19th AACR Conference on The Science of Cancer Health Disparities

In association with the AACR Minorities in Cancer Research Council

October 18 – 21, 2026 | Hilton Atlanta | Atlanta, Georgia

PROGRAM

Cochairs:

Iona C. Cheng, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California
Melissa B. Davis, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia
Carmen E. Guerra, Perelman School of Medicine University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Kimberly Richardson, Black Cancer Collaborative, Chicago, Illinois
Enrique I. Velazquez Villarreal, City of Hope, Duarte, California

Program Committee:

Matthew P. Banegas, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, California
Tiffany L. Carson, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, Florida
Rachel M. Ceballos, University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Institute, Salt Lake City, Utah
May Rose I. Dela Cruz, Hawaii Public Health Institute, Honolulu, Hawaii
Carolyn Y. Fang, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Terry Hyslop, Jefferson Health Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I. King Jordan, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia
Amy Kennedy, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland
Shafiq Khan, Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia
Lauren McCullough, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia
Yamile Molina, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Sung-Shim Lani Park, University of Hawai'i Cancer Center, Honolulu, Hawaii
Camille C. R. Ragin, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Brian M. Rivers, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia
Michael E. Scheurer, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia
Ankur Singh, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia
Sanya Springfield, National Cancer Institute, Rockville, Maryland
Erica Stringer-Reasor, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama
Ana I. Velazquez Manana, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California

Sunday, October 18

Conference Registration

1:30-7:30 p.m. | Grand Ballroom Foyer

Welcome and Opening Session

3:30-6 p.m. | Grand Ballroom East

3:30-3:35 p.m.	Welcome and Keynote Introduction Iona C. Cheng, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California Melissa B. Davis, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia Carmen E. Guerra, Perelman School of Medicine University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

3:35-4:05 p.m.	Actionable strategies to address social determinants of health to ensure access for all Monica Baskin, VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center, Richmond, Virginia
4:05 - 4:10 p.m.	Q&A/Discussion
4:10 - 4:15 p.m.	Advocate Keynote Introduction Kimberly Richardson, Black Cancer Collaborative, Chicago, Illinois
4:15 – 4:45 p.m.	Advocate Keynote Chronically terminal: An uncertain, uneven path for patients Michael H. Hu, Patient Advocate, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
4:45 – 4:50 p.m.	Q&A/Discussion
4:50 – 4:55 p.m.	Distinguished Lecturer Introduction Enrique I. Velazquez Villarreal, City of Hope, Duarte, California
4:55 – 5:25 p.m.	AACR Distinguished Lectureship on the Science of Cancer Health Disparities Multi-omic signatures of prostate cancer health disparities – Closing the gap Vanessa Hayes, University of Sydney, Camperdown, New South Wales, Australia
5:25 – 5:30 p.m.	Q&A/Discussion
5:30 – 5:35 p.m.	AACR CEO Welcome and Historical Perspective Margaret Foti, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
5:35-5:45 p.m.	Honoring Dr. Sanya Springfield: Celebrating a Legacy of Leadership and Impact John D. Carpten, City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Ctr., Duarte, California
5:45-6:00 p.m.	Sanya Springfield, Rockville, Maryland

Minorities in Cancer Research (MICR) Meet and Greet
6-7 p.m. | Grand Ballroom West

Poster Session A and Opening Reception
7-8:30 p.m. | Galleria Exhibit Hall 2,3,5,6,7

Monday, October 19

Breakfast and Networking Roundtables
8 - 9 a.m. | Galleria Exhibit Hall 1

Pamela Allen	Turning Real-World Data into Collaborative Research: Building Multicenter Studies in Rare Diseases
LeeAnn Bailey	Resilience and Resubmission
Iona Cheng and Melissa Troester	Funding Impactful Population Sciences Disparities Research in 2027 and Beyond (An AACR-PSWG Roundtable)

Keith Flaherty	Therapeutic Discovery and Development; Translational Research Related to Treatment Response/Resistance
Christopher Flowers	U54 SPORE Participation/Career Development/Mentorship
Scarlett Gomez and Camille Ragin	Meet the AACR Journals Editor: Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers and Prevention
Vanessa Hayes	African Inclusive Precision Medicine
Melissa Little	K or R: Which Grant Is Right for You?
Lauren McCullough	VOICES of Black Women: Rethinking Recruitment, Partnership, and Participation
Michael Scheurer	Identifying and Addressing Health Disparities for Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults With Cancer
Herve Tiriac	Academic Track, Translational Sciences as a Ph.D.
Jose Trevino	Physician-Scientist
Stephanie Wynn	From Community Voice to Research Impact: Building Authentic Partnerships in Cancer Health Disparities Research

