

# Health Behaviors Research Branch

[cancercontrol.cancer.gov/hbrb](https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/hbrb)

## Vision

A world in which individuals, families, and communities engage in healthy lifestyle behaviors to prevent cancer, improve treatment outcomes, extend life, and optimize health and well-being.

## Mission

To support and catalyze research on the discovery, development, testing, and implementation of effective strategies to promote healthy lifestyle behaviors for cancer prevention and control.

## Purpose

The Branch aims to support research at multiple levels of analysis to improve cancer-related health behaviors and risk factors.

## Levels of Analysis

Biological/genetic, psychological, behavioral, social, environmental, and policy levels, individually and in combination.

To view HBRB's research priorities, see our Strategic Plan at [cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brp/hbrb/strategy.html](https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brp/hbrb/strategy.html).

## Cancer-Related Behavioral Risk Factors of Interest



**Behavioral genetics**



**Energy balance and obesity**



**Alcohol use**



**Nutrition and dietary behaviors**



**Physical activity and sedentary behavior**



**Sleep and circadian dysfunction**



**Sun safety and tanning**



**Adherence to cancer-related medical and behavioral regimens**

## Initiatives and Resources

### Family Life, Activity, Sun, Health, and Eating (FLASHE) Study

[cancercontrol.cancer.gov/flashe](https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/flashe)

This study collected data on psychosocial, generational (parent-adolescent), and environmental correlates of cancer-preventive behaviors.

### Trans-NIH Consortium: Randomized Controlled Trials of Lifestyle Weight Loss Interventions for Genome-Wide Association Studies

[cancercontrol.cancer.gov/randomized-controlled-trials](https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/randomized-controlled-trials)

The goal is to develop precision medicine approaches to improve treatment response to behavioral weight loss interventions through the integration of new genetic discoveries.

### Classification of Laws Associated with School Students (CLASS)

[class.cancer.gov](https://class.cancer.gov)

This project uses two policy classification systems to score state-level codified laws for physical education and nutrition in schools.

### Trans-NCI Obesity & Cancer Working Group

[cancercontrol.cancer.gov/obesityandcancer](https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/obesityandcancer)

The working group identifies questions, needs, gaps, and priorities in areas related to obesity and cancer. It promotes the exchange of information and cross-cutting interests in obesity and cancer research by developing meetings, workshops, webinars, and scientific manuscripts.

## HBRB Team



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**Adaora Ezeani, M.D., Naomi Greene, Ph.D., M.P.H., C.P.H., George Kueppers, Ph.D.** (secondary), **Catherine Pichardo, Ph.D.** (secondary), **Amanda Small, Ph.D.** and **Jennifer Zink, Ph.D.** are fellows in the branch.

**Joseph T. Ciccolo, Ph.D., Heather D'Angelo, Ph.D., M.H.S., Rebecca Ferrer, Ph.D., Anne Hartman, M.S., M.A.** and **Yvonne Prutzman, Ph.D., M.P.H.** have secondary appointments in the branch.



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See a complete list of staff, contractors, and fellows at [cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brpstaff](https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brpstaff).

See current career and fellowship training opportunities at [cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brpcareer](https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brpcareer).

## Selected Funding Opportunities

| Title   | Contact   | Expires            |
|---|---|--------------------|
| Exploratory Grants in Cancer Control<br><a href="#">PAR-21-341 (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)</a>                                    | Tanya Agurs-Collins<br><a href="mailto:tanya.agurs-collins@nih.gov">tanya.agurs-collins@nih.gov</a>   | October 9, 2024    |
| Developing and Testing Multilevel Physical Activity Interventions to Improve Health and Well-Being<br><a href="#">NOT-OD-21-087</a> | Frank Perna<br><a href="mailto:frank.perna@nih.gov">frank.perna@nih.gov</a>   | February 16, 2024  |
| Research on the Health of Bisexual and Bisexual+ People<br><a href="#">NOT-OD-22-166</a>  | David (Chipper) Dean<br><a href="mailto:chipper.dean@nih.gov">chipper.dean@nih.gov</a>  | September 7, 2023  |
| Time-Sensitive Obesity Policy and Program Evaluation<br><a href="#">PAR-21-305 (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)</a>                 | David Berrigan<br><a href="mailto:david.berrigan@nih.gov">david.berrigan@nih.gov</a>  | September 11, 2024 |
| Cancer Prevention and Control Clinical Trials Grant Program<br><a href="#">PAR-21-035 (R01 Clinical Trial Required)</a>             | Susan Czajkowski<br><a href="mailto:susan.czajkowski@nih.gov">susan.czajkowski@nih.gov</a>  | January 8, 2024    |
| Alcohol and Cancer Control<br><a href="#">NOT-CA-20-034</a>   | Tanya Agurs-Collins<br><a href="mailto:tanya.agurs-collins@nih.gov">tanya.agurs-collins@nih.gov</a><br>David Berrigan<br><a href="mailto:david.berrigan@nih.gov">david.berrigan@nih.gov</a> | September 9, 2023  |

Find a complete list of BRP funding opportunities at [cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brpfunding](https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brpfunding).

View sample grant applications at [cancercontrol.cancer.gov/samplegrants](https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/samplegrants).

Learn about our HBRB-funded grantees at [cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brpgrantees](https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brpgrantees).

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