

CPS-3 Newsletter



Volume 02
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Cancer Prevention Study-3

“Everyone knows that cigarette smoking causes lung cancer. Few realize that it took three years, 22,000 volunteers, and 188,000 study participants to prove it.” – Meghan Murphy, *The Greeley Tribune*.

Research conducted by the American Cancer Society in the 1950s – involving thousands of participants and volunteers – revealed the now well-known link between cigarette smoking and lung cancer. Data provided by the 1.2 million study participants who are a part of Cancer Prevention Study-II (CPS-II) highlighted the link between obesity and risk of various types of cancer. What will the findings from Cancer Prevention Study-3 (CPS-3) be? What new discoveries about cancer prevention might be revealed as a result of your involvement in this landmark



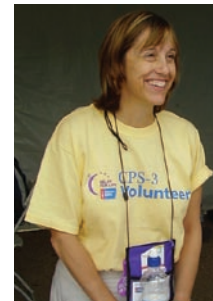
Department of Epidemiology

study? As groundbreaking research will be conducted over several years, this newsletter will be our way of keeping you informed about new and important findings from the Cancer Prevention Studies. Thank you for your participation in CPS-3 and taking part in “research today for a cancer-free tomorrow.”

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we share with you the news that Eugenia (Jeanne) E. Calle, PhD, a renowned cancer epidemiologist and former vice president of Epidemiology at the American Cancer Society, died suddenly on February 17, 2009, in Atlanta, Georgia. Though her face may not have been known by all who enrolled in CPS-3, Dr. Calle, 57, served as principal investigator on both CPS-II and CPS-3 before her retirement from the Society in February 2009.

During her 20-year career at the American Cancer Society, Dr. Calle played an instrumental role in developing the Cancer Prevention Studies into major valued resources for epidemiologic research in many different areas, including air pollution, nutrition, physical activity, medication, and cancer susceptibility genes. Her legacy includes two landmark studies on the relationship of obesity to cancer and other diseases; important contributions to understanding risk factors for breast and ovarian cancer and other diseases; and research on the effects of hormone-replacement therapy. Dr. Calle was also an integral part in bringing



enrollment for CPS-3 to reality. She was often featured in the national media, and was recently interviewed on *60 Minutes* regarding the link between obesity and cancer.

A native of Akron, Ohio, Dr. Calle completed her undergraduate work in medical communications and later received her master’s degree and PhD in epidemiology from Ohio State University.

Dr. Calle will be remembered by all in the Department of Epidemiology for her lively sense of humor and her commitment to her colleagues, as well as for her formidable intellect and passion for research.

Upon Dr. Calle’s retirement from the American Cancer Society, Alpha V. Patel, PhD, was named principal investigator of CPS-3. To reach Dr. Patel with any questions or concerns about the study, please contact her at cps3@cancer.org or 1-888-604-5888.

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Indiana Family Fights Back through Cancer Prevention Studies

As an American Cancer Society volunteer for more than 40 years, Indiana resident Mary Margaret Moorhead has witnessed great strides in the fight against cancer. At a time when cancer information was difficult to find, Mary Margaret signed up as a volunteer participant in CPS-II, our ongoing study that started back in 1982. She is one of the 1.2 million participants in CPS-II who has contributed to research that has furthered our understanding of cancer.

“People didn’t want to talk about it back then,” recalled Mary Margaret. “Most people didn’t believe very strongly in a cancer prevention study because they didn’t realize how much we were affected by our environment, our health and nutrition habits – even our heredity,” she said. “A lot of hospitals and doctors did not have tumor registries, nor did they give you that information if they had it,” said Mary Margaret, who also recruited other people to be a part of CPS-II. “We were often limited to people we knew so it was difficult to find those willing to discuss their health problems.”

Mary Margaret’s dedication to the fight against cancer is shared by her son, Rob Moorhead. “My involvement with the American Cancer Society has really been the inspiration of my mother and following her example,” said Rob, who often accompanied his mother to her Society volunteer activities as a youth. Now principal of South Dearborn High School,

Mary Margaret and Rob Moorhead participate in the CPS-3 ribbon-cutting ceremony at Relay For Life.



Rob is heavily involved in the Relay For Life of Dearborn and Ohio counties. The event was chosen as one of the six CPS-3 enrollment sites in 2008 for the Great Lakes Division, and enrolled more than 200 individuals into the study.

“Anything we can do as volunteers and individuals to find a cure for this disease that takes so many lives is a good thing,” said Rob.

“It is fitting that Rob continues our family’s involvement,” said Mary Margaret. “My generation took part in CPS-II, which has been quite valuable in learning more about cancer. Now it is his generation’s turn to continue the study of cancer prevention with the hope that someday we can conquer this horrible disease.”

To view the listing of all the 2009 enrollment sites, visit cancer.org/cps3.