Plenary Session 1: Artificial Intelligence in Cancer Disparities: Opportunities and Challenges
9 - 10:30 a.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Session Chairs:
Enrique Velazquez Villarreal, City of Hope National Medical Center, Duarte, California
Mukesh Verma, National Cancer Institute, Rockville, Maryland

9 - 9:05 a.m.	Session Chair Introduction
9:05 - 9:20 a.m.	From questionnaires to conversations: How generative AI can transform cancer burden assessment Andre Pfob, Heidelberg University Hospital, Heidelberg, Germany
9:20 - 9:35 a.m.	Autonomous artificial intelligence agents, microbiome and multi-omics to advance cancer health disparities Enrique Velazquez Villarreal, City of Hope National Medical Center, Duarte, California
9:35 – 9:50 a.m.	Rethinking cancer surveillance geography: A GeoAI approach Gabriel Benavidez, Baylor University, Waco, Texas
9:50-10:05 a.m.	AI and ML in cancer risk prediction and survival outcome Mukesh Verma, National Cancer Institute, Rockville, Maryland
10:05 - 10:30 a.m.	Panel Discussion and Q&A Ysabel Duron, The Latino Cancer Institute, San Jose, California

Coffee Break
10:30 - 11 a.m. | Grand Ballroom Foyer

Special Session 1: Advancing Translational Research in Cancer Health Disparities through the NCI SPORE Mechanism
Organized by the NCI U54 Cancer Health Disparities SPORE Program
11 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Session Chairs:
Susan Chang, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California
Leah Hubbard, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland

11 - 11:06 a.m.	Overview of NCI SPORE Cancer Health Disparities Translational Research Program Leah Hubbard, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland Tiffany A. Wallace, NCI-CRCHD, Rockville, Maryland
11:06 - 11:18 a.m.	Translating genomic and environmental data into risk-stratified colorectal cancer screening for diverse populations Riki (Ulrike) Peters, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, Seattle, Washington
11:18 - 11:30 a.m.	AI-powered radiomics resolves the inaccuracy in breast cancer risk assessment in Asian subgroups compared to clinical models Lenora W. M. Loo, University of Hawai'i Cancer Center, Honolulu, Hawaii
11:30 - 11:42 a.m.	Obesity-related metabolic reprogramming in endometrial cancer disparities Melinda S. Yates, UNC School of Medicine, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
11:42 - 12 p.m.	Panel Discussion and Q&A

Lunch on Own
12:00-2:00 p.m.

Professional Development for Cancer Disparities Researchers: MICR Celebrates the Leadership and Mentorship Legacy of Dr. Sanya A. Springfield
Organized by the AACR Minorities in Cancer Research Council
12:00-2:00 p.m. | Grand Ballroom West

Plenary Session 2: The Promise of GLP-1s in Cancer Risk Reduction
2:00-3:30 p.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Session Chair:
Tiffany Carson, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, Florida

2 - 2:05 p.m.	Session Chair Introduction

2:05 - 2:25 p.m. GLP-1 agonists in cancer prevention: Current evidence and future directions
Florence Porterfield, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts

2:25 - 2:45 p.m. GLP-1 receptor agonist use and survival and recurrence in breast cancer
Kristina Tatum, VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center, Richmond, Virginia

2:45 – 3:05 p.m. Real-world glucagon-like peptide-1 use and association with clinical characteristics, social determinants, and circulating tumor DNA positivity in patients with breast cancer
Cleo Ryals, Flatiron Health, New York, New York

3:05 - 3:30 p.m. Panel Discussion and Q&A

Break
3:30-3:45

Concurrent Sessions 1 and 2
3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

Concurrent Session 1: Ethnic Enclaves, Ethnoburbs, or Residential Segregation? How Coethnic Neighborhood Context Shapes Cancer Disparities
3:45 – 4:45 p.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Session Chair:
Kevin A. Henry, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

