

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Ethan Basch, MD, MSc, was appointed as a member of the Methodology Committee of the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). PCORI was created under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to oversee development of a national agenda around comparative effectiveness research.

STAFF PROMOTION

Irina Ostrovnya, PhD was promoted to Assistant Member from Assistant Member Level 1.

FAREWELL TO SIMONE HUTCHINSON

After two years as the research secretary for our Epidemiology Service, Simone Hutchinson will be leaving us to pursue a career as the administrative research secretary for Dr. Richard O'Reilly, Chair of Pediatrics. We wish Simone all the best in her future position!

WELLNESS CHAMPIONS

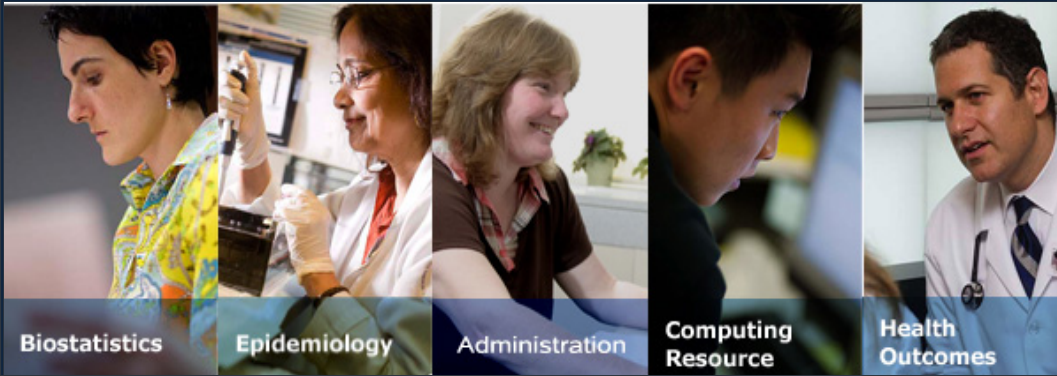
Tricia Neary and Brendan Phalan have elected to become "Wellness Champions" on behalf of the Employee Health department. There are currently over 130 Champions throughout the Center. Please feel free to ask them any questions about the Center's health initiatives and wellness resources. In this role, they are also able to relay any concerns or recommendations about the program.

CRG CORNER

The Clinical Research Database (CRDB) runs on three platforms including CRDB Client, CRDB Web and CRDBi. The Computer Resource Group (CRG) introduced new forms, reports, and additional data collection tools including:

- ❖ Pharmacokinetics Form

CRDBi is the web client platform of the Clinical Research Database. The release version is currently CRDBi 1.22.1



DEPARTMENT CHAIR
Colin Begg, PhD

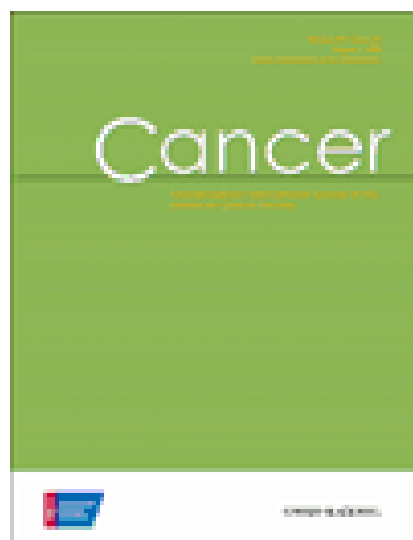
EDITORS
Sharon Bayuga, MPH
Rick Church, MPH
Brian Denton, MS
Joshua Mirkin
Brendan Phalan

FACULTY HIGHLIGHT: SUJATA PATIL

A Midwesterner for most of her life, **Sujata Patil, PhD**, moved to NYC to join MSKCC in the Spring of 2006. At MSKCC, Sujata primarily works with oncologists and surgeons in the breast and genitourinary cancer services on the design and analysis of clinical studies. In a recent publication, Sujata and colleagues showed that, in an MSKCC clinical trial population, disease characteristics used to predict whether a metastatic renal cell cancer patient has poor, intermediate, or favorable prognosis have shifted in distribution over the last three decades. This has an effect on how we design and interpret current renal cancer clinical studies. In January 2010, a paper presenting this work was published in *Cancer*, "[Stage migration and increasing proportion of favorable-prognosis metastatic renal cell carcinoma patients](#)," by Sujata Patil, Nicole Ishill, John Deluca, and Robert J. Motzer. The team is currently validating this observation in a large multicenter, international study including more than 3,700 patients.



Sujata Patil, PhD



Sujata received her PhD in Biostatistics from the University of Michigan with a dissertation study on methods to investigate the relationship between two or more longitudinal trajectories as predictors of disease outcome. During her studies, Sujata also reveled in Russian language and literature studies. Russian novels such as *The Brothers Karamazov* by Dostoyevsky and *The Master and Margarita* by Mikhail Bulgakov are two of her favorites.

