

Rural Cancer Workgroup

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Workgroup Mission

- The CPCRNC Rural Cancer Workgroup, first established in 2018, explores issues related to cancer prevention, control, and treatment in rural areas.
- Our objective is to leverage the resources, expertise, and relationships of the national CPCRNC to conduct impactful and innovative rural cancer research to improve outcomes for rural residents and capacity for rural health care providers/organizations.
- Includes representatives from 7 CPCRNC sites, and affiliates from UNM, OHSU, UKY, UCF, St. Jude's Comprehensive Cancer Center, Moffitt Cancer Center, American Cancer Society, and the Geographic Health Equity Alliance

Workgroup Products/Highlights from Past Projects

- Completed financial toxicity projects from the previous grant cycle included two published papers in *Supportive Care in Cancer* and the [Journal of Rural Health](#) and one in press at the *Journal of Cancer Survivorship*
- Rural-relevant cancer work from many CPCRNC sites was highlighted in the [Rural Monitor](#) (the 6th most-read article of 2021)

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

THE JOURNAL OF RURAL HEALTH



Interventions to address cancer-related financial toxicity: Recommendations from the field

Jean Edward PhD, RN¹ | Victoria M. Petermann BSN, RN² | Jan M. Eberth PhD³ | Whitney E. Zahnd PhD⁴ | Robin C. Vanderpool DrPH⁵ | Natoshia Askelson MPH, PhD⁶ | Catherine L. Rohweder DrPH⁷ | Sarah Koopman Gonzalez PhD⁸ | Lindsay R. Stradtman MPH⁹ | Linda K. Ko PhD, MPH¹⁰ | Paige E. Farris MSW¹¹

Supportive Care in Cancer
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00520-021-06577-z>

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



How cancer programs identify and address the financial burdens of rural cancer patients

Victoria Petermann¹ · Whitney E. Zahnd² · Robin C. Vanderpool³ · Jan M. Eberth² · Catherine Rohweder¹ · Randall Teal¹ · Maihan Vu¹ · Lindsay Stradtman³ · Elizabeth Frost⁴ · Erika Trapl⁴ · Sarah Koopman Gonzalez⁴ · Thuy Vu⁵ · Linda K. Ko^{5,6} · Allison Cole⁵ · Paige E. Farris⁷ · Jackilen Shannon⁷ · Jessica Lee² · Natoshia Askelson⁸ · Laura Seegmiller⁸ · Arica White⁹ · Jean Edward² · Melinda Davis⁷ · Stephanie B. Wheeler³

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Current Focal Areas

- Assessing engagement of rural stakeholders and data in the development of comprehensive cancer control plans
- Secondary data analyses of rural-urban cancer disparities
- DEI Subcommittee
 - A survey of our workgroup members indicated that intersection of rurality and other identities (e.g., race/ethnicity) was the most prevalent area of research interest

Rural Inclusion in Comprehensive Cancer Control Planning

- Content analysis of the inclusion of rural in current cancer plans (manuscript published in [Preventing Chronic Diseases](#))
- Conducted interviews with 30 cancer program directors to understand the inclusion and engagement of rural stakeholders in cancer plan development (analysis underway, writing group to be formed)
 - Plans to conduct a separate set of interviews with tribal organizations and territories
- CPCRn scholar is developing a resource for program directors on rural-relevant data and other resources for plan development

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ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Extent of Inclusion of “Rural” in Comprehensive Cancer Control Plans in the United States

Cathryn Murphy^{1,2}; Sydney Evans, BA³; Natoshia Askelson, PhD⁴;
Jan M. Eberth, PhD^{2,5}; Whitney E. Zahnd, PhD²

Secondary Data Analyses of Rural-Urban Cancer Disparities

HINTS data:

- Explore the impact of changing rural-urban definitions on access to care (in press at *Health Services Research*)
- Rural-urban differences in patient-provider communication across (stratified by) the Delta, Appalachia, and the rest of U.S. (paper in development)

National Cancer Database:

- Examine differential treatment paths, timing, and/or quality in urban vs. rural cancer patients seen at CoC-accredited centers (analysis ongoing)

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Subcommittee

- Differences in access to and use of telehealth services across racial/ethnic groups in rural America using HINTS and UDS data (discussion ongoing)
- Assessment of inclusion in equity-related metrics in cancer accreditation and certifications for hospitals (ongoing work with plans to submit an abstract for a special issue of *Preventing Chronic Diseases* this spring)

Opportunities for Involvement



We welcome anyone to join the workgroup and subcommittee to engage in ongoing projects and propose/lead new collaborative projects



We invite collaborations with other workgroups on topics of shared interest



During monthly meetings in 2022, we will have a “member spotlight” in which members will have the opportunity to share about their ongoing research, new ideas, etc. that may spur new workgroup projects or collaborative opportunities

Questions and Contact Info

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