3:45 – 3:47 p.m. Session Chair Introduction

3:47 – 4:00 p.m. Ethnic enclave and cancer burden in Asian American and Hispanic populations
Salma Shariff-Marco, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California

4:00 – 4:13 p.m. Using cancer registry data to examine changes in breast cancer incidence across ethnic enclaves in New York City
Daniel Wiese, American Cancer Society, Atlanta, Georgia

4:13 - 4:26 p.m. Enclaves and cancer: Unpacking the black box
Marilyn Tseng, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, California

4:26 – 4:29 p.m. Keeshia Jones, ABCD: After Breast Cancer Diagnosis, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

4:29 – 4:45 p.m. Panel Discussion and Q&A

Concurrent Session 2: Designing Global Cancer Disparities Research for Impact: Building Collaborations That Translate, Scale, and Endure
3:45 – 4:45 p.m. | Grand Ballroom West
Session Chair:

Adana A. M. Llanos, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, New York, New York
Camille Ragin, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

3:45 – 3:50 p.m. Session Chair Introduction

3:50 – 4:00 p.m. Research engagement to address cancer across continents: Lessons from Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center Global Consortia
Folakemi T. Odedina, Mayo Clinic Florida, Jacksonville, Florida

4:00 – 4:10 p.m. Implementation and systems translation: Building research capacity and scientific infrastructure for cancer disparities in Kenya
Rahma Mkuu, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

4:10 - 4:20 p.m. From EMT to reducing cancer disparities: Leveraging global collaborations to integrate tumor biology, genomics, and social determinants of health
Valerie Odero-Marah, Morgan State University, Baltimore, Maryland

4:20 - 4:30 p.m. Creating patient centricity in clinical cancer research
Virgil Simons, The Prostate Net, Barcelona, Spain

4:30 – 4:45 p.m. Panel Discussion and Q&A

Break
4:45 – 5:00 p.m.

Special Session 2: Charting the Path Forward: Lessons and Next Steps from the AACR Cancer Disparities Progress Report
5:00-6:15 p.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Moderator: John M. Carethers, UCSD Medical Center, San Diego, California

5:00-5:05 p.m. Introduction
Keith T. Flaherty, Mass General Cancer Center, Boston, Massachusetts

5:05-5:15 p.m. AACR Cancer Disparities Progress Report overview
Mariana Stern, USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, Los Angeles, California ***[RECORDING/REMOTE]***

5:15-5:20 p.m. Cancer burden and disparities
Iona C. Cheng, UCSF - University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California

5:20-5:25 p.m. Prevention, screening, and early detection
John M. Carethers, UCSD Medical Center, San Diego, California

5:25-5:30 p.m. Clinical research and treatment
Carmen E. Guerra, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

5:30-5:35 p.m. Survivorship and patient advocacy

Rhonda Holbert, Celebrate Life Cancer Ministry, Hawthorne, California

5:35-5:40 p.m. Survivorship and patient advocacy
Alejandro Valdez, Patient Advocate, Los Angeles, California

5:40-5:45 p.m. Translational research
Keith T. Flaherty, Mass General Cancer Center, Boston, Massachusetts

5:45-5:50 p.m. Workforce development and training
Robert A. Winn, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

5:50-6:15 p.m. Panel Discussion: Future Directions
Moderator: John M. Carethers, UCSD Medical Center, San Diego, California

Break
6:15-6:30 p.m.

Poster Spotlight Presentations 1 and 2
6:30-7:00 p.m.

Poster Spotlight Presentations 1
6:30-7 p.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Session Chair: Yamile Molina, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

6:30-6:33 p.m. Session Chair Introduction

6:33-6:36 p.m. Reference genome selection as a determinant of genomic variation recovery in admixed populations: A comparative framework for ancestry-informed inquiry
Praise Idowu, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia

6:36-6:39 p.m. Genetic similarity, duffy-null genotype, and autologous transplant in multiple myeloma: Disparities in depth of response but not survival
Ayo S. Falade, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota

6:39-6:42 p.m. Evaluating fairness in breast cancer risk prediction by race using the adjusted true positive rate in a digital breast tomosynthesis screening cohort
Lindsey Abellard, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

6:42-6:45 p.m. Racial and ethnic disparities in the risk of contralateral breast cancer among primary breast cancer survivors in the US (1992-2023)
Michelle O. Sodipo, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland

