Research Digest - December 2017

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

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Inflammation modifies the association of obesity with circulating 25-hydroxyvitamin D levels in cancer survivors

| Epidemiology Research | Adetunji Toriola, MD, PhD, MPH; et al. Published in Obesity | PubMed | Toriola Profile |

Stakeholders' perspectives on postmastectomy breast reconstruction: Recognizing ways to improve shared decision making

| Shared Decision Making Research | Mary Politi, PhD; et al. Published in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery | PRS Global | Politi Profile |

How are multifactorial beliefs about the role of genetics and behavior in cancer causation associated with cancer risk cognitions and emotions in the U.S. population?

| Risk Communication Research | Erika Waters, PhD, MPH; et al. Published in Psychooncology | PubMed | Waters Profile |

Division News Briefs

- The Division congratulates Bettina Drake, PhD, MPH, associate professor of surgery, who received the 2017 Baylor University Distinguished Black Alumni Award. Dr. Drake accepted the award at a ceremony in Waco, TX, November 17. Read the news announcement.
- The Division also congratulates Graham Colditz, MD, DrPH, Niess-Gain professor of surgery, on his selection as a fellow to the American Association for the Advancement
Dr. Colditz was elected for his contributions to cancer epidemiology and prevention. Read the news announcement.

- Congratulations to Joaquin Barnoya, MD, MPH, associate professor of surgery, on funding for two separate two-year R21 grants addressing health disparities in Guatemala. Read the news announcement.

- The Division welcomes Anne Mobley Butler, PhD, instructor in medicine, as she's received a secondary appointment with the Division of Public Health Sciences. Dr. Butler's primary appointment is in the Division of Infectious Diseases.

- Join us Thursday, January 25, at 4:30 p.m. for the Epidemiology and Clinical Outcomes Research Seminar Series. Emily Finlayson, MD, associate professor of surgery and health policy at the University of California San Francisco, will present. See the upcoming seminar series presentations.

- Listen to two new Health Beyond Barriers podcasts provided by Mary Politi, PhD, associate professor of surgery, and Aimee James, PhD, MPH, associate professor of surgery. Dr. Politi podcast's offers tips on communicating with your physician about your health, and Dr. James' provides resources to help patients afford medications.

- Media Notes: 1) Mary Politi, PhD, provided content for a November Gateway Region YMCA blog on tips for enrolling in healthcare insurance. She also wrote a blog on health enrollment support for the Institute for Public Health. 2) Yin Cao, ScD, MPH, was this month's featured expert for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch section, In Good Taste. Dr. Cao explained the health benefits of wheat. 3) Joaquin Barnoya, MD, MPH, wrote a special blog on smoking cessation for the Gateway Region YMCA for the Great American Smokeout Nov. 16. 4) The Institute for Public Health highlighted faculty scholar Bettina Drake, PhD, MPH, for her disparities research. 5) Fox 2 News interviewed Erin Linnenbringer, PhD, about National Family Health History Day, and why it's important to talk with family members and physicians about genetic health. 6) The Siasat Daily referred to Graham Colditz, MD, DrPH, and the IARC findings relating unhealthy lifestyle choices to a heightened risk of cancers. 7) Graham Colditz, MD, DrPH and Yikyung Park, ScD, were quoted in many news articles, including U.S. News and HealthDay, about their commentary in The Lancet, citing obesity and diabetes are linked to causing some cancers. 8) December's Gateway Region YMCA blog was contributed by Hank Dart, MS, and addresses ways to engage in physical activity during the winter months.