Cancer Prevention Study-3 Enrollment Update

Enrollment for CPS-3 began in 2006 with six pilot events in three states. Over the past three years, the American Cancer Society has conducted a total of 187 CPS-3 enrollment events throughout the country. The majority of these enrollments took place at the American Cancer Society’s signature fundraising event, Relay For Life®, and Celebration on the Hill™, a Society event that brought hundreds of cancer advocates to the nation’s capital in 2006. Some adult children of CPS-II

participants also joined the study. Together, more than 45,000 people have enrolled in this new study. This year, nearly 200 enrollments are planned, involving every Division of the American Cancer Society and 25 states in the United States, as well as Puerto Rico. Please



encourage your friends and family members who have not yet enrolled to check out the 2009 locations of enrollment for their opportunity to be part of this historical research effort. The 2009 locations of enrollment can be viewed at cancer.org/cps3.

We have received quite a few inquiries as to when the next survey will be sent to CPS-3 participants. If you enrolled in CPS-3 in 2008 or earlier, you can expect your first, follow-up survey sometime in 2010. This survey will primarily focus on updating any health/medical information that might have changed since your initial enrollment.



New Genetic Markers of Prostate and Breast Cancer Risk Identified

In a large international study led by the National Cancer Institute, biospecimens collected from more than 100,000 participants in CPS-II have been used to help identify the first genetic variations associated with the risk of prostate cancer.



Researchers report that a set of genetic variations in at least four regions of DNA strongly predict prostate cancer risk and that these variations may be responsible for a large number of prostate cancer cases in white men in the United States.

The first genetic variation was discovered on chromosome 8. Shortly after this first discovery, additional variations were found on chromosomes 7, 10, and 11. On chromosome 10, one variant marks a gene that codes for a protein that is the primary component of semen and is a proposed biomarker for early detection of advanced prostate cancer.

“These new prostate discoveries are very exciting. Up until now, we have known that family history is very important, but these are the first genetic markers that have been found,” explains Heather Spencer Feigelson, PhD, a senior genetic epidemiologist for the American Cancer Society.

This same group of researchers has also been searching for new genes linked to breast cancer. Their first findings show that variation in a gene called *FGFR2* may contribute to the risk of breast cancer. The variant is carried by about 40 percent of white women and may contribute to 16 percent of breast cancer cases.

The next phase of this work will be to use these genetic markers to identify individuals at higher risk. “We are not yet at a point where there’s an intervention, but we are getting close to having genetic markers that can be used to screen individuals who may be at higher risk,” states Dr. Feigelson.

Common Questions from CPS-3 Participants

If I have been diagnosed with cancer, am I still a part of the study? How should I inform you?

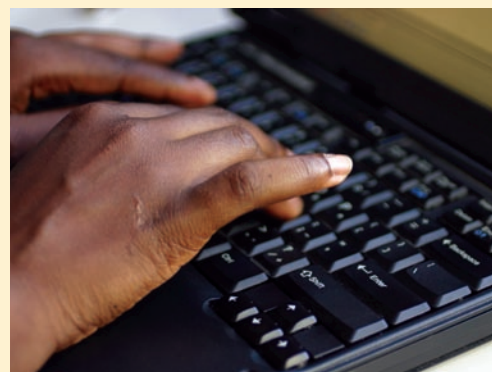
Yes, you are still a very important part of CPS-3. If you have recently received a questionnaire and have not yet filled it out, please do so because your questionnaires are essential to the success of the study. The questionnaire and future follow-up questionnaires will serve as your means to indicate any change in status, such as a cancer diagnosis. You may also call us toll free at 1-888-604-5888 or email us at cps3@cancer.org to inform us of any cancer diagnosis.

I am moving or am about to move. How can I let you know my new contact information?

Your updated contact information is extremely important information to us. The best way to let us know is to call us toll free at 1-888-604-5888 or email us at cps3@cancer.org.

I have family members and friends who missed the enrollment last year but want to sign up. Is there a way for them to enroll?

Yes! There are nearly 200 enrollments taking place in 2009, and one of the most powerful ways you can support the study is by telling all those you know about their opportunity to enroll. For the complete list of enrollment sites in 2009, please visit cancer.org/cps3.



Have You Completed Your Mailed Survey?

If you began your enrollment in CPS-3 at a Relay For Life event (including Celebration on the Hill and Relay For Life summit events), your enrollment is not complete until you submit the baseline survey. Your baseline survey was mailed to you at your home after you provided a blood sample. This comprehensive baseline survey provides researchers with extremely valuable information about your medical history and lifestyle that can be used to better understand this disease.

As you know, the purpose of CPS-3 is to understand the causes of cancer; only then can we understand how to prevent cancer. Without the questionnaire data about your lifestyle and environment, we will not have the information we need.

We appreciate the time and effort you devote to this study. Please remember that every single response is important, and both the value and accuracy of the study depend on a high response rate to these mailed



questionnaires. If you haven't already done so, please take the time to complete the survey that was mailed to you. If you prefer, you can also complete the survey online. Instructions for the online survey are available on the paper survey you received in the mail.

If you need help or a new survey, contact us at 1-888-604-5888 or cps3@cancer.org.

Contact Information

For CPS-3 information, call 1-888-604-5888 or email cps3@cancer.org. For cancer information and resources 24 hours a day, seven days a week, call 800-227-2345 or visit our Web site at cancer.org.

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