6:45-6:48 p.m. The missing majority: Older adults and age-based disparities in cancer research reporting

Adrian Puello, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de la Martinique, Fort de France, France

6:48-6:51 p.m. Patterns of physiological dysregulation and cancer mortality: A latent class analysis of NHANES participants
Terry Hyslop, Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

6:51-6:54 p.m. Age-related differences in clinician communication about colorectal cancer screening in the US
Jordan Baeker Bispo, American Cancer Society, Atlanta, Georgia

6:54-6:57 p.m. Landscape of genetic ancestry-associated active drugs unique to or shared by White and Hispanic children with group 3 medulloblastomas
Jinnan Chen, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

Poster Spotlight Presentations 2
6:30-7 p.m. | Grand Ballroom West
Session Chair: Sung-Shim Lani Park, University of Hawai'i Cancer Center, Honolulu, Hawaii

6:30-6:33 p.m. Session Chair Introduction

6:33-6:36 p.m. Germline variation in cancer susceptibility genes among Black cancer survivors in the Reclassifying Variants for Equity in Clinical Care (REVEAL) study
Savannah Lane, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan

6:36-6:39 p.m. Neighborhood environmental exposures are associated with tumor genomic alterations and clinical outcomes across cancers
Jiawei Tu, UTHealth Houston, Houston, Texas

6:39-6:42 p.m. Association of social determinants of health and metabolic comorbidities with cervical cancer risk and disparities
Jenae Sanders, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia

6:42-6:45 p.m. Genome and Transcriptome-Wide Association Studies of HER2-positive breast cancer in Hispanic/Latina women in the United States and women in Latin America
Joel Sanchez Mendez, University of California Davis, Davis, California

6:45-6:48 p.m. Redlining, gentrification, and the relationship to diagnosis of prostate cancer at midlife
Charnita Zeigler-Johnson, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

6:48-6:51 p.m. Neighborhood deprivation and the breast tumor transcriptome: Distinct associations by race and estrogen receptor status

Jasmine Miller-Kleinhenz, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, Mississippi

6:51-6:54 p.m. Interstate travel, travel time, and access barriers in pediatric oncology care across the United States
Erin L. Marcotte, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota

6:54-6:57 p.m. A community health assessment to inform cervical cancer prevention and reduce disparities in the Tri-County region of Illinois
Lauren Giurini, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

6:57-7 p.m. An explainable and multiethnic deep learning platform for melanoma screening and diagnosis using the ABCDE rule and two-dimensional full-body sequential analysis
Kevin D. Cassel, University of Hawai'i Cancer Center, Honolulu, Hawaii

Poster Session B and Reception
7-8:30 p.m. | Galleria Exhibit Hall 2,3,5,6,7

Tuesday, October 20

Breakfast and Networking Roundtables
8 - 9 a.m. | Galleria Exhibit Hall 1

Christian Alvarez and Tsz Chun (Kelvin) Choi	Training and Research Opportunities at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities
Melissa Davis	Meet the AACR Journals Editor: Cancer Research Communications
Ann-Kathrin Eisfeld	Becoming a Physician-Scientist: Balancing Clinic, Lab, and Also Considering Experts Outside of Your Usual Comfort Zone
Alexandra Harris and Adana Llanos	Amplifying Your Research Impact Beyond Publications
Rhonda Holbert, Kimberly Richardson, and Virgil Simons	Building Community-Engaged Cancer Researchers: Partnering With Black Patient Advocates Across the Research Continuum
Leah Hubbard	Learning About the NCI Translational Research Program and Applying for Cancer Health Disparities SPORE Grants
Elaine Mardis	Laboratory Personnel Management
Lauren McCullough	Purpose Without Burnout: Building an Impactful Career in Cancer Equity Through Prioritization, Boundaries, and Better Time Management
Sulma Muhammed	Navigating Academic Advancement and Leadership as a Disparities Cancer Researcher (A WICR Roundtable)
Ulrike Peters	Grant Writing
Dionisia Quiroga	Physician-Scientist Training; Job Search for First Academic Faculty Position

