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Research Digest - May 2015

Division of Public Health Sciences, Department of Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine
in St. Louis

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Research Digest

May 2015

From the Division of Public Health Sciences, Department of Surgery
Graham A. Colditz, MD, DrPH, *Chief*

Study shows who's using brachytherapy for ductal carcinoma in situ and risks of second breast tumors



| Cancer Treatment Research |

Ying Liu, MD, PhD; Graham Colditz, MD, DrPH; et al.

Published in *Breast Cancer Research and Treatment*

[PubMed](#) | [Liu Profile](#) | [Colditz Profile](#)

Plain language, familiar comparisons and stories can simplify health insurance enrollment



| Health Communication Research |

Mary Politi, PhD; et al.

Published in *Medical Decision Making*

[PubMed](#) | [Politi Profile](#) | [Press Release](#)

Presenting genome sequencing results: women with early breast cancer want choice, actionable results



| Health Communication Research |

Melody Goodman, PhD; Jennifer Ivanovich, MS; et al.

Published in *Clinical Genetics*

[PubMed](#) | [Goodman Profile](#) | [Ivanovich Profile](#)

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Division News Briefs

- The Division of Public Health Sciences congratulates [Adetunji Toriola, MD, PhD](#), assistant professor of surgery, on **receiving a Career Catalyst Research Grant (Basic/Translational)** from the Susan G. Komen organization. The three-year, \$447,092 grant will support a project called "Receptor Activator of Nuclear Factor-kB (RANK)-Axis and Mammographic Density." This study will investigate the associations of circulating levels of RANK pathway biomarkers with percent mammographic density. Further, it will determine how changes in biomarker levels over a one-year period are associated with percent mammographic density over the same period of time.
- The new **St. Louis Patient Research Advisory Board (PRAB)** is now accepting proposal and project review submissions from St. Louis investigators and organizations that are doing community-engaged or community-based health research. The PRAB will serve in an advisory role to academic researchers on issues of community engagement, building trust, and ethical considerations of research and study design. The PRAB will ensure grant proposals and research activities are comprehensive, ethical, professional, authentic, accurate, and use measures that can be realistically implemented in identified community settings. The PRAB was founded by and consists of alumni from the Community Research Fellows Training Program (CRFT) at the Washington University School of Medicine, a 15-week course on research methods for community



ABOUT US

This newsletter provides a select summary of research news from the Division of Public Health Sciences.

We are a team of researchers and clinicians dedicated to preventing disease, improving health outcomes, and promoting quality and access to health care.

The Division of Public Health Sciences is part of the [Department of Surgery](#).

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[Division Website](#)

[Cancer News in Context Blog](#)

members taught by faculty and led by [Melody Goodman, PhD](#), assistant professor of surgery. To learn how to submit a proposal for review by the PRAB, [visit their webpage](#) or contact Goldie Komaie at komaieg@wudosis.wustl.edu.

- The **cancer genetics clinic** at the Washington University School of Medicine recently expanded their availability for patients. The clinic is staffed by three board certified genetic counselors, including [Jen Ivanovich, MS](#), assistant professor of surgery, and [Khateriaa Pyrtel, MS](#), from the Division of Public Health Sciences. The new clinic allows for increased access to hereditary cancer risk assessment and genetic testing for people with a personal or family history of cancer, including those from underserved communities in our region. In just two months since the new clinic has opened, the team has served families from North St. Louis and southern Illinois living in both urban and rural poor communities.

[Learn more about our research](#) | [Master of Population Health Sciences degree program for clinicians](#)

