In Balance

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MD Anderson Cancer Center
Making Cancer History®

June 2018

The Center for Energy Balance in Cancer Prevention and Survivorship, of the Duncan Family Institute, facilitates and conducts state-of-the-science research to understand the relationship between activity, nutrition, obesity and cancer, and uses this knowledge to optimize interventions to decrease cancer risk and improve cancer outcomes. The Center sponsors collaborative research, transdisciplinary educational opportunities and seminars to create, produce and disseminate innovative and practice-changing research results.

Upcoming Conferences

June 24 – 26, 2018, Seattle, WA
AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting: The Premier Forum for Health Services Research

July 10 – 13, 2018, New York, NY
Annual Meeting of the Psychometric Society (IMPS)

July 28 – August 2, 2018 Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
Joint Statistical Meeting

Upcoming Abstract Submission Deadlines

November, 2 – 5, 2018, New Orleans, LA
11th AACR Conference on The Science of Cancer Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic Minorities & the Medically Underserved
Abstract Due: July 18, 2018

February 19 – 22, 2019, San Diego, CA
AACR: Modernizing Population Sciences in the Digital Age
Abstract Due: November 19, 2018

March 20 – 23, 2019, Auckland, New Zealand
International Society for Gastrointestinal Hereditary Tumors (InSiGHT) Biennial Meeting
Abstract Due: October 29, 2018

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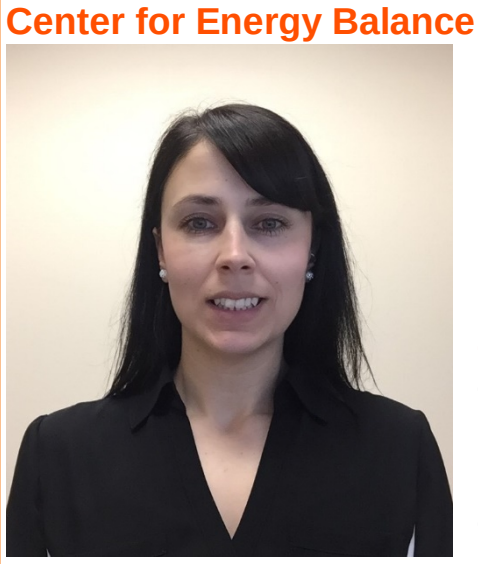
Center for Energy Balance in Cancer Prevention & Survivorship



Energy Balance Research Seminar
Thursday, June 28, 2018

Title: "High-Intensity Interval Training Among Women at Heightened Risk of Breast Cancer"
Facilitated by: Adriana M. Coletta, PhD, RD
Location: ACB8.2680 ab
Time: 12:00–1:00 PM

Research Spotlight: Getting to Know Adriana M. Coletta, PhD, RD

Adriana Coletta seemed destined to be right where she is at this point in time, integrating principles from sports nutrition and kinesiology in cancer research. "I have been interested in cancer research since I was in high school," she recalls. "One of the main reasons I went to Penn State (University Park, PA) was to get involved in the Penn State Dance Marathon (a.k.a. THON), the largest student-run philanthropy in the world. The organization raises millions of dollars each year to support cancer research at Penn State's Hershey Medical Center and to help families afford their child's care. I was involved in this organization throughout my entire time at Penn State, and even participated in the 46-hour dance marathon, while representing the University's Student Nutrition Association."

In addition to her involvement in THON, Dr. Coletta competed in the lightweight division on the Penn State Crew Team, where she learned first-hand the role nutrition played in optimizing body composition and human performance. At Penn State she worked with Dr. Kris Clark, a world-renowned sports dietician, and was inspired to pursue a career in sports nutrition research. After earning her BS in Nutrition at Penn State, she moved to the University of Tennessee (Knoxville, TN) to earn an MS in Nutrition Science with a minor in Exercise Science and complete a dietetic internship program to obtain her license to practice as a registered dietitian. "Dr. Hollie Raynor took me on as a mentee and allowed me to work between the nutrition and exercise science departments to complete my master's thesis project. Part of my training included working in Dr. Raynor's behavioral weight loss laboratory, where I first became interested in energy balance work."

By the end of her MS and dietetic internship program, Dr. Coletta was certain she wanted to do research, but decided to take a break from school and get a job. She was offered a position as a pediatric dietitian at Johns Hopkins Children's Center (Baltimore, MD). "I loved my job and being part of the medical team working with patients and their families," she explains. "In my work, I found that I was frequently answering questions about exercise and dietary strategies. This brought sports nutrition back into the picture and inspired me to marry the concepts of sports nutrition and kinesiology in clinical care. This led me to pursue my Ph.D. in Kinesiology at Texas A&M University (College Station, TX). I worked under the mentorship of Dr. Richard Kreider, whose lab conducted research in both sports nutrition and energy balance with clinical populations. My dissertation was a six-month diet and exercise intervention that included a genetic component similar to the concepts of precision medicine. During this process, I felt that my dissertation intervention still needed a structured behavioral component to assist with lifestyle compliance. This reignited my interest in cancer research and ultimately led me to my current position at MD Anderson."

