Adjuvant Treatment Decisions of Older Adults with Cancer Using Conjoint Analysis
	Novel Accelerometer Methods for Assessing Physical Activity in a Clinical Trial of Yoga Versus CBT-I for Insomnia in Cancer Survivors
Recently Completed	Feasibility, Acceptability and Mechanisms of Brief Behavioral Therapy (BBT) for Sleep Problems During Chemotherapy: A Phase II Randomized Controlled Trial
	A Study of the Effects of Exercise on Cancer-Related Fatigue
	Evaluation of Psychoeducation for Cancer Patients Eligible for Clinical Trials
	Feasibility of Omega-3 Supplementation for Cancer-Related Fatigue
	Effectiveness of Prophylactic Topical Agents for Radiation Dermatitis
	Using Genetic and Epigenetic Aging Biomarkers to Predict Cognitive Impairments in Breast Cancer and Lymphoma Patients Receiving Chemotherapy Compared to Controls Across the Age Continuum
	Cancer-Related Fatigue and Cognitive Impairment: An Investigation to Identify Inflammatory Mechanistic Pathways From Gene Expression to Protein Synthesis
	ω-3 Polyunsaturated Fatty Acids for Cancer-Related Fatigue and Cancer-Related Cognitive Impairment: A Translational Study into Inflammation Mechanisms