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Research Digest - December 2017

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

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

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](#)

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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



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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[Cancer News in Context Blog](#)
[Your Disease Risk](#)
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of Science. 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's podcast 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.