Research Digest - August 2016

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

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Still separate, still unequal: Social determinants of playground safety and proximity disparities in St. Louis

Cassandra Arroyo-Johnson, PhD; Melody Goodman, PhD; et al. Published in The Journal of Urban Health

A randomized controlled trial of directive and nondirective smoking cessation coaching through an employee quitline

Yan Yan, MD, PhD; et al. Published in BMC Public Health

Examining interpretations of graphic cigarette warning labels in US youths and adults

Erika Waters, PhD, MPH; et al. Published in Journal the Health Communication

Division News Briefs

- The Division of Public Health Sciences congratulates Melody Goodman, PhD, on her three-year, $1 million Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) award, Developing and Validating Quantitative Measures to Access Community Engagement in Research. Dr. Goodman is the primary investigator and will focus on validating, testing, and implementing a survey tool to assess the level of stakeholder engagement in patient-centered outcomes research and comparative effectiveness research studies. Read the news announcement.

- The Division of Public Health Sciences congratulates Mary Politi, PhD, on her recent three-year PCORI subcontract award, Comparative Effectiveness of Encounter Decision Aids for Early-Stage Breast Cancer across Socioeconomic Strata. Dr. Politi will examine how to support women of lower socioeconomic status with early-stage breast cancer through their treatment decisions. Read the news announcement.

- Mary Politi, PhD, also received funding for a one-year pilot project in partnership with Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. Dr. Politi's project, Supporting Decisions About Cancer Clinical Trials in
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Rural Cancer Centers, will expand on previous knowledge of shared decision making tools developed to support decisions about clinical trial participation, bringing an evidence-based research tool to rural communities. Dr. Politi’s pilot study is part of a P20 grant studying rural cancer disparities. The Division congratulates her on this award. Read the new announcement.

- The Division of Public Health Sciences encourages faculty and staff to apply for the upcoming Communicating Science Workshop hosted by Washington University and the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science. The free workshop will help researchers learn how to convey findings to the general public. DPHS faculty Aimee James, PhD, MPH, and Erika Waters, PhD, MPH, are among the WUSM presenters.

- Listen to July’s Health Beyond Barriers podcast discussing breast health screening guidelines and the importance of prevention. This podcast was written by Rebecca Lobb, ScD, MPH, and Julia Maki, PhD.

- Media Notes: 1) Elizabeth (Betsy) Odom, MD, and Jennifer Yu, MD, MPH, were featured on Cancer News in Context for their blog about the genetic risk of breast cancer and patient options. 2) Graham Colditz, MD, DrPH, recently published a perspective piece in Public Health Research and Practice on the importance of the Nurses’ Health Study and cohort studies. His article was promoted via EurekAlert! 3) Mary Politi, PhD, recently published a policy brief with the Institute for Public Health at Washington University regarding smokers’ choice to forgo health insurance with higher cigarette taxes. 4) A recent editorial co-authored by Graham Colditz, MD, DrPH, Lannis Hall, MD, and Arnold Bullock, MD, in The New York Times discussed the importance of prevention for men and prostate cancer. Their editorial was also cited in a Huffington Post article.

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