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4-2013

Research Digest - April 2013

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

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Recommended Citation

Division of Public Health Sciences, Department of Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine in
St. Louis, "Research Digest - April 2013" (2013). *Newsletters from the Division of Public Health Sciences*.
Paper 16 Division of Public Health Sciences, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.
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Research Digest

April 2013

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

Studying the link between obesity and cancer: TREC@WUSTL part of a national NCI initiative



| **Transdisciplinary Cancer Prevention Research** |

Graham Colditz, MD, DrPH, et al.

Published in *Cancer Causes & Control*

[PubMed](#) | [TREC website](#) | [Colditz Profile](#)

Clinical trial shows vitamin D use is promising for lowering blood pressure among African Americans



| **Chronic Disease Prevention Research** |

Bettina Drake, PhD, MPH

Published in *Hypertension*

[PubMed](#) | [Drake Profile](#)

Family health history tools spark family discussions but findings aren't being written down



| **Health Communication Research** |

Kim Kaphingst, ScD and Aimee James, PhD, MPH

Published in *Journal of Community Genetics*

[PubMed](#) | [Kaphingst Profile](#) | [James Profile](#)

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Division News Briefs

- [Ken Carson, MD](#), assistant professor of oncology who holds a secondary appointment in the Division of Public Health Sciences, received a four-year, \$583,000 grant from the American Cancer Society to study racial disparities in veterans with non-Hodgkin lymphoma. Dr. Carson will study 14,000 African-American and Caucasian patients diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma to look for patterns in pre-existing conditions and treatment, and he will see if those patterns lead to discoveries to improve survival rates for those with the cancer.
- This month, the **Community Research Fellows Training Program (CRFT)** will begin its 15-week training program for community members. Funded by the Program to Eliminate Cancer Disparities (PECaD), the CRFT program's goal is to train community members to become good consumers of research, understand the utility of research in improving health outcomes in their communities, and increase their understanding of how to work with academic researchers. After the training, participants will be eligible to apply for a community-based participatory research seed grant to develop a pilot research project in collaboration with Washington University researchers. The program has received positive support from the community and health professionals in St. Louis, and as a result, the application process has been competitive. To date, 50 applicants have been accepted into the program. [Melody Goodman, PhD, MS](#), principal investigator, says the CRFT program will generate potential contributions to public health and the reduction of health disparities

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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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in the St. Louis region. Several faculty members from the division will teach courses in the training program.

- Sign up today! Faculty and staff are invited to participate in the **American Cancer Society's Cancer Prevention Study (CPS-3)**. CPS-3 is a long-term, national study that will help researchers understand how lifestyle, genetics and the environment affect cancer, and how we can better prevent the disease. The ACS will be enrolling study participants on Tuesday, April 30, from 1 to 5:30 p.m. and Wednesday, May 1, from 7 to 11:30 a.m. on the third floor of the Center for Advanced Medicine. Pre-registration is encouraged but not required. Visit www.cancerstudyMO.org to enroll and schedule an appointment on those days, and visit www.cancer.org/cps3 to learn more about the study.

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

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