Christopher Sistrunk	Career Mapping Beyond the Traditional Track: Navigating Funding Uncertainty, Shrinking Pathways, and AI in Cancer Health Disparities Research (AACR-MICR)
Marilyn Tseng	Research / Teaching / Service: The Academic Balancing Act
Mukesh Verma	Collaboration Opportunities in Multi-Omics Approaches in Cancer Etiology

Plenary Session 3: Genetic Ancestry (Similarity), Admixture, and Cancer Disparities
9 - 10:30 a.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Session Chair**:**
Luis G. Carvajal-Carmona, University of California Davis, Davis, California
Christopher Flowers, UT MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas

9 - 9:05 a.m. Session Chair Introduction

9:05 - 9:20 a.m. Genomics and ancestry in gastric cancer
Luis G. Carvajal-Carmona, University of California Davis, Davis, California

9:20 - 9:35 a.m. Bridging gaps in gastric cancer: Establishing patient-derived models to identify druggable vulnerabilities
Leslie Cuellar-Vite, University of California Davis, Davis, California

9:35 – 9:50 a.m. Senescence-driven CD4 exhaustion establishes a therapeutically targetable immune-evasive niche in African ancestry-associated diffuse large B-cell lymphoma
Sanket Shah, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York, New York

9:50-10:05 a.m. Leveraging genomic diversity to improve knowledge and survival for acute leukemia patients
Ann-Kathrin Eisfeld, James Cancer Hospital Solove Research Institute, Columbus, Ohio

10:05 - 10:30 a.m. Panel Discussion and Q&A

Coffee Break
10:30 - 11 a.m. | Grand Ballroom Foyer

Frontiers and Opportunities Presentation: Spotlight on Hematologic Malignancies and Cancer Disparities
11 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Session Chair: Christopher Flowers, UT MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas

11-11:05 a.m. Session Chair Introduction
11:05-11:35 a.m. Genomics and risk prediction in acute myeloid leukemia: Ancestry-specific findings
Elaine R. Mardis, The Institute for Genomic Medicine at Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio
11:35-11:45 a.m. Discussion and Q&A

Lunch on Own
11:45-1:15 p.m.

Robert A. Winn Excellence in Clinical Trials: Career Development Award
11:45-12:15 p.m. | Grand Ballroom West
Session Chair: Megan Becker, VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center, Richmond, Virginia

11:45 – 11:50 a.m.	Overview of the Robert A. Winn Excellence in Clinical Trials: Career Development Award Program Megan Becker, Executive Director, Winn Career Development Awards Program, VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center, Richmond, Virginia
11:50 – 11:55 a.m.	Improving breast cancer clinical trial access through non-profit transportation services Dionisia M. Quiroga, James Cancer Hospital Solove Research Institute, Columbus, Ohio
11:55 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	From discovery to patient care: Conducting investigator-initiated trials in rural America Sonikpreet Aulakh, West Virginia University, Morgantown, Virginia
12:00-12:05 p.m.	Building community and consortia for studying rare diseases Pamela B. Allen, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia
12:05 - 12:15 p.m.	Panel Discussion and Q&A

Plenary Session 4: From Place to Biology: Integrating Environment, Exposures, and Genomics to Understand Cancer Disparities
1:15-2:45 p.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Session Chair:
Melissa B. Davis, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia

1:15-1:20 p.m.	Session Chair Introduction
1:20-1:40 p.m.	When place becomes biology: Reframing the science of cancer disparities Melissa B. Davis, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia
1:40-2 p.m.	Environmental justice and cancer disparities Miranda Jones, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland
2-2:20 p.m.	From place to prevention: Geospatial big data, environment, and cancer disparities Rena Jones, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland
2:20-2:45 p.m.	Panel Discussion and Q&A Tiah R. Tomlin-Harris, My Style Matters, Atlanta, Georgia

Break
2:45-3 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions 3 and 4
3-4 p.m.

