

Early Career Investigator Workshop for Behavioral and Social Scientists in Cancer Prevention and Control

Elvan Daniels, MD, MPH

**Scientific Program Director Cancer Control and
Prevention**

Extramural Research and Training



Extramural Research and Training Programs



William Chambers, PhD
SVP for Extramural Research



William Phelps, PhD
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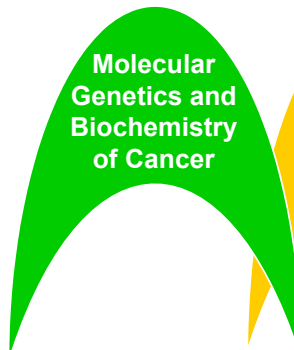
Susanna Greer, PhD



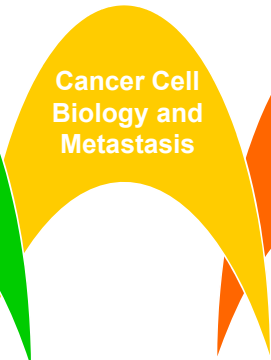
Elvan Daniels, MD



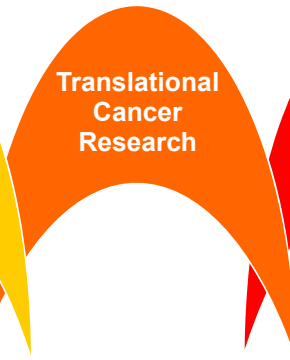
Virginia Krawiec, MPA



Molecular
Genetics and
Biochemistry
of Cancer



Cancer Cell
Biology and
Metastasis



Translational
Cancer
Research



Clinical
Cancer
Research,
Nutrition and
Immunology



Cancer
Control and
Prevention
Research



Health
Professional
Training in
Cancer
Control

www.cancer.org



Our Research Programs



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Peer Review
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Examples of Behavioral Research Funding

- Primary and Secondary prevention
- Perceived physical and emotional health for patients and caregivers (Quality of Life)
- Culture and spirituality
- Access to care and utilization
- Care coordination, quality of care including palliative care and hospice care
- Symptom Management & Co-morbidities
- Communication and social support
- Cost and work issues
- Impact of health policy on cancer care

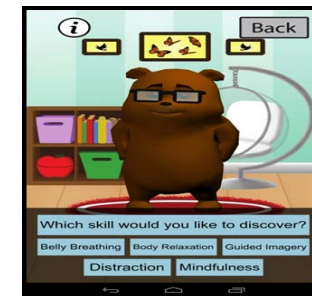
Mobile Technology to Improve Pain and Symptoms in Children with Cancer-Pain Buddy



**PI: Michelle A. Fortier, PhD ,
University of California Irvine**

- Study Overview: Interactive, web-based program for children ages 8 – 18 undergoing cancer treatment comprised of:
 - Remote monitoring of treatment-related pain and symptoms
 - Cognitive and behavioral skills training for pain and symptom management
 - Navigated by a 3-D avatar (“Pain Buddy”)
 - Games to enhance engagement
 - Development and formative evaluation completed
 - Pilot RCT demonstrated efficacy in lowering pain severity over 8-week study period

Pain severity 0-100 VAS	Pain Buddy (<i>n</i> = 10) Mean ± SD	Attention Control (<i>n</i> = 13) Mean ± SD	<i>p</i> -value	Cohen's <i>d</i>
Current pain	19.71 ± 15.88	29.10 ± 27.40	0.281	0.42
Average pain since last entry	20.63 ± 16.18	37.68 ± 22.39	<0.001	0.87
Worst pain since last entry	30.29 ± 19.05	55.31 ± 25.98	<0.001	1.10



Mighty Men: A Faith-Based Weight Loss Program

- A 6-month faith-based weight-loss intervention for obese African American men 35-74 years old
- The first weight loss intervention to include objective measures and technology tailored to the characteristics of individual African American men
- Being tested in four churches in Nashville, TN and four churches in Flint, Michigan



“One of the challenges with men is that social norms and expectations encourage them to prioritize their jobs and families over their own health. Putting weight loss in a cultural context of the church, with the social support that men get from their family and church, may help to get men to focus on their health.”

<http://www.cancer.org/research/acsresearchupdates/more/a-spiritual-approach-to-weight-loss-for-african-american-men>

Medical-Legal Partnership to Reduce



Cancer Health Disparities

PI: Tracy Bataggia, MD, MPH Boston Medical Center

- Addressing the gap that threatens the ability of patient navigation to effectively eliminate cancer care delivery disparities
- Conducting a randomized controlled trial among newly diagnosed breast, colorectal and prostate cancer patients at a large safety net academic medical center to compare the effect of existing navigation with navigation enhanced by a medical legal partnership.
- Measuring improvements in clinical outcomes and quality of life, the ability of the intervention to reduce or eliminate legal barriers, and document costs.

