Supporting the Science of Informal Cancer Caregiving: Highlights of NCI-Funded Research

Webinar 5 – Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1 PM ET
Using WebEx and webinar logistics

- All lines will be in listen-only mode
- Submit questions at any time using the Q&A or Chat Panel and select *All Panelists*
- You may need to activate the appropriate box using the floating navigation panel. Found on the bottom of your screen
- This webinar is being recorded
Welcome to Webinar 5

Ashley Wilder Smith, PhD, MPH
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Healthcare Delivery Research Program
Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences
National Cancer Institute

Michelle Mollica, PhD, MPH, RN, OCN
Senior Advisor, Office of Cancer Survivorship
Program Director, Outcomes Research Branch
Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences
National Cancer Institute

Molly Maher, MS
Senior Public Health Advisor, ICF, Outcomes Research Branch, Healthcare Delivery Research Program
Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences
National Cancer Institute
Webinar Outline – Conversation with NCI

• **Dr. Ashley Wilder Smith**: Introduction and NCI’s involvement in informal cancer caregiving

• **Molly Maher**: Portfolio analysis of informal cancer caregiving

• **Dr. Michelle Mollica**: Funding opportunities for cancer caregiving research

• **All**: Questions and answers session
Background: Informal Caregiving

• Individuals that assist family members/friends by providing care which is:
  • typically uncompensated
  • usually in the home setting
  • involving significant efforts for extended time

• Caregiving tasks may include:
  • Supporting treatment decision-making
  • Administering medication and monitoring for side effects
  • Coordinating care and communicating with providers
  • Providing emotional support

Litzelman et al., (2016). JCO, PMID: 27573657
Caring for Caregivers and Patients:
Revisiting the Research and Clinical Priorities for Informal Cancer Caregiving

Sponsored by the National Cancer Institute and
the National Institute for Nursing Research
May 4-5, 2015
NCI Shady Grove TE496

NCI Planning Committee: Co-chairs Erin Kent (NCI), Julia Rowland (NCI)
Wen-Ying Sylvia Chou (NCIDCCPS/BRP), Kristin Litzelman (NCIDCCPS/BRP),
Ann O’Mara (NCIDCP), Nonniekaye Shelburne (NCIDCCPS/EGRP)

Caring for Caregivers and Patients: Research and Clinical Priorities for Informal Cancer Caregiving

Erin E. Kent, PhD, MS\(^1\); Julia H. Rowland, PhD\(^1\); Laurel Northouse, PhD, RN\(^2\); Kristin Litzelman, PhD\(^3\);
Wen-Ying Sylvia Chou, PhD, MPH\(^3\); Nonniekaye Shelburne, MS, CRNP, AOCN\(^3\); Catherine Timura, PhD, MPhil\(^3\);
Ann O’Mara, PhD, RN, MPH\(^4\); and Karen Huss, PhD, RN\(^5\)
Cancer Caregiving Research Priorities

- Expanding Assessment of Prevalence and Burden
- Improving Interventions
- Maximizing the Positive Impact of Technology
- Integrating Caregivers into the Health Care System

State of the science on informal cancer caregiving

Highlighting funded grantees

Discussing key themes and future support for cancer caregiving research

Goal of Webinar Series

Supporting the Science of Informal Cancer Caregiving: Highlights of NCI-Funded Research
Portfolio Analysis of Informal Cancer Caregiving

Molly Maher
Research has shown that supporting cancer caregivers can improve patient outcomes

Kent et al., (2016). *Cancer*, PMID: 26991807
Litzelman et al., (2016). *JCO*, PMID: 27573657
Intervening with Cancer Caregivers to Improve Patient Health Outcomes and Optimize Health Care Utilization
PAR-19-352 (R01), PAR-19-355 (R21)

- Caregiver Well-Being
- Patient Health
- Health Care Utilization
Highlighting Funded Caregiving Research

1. Describe study characteristics
2. Map study characteristics to priorities from NCI workshop
3. Discuss themes and gaps
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>n (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grant Mechanism</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>R01 Research Project Grant</td>
<td>9 (64%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(R37 Method to Extend Research in Time MERIT)</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>R21 Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant</td>
<td>5 (36%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dyadic Intervention</strong></td>
<td>7 (50%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alignment with Workshop Priorities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stimulating interventions</td>
<td>14 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrating caregivers into health care settings</td>
<td>7 (50%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Promoting technology to support caregivers</td>
<td>11 (79%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Study Design</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Randomized Trial</td>
<td>13 (93%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Emphasis on underrepresented populations</strong></td>
<td>4 (29%)</td>
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Grant Characteristics Visualization