THIRD NORTH AMERICAN CONGRESS OF EPIDEMIOLOGY

Montreal, Canada

June 21st-24th, 2011

<http://www.epicongress2011.org>

As co-chair of the meeting, **Jonine Bernstein, PhD**, invites you to attend the Third North American Congress of Epidemiology. Twenty five epidemiologic societies and over 100 Congress Faculty are involved in sponsoring and planning this event. Participants will include epidemiologic researchers, methodologists, educators, and policy makers from academia, public health, government, and industry. Over 30 symposia and 14 workshops are scheduled. Hundreds of abstracts will be also chosen from almost 1300 submissions to be presented in the 32 contributed paper and three poster sessions. This is the most significant meeting in the field and is held only once every five years.

The Congress will recognize notable contributions to epidemiology study, practice and policy through eight awards in three categories: distinguished scientists, student paper prizes, and training program excellence. These awards are named in honor of epidemiologists who have advanced our field in years past. The submission deadline for the Scientist and Training Program awards is March 1, 2011. For detailed descriptions of awards, eligibility criteria, and submission requirements, please visit the Award Nominations page on the Congress website: <http://www.epicongress2011.org/awards.html>

Meeting registration is now open! Visit the registration page for meeting fees, deadlines, and how to sign up for the event: <http://www.epicongress2011.org/reginfo.html>

We look forward to seeing you in Montreal June 21st-24th, 2011!

BIOSTATISTICS SEMINARS

February 7th 11:00AM – 12:00PM
Room: 3rd Floor Conference (63rd St)
❖ "Covariate Adjusted
Discrimination Methods with
Applications to Neuroscience"
Josephine Asafu-Adjei
University of Pittsburgh

February 8th 3:00 – 4:00PM
Room: 3rd Floor Conference (63rd St)
❖ Ruosha Li
Emory University

February 15th 2:30 – 3:30PM
Room: 3rd Floor Conference (63rd St)
❖ Rameela Chandrasekhar
State University of New York at
Buffalo

**CENTER FOR HEALTH
POLICY & OUTCOMES**

In January, the Web site for the Center for Health Policy & Outcomes came online. Visit the Web site to learn more about the Center's mission, research priorities, and upcoming seminars.

February 11th 11:30AM – 12:30PM
Room: M-107
❖ "Involuntary Use of Out-of-
Network Physicians in Private
Health Plans"
Kelly Kyanko, MD
Yale School of Medicine

February 14th 4:00 – 5:00PM
❖ "Reducing Overmedication: The
Case with Proton Pump Inhibitors"
Amy Linsky, MD, MSc
Boston Medical Center

**PREVENTION, CONTROL
& POPULATION
RESEARCH SEMINARS**

February 10th 4:00 – 5:00PM
Room: RRL-101
❖ Karen H. Lu, MD
The University of Texas MD
Anderson Cancer Center

March 3rd 4:00 – 5:00PM
Room: RRL-116
❖ Flora van Leeuwen, PhD
The Netherlands Cancer Institute

March 8th 4:00 – 5:00PM
Room: M-107
❖ Craig Earle, MD
Sunnybrook Health Sciences
Centre

**DEPARTMENTAL HOLIDAY PARTY
& SERVICE AWARDS**

December 9, 2010

With great camaraderie and cause to celebrate, department faculty and staff gathered to honor the achievements of 2010 and to recognize the service milestones of colleagues. A delicious meal was followed by homemade desserts, including famed slices of pound cake and local chocolates. Jazz filled the air, a nametag game encouraged introductions, and a profile morphing game generated much laughter, discussion, and a little bit of fear.

Much thanks go to all those who made this event possible, especially Dr. Kevin Oeffinger for helping us to hold this event in such a beautiful setting.

- Anne Eaton.....tablecloths, decorations
- Brendan Phalan.....food, set up, clean up, service pins
- Dawn Lavene.....set up
- Deborah Kuk.....set up
- Ethan Basch.....music, beverages
- Hilda Enriquez.....clean up
- Joanne Chou.....Rockefeller liaison, set up, clean up, beverages, food drive
- Julie Ruckel.....beverages, food drive
- Joseph Kanik.....clean up
- Larry Engel.....advisor
- Laura Sit.....games, decorations, set up, photos
- Lauren Rogak.....food, decorations, set up
- Liora Pollick.....games, decorations, set up
- Meier Hsu.....set up
- Paige Nobles.....clean up
- Radhai Rastogi.....invitations
- Rick Church.....clean up
- Sharon Bayuga.....photographer
- Shireen Lewis.....finances, overall coordination
- Tracy Layne.....set up
- Victoria Blinder.....beverages
- Wes Fang.....set up

Congratulations and thank you for your service!

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|-----------------|--------------------|
| <u>5 Years</u> | <u>15 Years</u> |
| Christine Zhou | Venkatraman Seshan |
| Meghan Woods | Jun Yan |
| Marinela Capanu | Jaya Satagopan |
| Wes Fang | Sara Olson |
| Alexia Iasonos | |
| Angel Cronin | <u>20 Years</u> |
| Li-Xuan Qin | Wei Ji Shi |
| <u>10 Years</u> | |
| Qinfei Wu | |