Concurrent Session 3: Addressing Pediatric Cancer Health Disparities from a Multifocal Lens
3-4 p.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Session Chairs:
Philip J. Lupo, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia
Michael E. Scheurer, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia

3-3:05 p.m.	Session Chair Introduction
3:05-3:20 p.m.	Global health disparities in the incidence of pediatric cancer Michael E. Scheurer, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia
3:20 – 3:35 p.m.	U.S. cancer outcome disparities: Childhood hematologic malignancies Maria Monica Gramatges, University of Alabama Birmingham Medical Center, Birmingham, Alabama
3:35-3:50 p.m.	Pediatric solid tumor outcome disparities: Potential mechanisms and supportive care interventions Puja Umaretiya, UT Southwestern, Dallas, Texas
3:50 – 4 p.m.	Panel Discussion and Q&A

Concurrent Session 4: From Barriers to Breakthroughs: Strengthening Cancer Care Delivery in Rural and Underserved Populations
3-4 p.m. | Grand Ballroom West
Session Chairs:
Rachel Ceballos, University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Institute, Salt Lake City, Utah
Amy Kennedy, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland

3-3:05 p.m.	Session Chair Introduction
3:05-3:20 p.m.	Meeting smokers at the counter: A community pharmacy model for rural tobacco cessation Melissa A. Little, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia
3:20 – 3:35 p.m.	Research approaches to understand Helicobacter pylori-associated stomach cancer in rural tribal communities Dornell Pete, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, Seattle, Washington
3:35-3:50 p.m.	Closing the distance between communities and care

Rachel Ceballos

3:50 – 4 p.m. Panel Discussion and Q&A

Break
4-4:15 p.m.

Educational Sessions 1 and 2
4:15-5:15 p.m. |

Educational Session 1: From Description to Intervention: Advancing Methods to Identify Actionable Drivers of Cancer Disparities
4:15-5:15 p.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Session Chair:
Lauren E. McCullough, Emory University, Rollins School of Public Health, Atlanta, Georgia

4:15-4:20 p.m. Session Chair Introduction

4:20-4:35 p.m. How to be a well-adjusted cancer disparities researcher
Jay Kaufman, McGill School of Population and Global Health, Montreal, QC, Canada

4:35 – 4:50 p.m. We shall overcome: Developing community-oriented solutions to cancer health disparities
Mya Roberson, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

4:50-5:05 p.m. Identifying actionable structural and social drivers of cancer health disparities
Scarlett L. Gomez, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California

5:05 – 5:15 p.m. Panel Discussion and Q&A
Maimah Karmo, Tigerlily Foundation, Stone Ridge, Virginia

Educational Session 2: Models for Cancer Health Disparities Research
4:15-5:15 p.m. | Grand Ballroom West
Session Chair:
Jose Trevino, VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center, Richmond, Virginia

4:15-4:20 p.m. Session Chair Introduction

4:20-4:35 p.m. Improving drug response prediction by increasing the genetic diversity of pre-clinical cancer models
J. Chuck Harrell, VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center, Richmond, Virginia

4:35 – 4:50 p.m. Proteomic analyses of cancer models to identify and validate molecular determinants of health disparities
Nicholas Woods, UNMC Eppley Institute, Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center, Omaha, Nebraska

4:50-5:05 p.m. Pancreas organoids for disease modeling and preclinical studies
Herve Tiriac, UCSD Medical Center, San Diego, California

5:05 – 5:15 p.m. Panel Discussion and Q&A

Break
5:15 – 5:30 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions 5 and 6
5:30-6:30 p.m. |

Concurrent Session 5: Community Outreach and Engagement in Translational Research: Perspectives from the Cancer Health Disparities SPORE and Connecting Patient Populations to Clinical Trials (CP2CT) Networks
5:30-6:30 p.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Session Chairs:
Scarlett L. Gomez, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California
Whitney Steward, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland

5:30-5:35 p.m. Session Chair Introduction

5:35-5:45 p.m. Community scientists and community advisors: Pathways to improving clinical trials and increasing participation
Lorna McNeill, UT MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas

5:45-5:55 p.m. Community advisory board engagement and community health educator outreach to improve clinical trial awareness and engagement in the ACT WONDERS study
Susan T. Vadaparampil, Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, Florida

5:55-6:05 p.m. Building trust through community navigation: Expanding access to cancer care in the Hopi Tribe
Kellen Polingyumptewa, The Hopi Tribe Departmet of Health & Human Services, Kykotsmovi, Arizona

6:05 – 6:30 p.m. Panel Discussion and Q&A
Priscilla Banks, UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, San Francisco, California
Irving Robinson, Patient Advocate, Jacksonville, Florida
Tatiana Tate, Chemo Divas Foundation, New Haven, Connecticut
Stephanie A. Wynn, Patient Advocate, Tampa, Florida