Palliative Care
Social Support
Patient-caregiver Dyads

Brain Tumor
Stress Management
Formal Support
Regarding

Partner
Child
Spousal
Tasks

Purpose
Surgery
Emerging Themes

- Intervention Targets
- Cancer Control Continuum
- Cancer Types
Summary

Gaps remain: prevalence and burden, caregivers in care delivery settings, and health disparities

Cancer caregiving research remains a priority for NCI

Continued research is needed
Funding Opportunities for Cancer Caregiving Research

Dr. Michelle Mollica
Workshop and subsequent FOA

Webinar Series

Continued innovation to improve patient and caregiver outcomes
## How NCI Funds Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of FOA</th>
<th>General Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent Announcements</td>
<td>• Broad FOAs allowing applicants to submit an investigator-initiated applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requests for Applications (RFA)</td>
<td>• FOAs issued to highlight well-defined areas of scientific interest to accomplish specific program objectives, with set-aside funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Announcements (PA)</td>
<td>• Announcements that highlight scientific areas of focus *NCI now only uses PARs (that often include special receipt, referral, and/or review considerations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notices of Special Interest (NOSI)</td>
<td>• Highlight a specific topic of interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Applicants are directed to one or more active FOAs (often parent announcements) for submission of applications for the initiative described</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Showing 1-10 of 37 (filtered from 121 total entries)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Announcement Number</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Clinical Research</th>
<th>Expires</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Awards: RADx®.UP-Social, Ethical, and Behavioral Implications (SEBI) Research on Disparities in COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and Vulnerable Populations</td>
<td>RFA-OD-22-005</td>
<td>U01</td>
<td>Clinical Trial Optional</td>
<td>May 03, 2022</td>
<td>Wen-Ying Sylvia Chou 240-276-6954 <a href="mailto:chouws@mail.nih.gov">chouws@mail.nih.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leveraging Cognitive Neuroscience to Improve Assessment of Cancer Treatment-Related Cognitive Impairment</td>
<td>PAR-19-340</td>
<td>R01</td>
<td>Clinical Trial Optional</td>
<td>June 09, 2022</td>
<td>Todd Horowitz 240-276-6963 <a href="mailto:horowitzts@mail.nih.gov">horowitzts@mail.nih.gov</a></td>
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Intervening with Cancer Caregivers to Improve Patient Health Outcomes and Optimize Health Care Utilization: PAR-19-352 (R01), PAR-19-355 (R21)

Fund interventions that support the success of informal cancer caregivers for adult cancer patients, to improve:

- Caregiver well-being
- Patient health
- Health care utilization


Expiration Date: September 8, 2022
Funding Announcements

• Cancer Prevention and Control Clinical Trials Grant Program (R01-Clinical Trials (CT) Required): PAR-21-035
• NIH Research Project Grant (R01- CT Not Allowed): PA-20-185
• Modular R01s in Cancer Control and Population Sciences (R01- CT Optional): PAR-21-190
• Exploratory Grants in Cancer Control (R21-CT Optional): PAR-21-341
• NCI Small Grants Program for Cancer Research (R03): PAR-20-052
• Cancer Prevention and Control Clinical Trials Planning Grant Program (R34 CT optional): NOT-CA-22-061 *coming soon
• Dyadic Interpersonal Processes and Biopsychosocial Outcomes (R01): PAR-21-280/1

https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/funding
New RFA: Survivorship Needs of Individuals Living with Advanced Cancer

Goal: to support R01 grant applications to better understand and/or address survivorship needs for individuals living with likely incurable cancers

- Proposed studies may focus on the survivor-caregiver dyad as long as outcomes (or mechanisms) relevant to the survivor are examined
Study Sections

• Applications are reviewed in standing NIH Center for Scientific Review (CSR) study sections

• Strategies to determine potential study sections for your application:
  • Consider the expertise needed to review your application
  • Program Directors can provide insight into potential study sections
  • Use the NIH CSR Assisted Referral Tool to determine potential study sections: https://art.csr.nih.gov/ART/
  • View the rosters of recommended study sections

https://public.csr.nih.gov/StudySections
NCI Program Directors

• Program Directors (PDs) can help you to:
  • Identify helpful resources
  • Determine potential funding opportunities relevant to your research
  • Discuss grant mechanisms that match project goals and PI experience
  • Indicate how this fits with the existing NCI and NIH grant portfolio
  • Discuss potential study sections and the review process
  • Connect you with relevant NCI Program staff for more information

Reach out to Program Directors early with your questions!
Acknowledgements

• Thank you to the investigators for their support and participation in this webinar series and to the patients and caregivers who participated in the research that has been featured here

• Thank you to Crystal Reed, Joann Hernandez, and Jennifer Schaefer for their support and assistance with this webinar series

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Questions?
Please type your questions in the Q & A section on WebEx

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