Since May of 2016, Dr. Coletta has served as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the NCI R25 Cancer Prevention Research Training Program and in the Department of Behavioral Science. Her mentors are Dr. Karen Basen-Engquist and Dr. Susan Gilchrist. Her primary project consisted of a supervised exercise intervention to determine if there is a level of exercise more effective at promoting favorable changes in biomarkers linked with breast cancer among women at heightened risk of breast cancer. Other projects she has worked on include assessment of physical activity behavior and identification of demographic, social and clinical predictors of physical activity behavior among cancer prevention patients and breast cancer survivors in a clinical cancer prevention setting, a home-based exercise intervention among endometrial cancer survivors, and an assessment of different methods to measure body composition and quantify visceral fat among gastrointestinal and pancreatic patients and survivors. "Moving forward, my energy balance research will integrate principles from sports nutrition and kinesiology to optimize body composition and associated biomarkers for cancer prevention and survivorship. There is much to be studied and done in this area, and I am grateful to have had such incredible mentors along the way," she concludes.

Shortly after making her presentation at the June Energy Balance Research Seminar, Dr. Coletta will join the faculty at the Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah (Salt Lake City), as a tenure track professor. With her track record and expertise, it is safe to assume she will leave yet another mark with her meaningful work, as she has, time after time.

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Studies in Progress

Spotlighted Researchers

Energy Balance Website

Become a Member

Energy Balance Assessment Supplemental Funding

Energy Balance offers funding (up to $5000 per project) to support specific assessments, administered through the Assessment, Intervention, and Measurement Core (AIM) or the Bionutrition Research Core (BRC).
Application form, PI's biosketch, currently approved protocol (if applicable), and budget should be submitted electronically to energybalance@mdanderson.org by 5 pm, **June 30th, 2018.**

Energy Balance Faculty Search

Job Title: Open Rank, Term Tenure of Term Tenure Track

We are interested in recruiting a faculty member in basic, translational, clinical, or population science. Investigators with expertise in physical activity, nutrition, obesity, or metabolic disease who would like to refocus their research on cancer are welcome to apply. Possible areas of research include, but are not limited to:

- Weight loss, nutrition, physical activity trials and/or studies to test novel interventions, novel methods of assessment and investigate mechanisms underlying behavior change, weight loss and weight regain
- Muscle and adipose tissue physiology and sleep/circadian biology related to weight loss and exercise interventions
- Physiologic effects of exercise/diet/weight change and their impact on cancer-related biomarkers and outcomes
- Dissemination/implementation and health disparities research related to energy balance and weight loss interventions in clinical or community populations

Email: Energybalance@mdanderson.org for additional information.

Current Funding Opportunities:

National Institutes of Health [Standard dates apply]
Cancer Prevention and Control Clinical Trials Grant Programs (R01): PAR-18-559
Testing Interventions for Health-Enhancing Physical Activity: PAR-18-324 (R01)
Developing Interventions for Health-Enhancing Physical Activity: PAR-18-307 (R21/R33)
Collaborative Innovation Award, Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) Program (U01): PAR-18-244
Advancing Translational and Clinical Probiotic/Prebiotic and Human Microbiome Research: PA-15-127(R01)
Education and Health: New Frontiers (R21): PAR-18-387; (R01): PAR-16-080; (R03): PAR-18-388
Examination of Survivorship Care Planning Efficacy and Impact (R21): PA-18-012; (R01): PA-18-002
Exploratory/Developmental Clinical Research Grants in Obesity: PA-18-104 (R21)
Education and Health: New Frontiers (R21):PAR-18-387; (R01): PAR-16-080
Systems Science and Health in the Behavioral and Social Sciences (R01): PAR-15-048
Translational Research to Improve Diabetes and Obesity Outcomes (R01): PA-13-352
Leveraging Cognitive Neuroscience to Improve Assessment of Cancer Treatment-Related Cognitive Impairment (R01): PAR-16-212; (R21) PAR-16-213
Predicting Behavioral Responses to Population-Level Cancer Control Strategies (R21): PAR-18-024
Innovative Approaches to Studying Cancer Communication in the New Media Environment (R01): PAR-16-249; (R21): PAR-16-248
Cancer-Related Behavioral Research through Integrating Existing Data (R01): PAR-16-256; (R21): PAR-16-255
Stimulating Innovations in Behavioral Intervention Research for Cancer Prevention and Control (R21): PAR-18-018
National Cancer Institute Program Project Applications (P01): PAR-18-290
Physical Activity and Weight Control Interventions Among Cancer Survivors: Effects on Biomarkers of Prognosis and Survival (R21): PAR-18-016. (R01): PAR-18-006

American Cancer Society
The Extramural Grants Department encourages applications for research projects that focus on the multifaceted relationship between nutrition, physical activity and cancer: Extramural Grants

Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas
Company Relocation Product Development Research Award: RFA C-18.2-RELCO
High-Impact/High-Risk Research Awards (HIHR): RFA R-18.2-HIHR
Multi-Investigator Research Awards (MIRA): RFA R-18.2-MIRA
Texas Company Development Research Award: RFA C-18.2-TXCO