Concurrent Session 6: Advances in Reducing Disparities in Survivorship, Recurrence, and Progression with a Focus on Asian American Populations
5:30-6:30 p.m. | Grand Ballroom West
Session Chairs:
Jessica Chubak, Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute, Seattle, Washington
Jennifer Leng, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York

5:30-5:35 p.m. Session Chair Introduction

5:35-5:50 p.m. Developing psycho-oncology interventions for Chinese Americans with limited English proficiency: The role of culture and community
Florence Lui, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York

5:50-6:05 p.m. Virtual navigation for Asian American patients with cancer: Lessons learned and future directions
Janet Chu, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California

6:05-6:20 p.m. Racial and ethnic bias in risk prediction models for colorectal cancer recurrence when race and ethnicity are omitted as predictors
Aasthaa Bansal, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada

6:20-6:30 p.m. Panel Discussion and Q&A

Poster Spotlight Presentations 3 and 4
6:30-7 p.m.

Poster Spotlight Presentations 3
6:30-7 p.m.| Grand Ballroom East
Session Chair: Matthew P. Banegas, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, California

6:30-6:33 p.m. Session Chair Introduction

6:33-6:36 p.m. Light Activatable Sustained-exposure Ethanol Injection Technology (LASEIT) promotes systemic immune response in a murine model of colorectal cancer
Eva S. Landeta Orozco, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland

6:36-6:39 p.m. Cancer history and rural residence as determinants of genetic cancer risk testing engagement among U.S. adults
Dongyu Zhang, Augusta University, Augusta, Georgia

6:39-6:42 p.m. Sex-differential TLR7/FRβ biology shapes innate immunotherapy response in multiple myeloma
Olasunkanmi S. Omojokun, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana

6:42-6:45 p.m. Sociodemographic patterns of racial disparities in cardiovascular disease mortality after breast cancer diagnosis by estrogen receptor status
Xinyi Feng, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

6:45-6:48 p.m. Immune profiling reveals distinct ancestry-associated immune surveillance programmes in breast cancer
Bryan B. Ng, King's College London, London, United Kingdom

6:48-6:51 p.m. Sexual health concerns and confidence among sexual minority cancer survivors: Gender differences in a national survivorship survey
Cristobal Calvillo, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, Arkansas

6:51-6:54 p.m. Are disruptions in Medicaid coverage linked to advanced stage diagnosis of common cancers?
Parichoy Pal Choudhury, American Cancer Society, Atlanta, Georgia

6:54-6:57 p.m. Precision MUC1-targeted nanomedicine reprograms oncogenic signaling and overcomes therapeutic resistance in racially diverse triple-negative breast cancer
Briana Kinnel, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia

6:57-7 p.m. Inflammatory, immune and proliferative pathways differentiate the tumors of Black and White Women in the Carolina Endometrial Cancer Study
Caitlin Witt, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Poster Spotlight Presentations 4
6:30-7 p.m. | Grand Ballroom West
Session Chair: Carolyn Y. Fang, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

6:30-6:33 p.m. Session Chair Introduction

6:33-6:36 p.m. Racial differences in skeletal muscle transcriptomic signatures reveal distinct cachexia pathways and prognostic biomarkers in advanced pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma
Praveen Bhoopathi, Virginia Commonwelath Univeristy, Richmond, Virginia

6:36-6:39 p.m. Genetic ancestry and histology shape homologous recombination deficiency signatures in non-small cell lung cancer
Moses Kamita, Fox Chase Cancer Center-Temple Health, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

6:39-6:42 p.m. Low tumor expression of PSIP1/LEDGF/p75 is more prevalent in prostate cancer patients of African and East Asian descent and associated with improved immunotherapy outcomes possibly via increased pyroptotic vulnerability

Adelaide V. Makamure, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, California

6:42-6:45 p.m. Tumor-educated platelets function as active regulators of prostate cancer in African Americans rather than passive bystanders in the circulatory microenvironment
Vera Mariani, George Washington University, Washington, District of Columbia

6:45-6:48 p.m. Integrative multi-omics profiling reveals genomic ancestry-associated molecular features of early-onset colorectal cancer
Francisco G. Carranza, Beckman Research Institute of City of Hope, Duarte, California

6:48-6:51 p.m. Influences of ancestry-associated non-pathogenic germline variants as cancer vulnerabilities
Nicole Peiris, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts

6:51-6:54 p.m. Race-specific hypermethylation of breast cancer driver genes concentrates in estrogen receptor-negative tumors
Bayan M. Toloubadei, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

6:54-6:57 p.m. An ADCK4-NUMBL chimeric transcript generates a cell cycle-regulated cytoplasmic protein associated with Black race and poor prognosis in patients with lung adenocarcinoma
Lauren A. Cardosi, Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, Florida

6:57-7 p.m. Disparities in the tumor-immune microenvironment of primary prostate cancer tumors and lymph node metastases at single-cell spatial resolution
Carlos S. Moreno, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

Poster Session C and Reception
7-8:30 p.m.| Galleria Exhibit Hall 2,3,5,6,7

Wednesday, October 21

Breakfast and Networking Roundtables
8 - 9 a.m. | Galleria Exhibit Hall 1

Christian Alvarez and Tsz Chun (Kelvin) Choi	Training and Research Opportunities at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities
Sonikpreet Aulakh	Building a Career as a Clinician-Scientist in Oncology: Balancing Patient Care, Research, and Professional Growth
Denisha Brown, Nicole Bullock, and Wenora Johnson	Recognizing Community Expertise: Building Trust and Meaningful Partnerships in Cancer Research
Mya Roberson	Scientific Communication in Cancer Health Disparities Research

Enrique Velazquez Villarreal	Artificial Intelligence in Cancer Health Disparities
Clayton Yates	Obtaining a Tenure-Track Faculty Position

Plenary Session 5: The Sociomicrobiome: Microbial Pathways Linking Social Drivers to Infection-Associated Cancer Disparities
9 - 10:30 a.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Session Chair**:**
Katherine Y. Tossas, VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center, Richmond, Virginia

9 - 9:05 a.m. Session Chair Introduction

9:05 - 9:25 a.m. Decoding the role of lifestyle and behavioral factors on the microbiome–metabolome axis in cervical cancer risk
Natalie M. Meléndez-Vázquez, University of Puerto Rico - Medical Sciences Campus, San Juan, Puerto Rico

9:25 - 9:45 a.m. Genomic diversity, sociomicrobiome determinants, and immunomodulatory role of *Fannyhessea* in HPV, dysplasia, and cervical cancer among Arizona cohorts
Nicole Jimenez, University of Arizona College of Medicine - Phoenix, Phoenix, Arizona

9:45 - 10:05 a.m. Engineering native bacteria to probe microbial links between environment, inflammation, and cancer risk
Amir Zarrinpar, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, California

10:05 - 10:30 a.m. Panel Discussion and Q&A

Coffee Break
10:30 – 10:45 a.m. | Grand Ballroom Foyer

Plenary Session 6: From Observation to Action: Innovative Approaches to Understanding and Addressing Early-Onset Cancer Disparities
10:45 a.m. -12:15 p.m. | Grand Ballroom East
Session Chairs:
LeeAnn O. Bailey, National Cancer Inst - Shady Grove Campus, Rockville, Maryland
Cassandra Fritz, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri

10:45-10:50 a.m. Session Chair Introduction

10:50 -11:05 a.m. Understanding the rise in early-onset breast cancer: Epidemiologic clues and opportunities for prevention
Rebecca Kehm, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, New York, New York

11:05 – 11:20 a.m. Early-onset colorectal cancer: Translating observation into action
Cathy Eng, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee

11:20 – 11:35 a.m.	Early onset cancers and health disparities: Emerging biology in a changing risk landscape Clayton Yates, Johns Hopkins Medicine Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, Baltimore, Maryland
11:35 -11:42 a.m.	Tamika Felder, Cervivor, Inc., Upper Marlboro, Maryland
11:42-11:49 a.m.	Filling gaps in care for young adults with cancer Lisa Simms Booth, Smith Center for Healing and the Arts, Washington, DC
11:49 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	Panel Discussion and Q&A

Closing Remarks
12:15-12:30 p.m. | Grand Ballroom East

Iona C. Cheng, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California
Melissa B. Davis, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia
Carmen E. Guerra, Perelman School of Medicine University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Kimberly Richardson, Black Cancer Collaborative, Chicago, Illinois
Enrique I. Velazquez Villarreal, City of Hope, Duarte, California