

Perspectives From an Experienced Investigator

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Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences

Bethesda, Maryland, USA

Perspectives From an Experienced Investigator or How I Avoided Being a One-Hit Wonder

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My Background – Part 1

- 1983 PhD in Clinical Psychology/Internship**
- 1985-87 Post-doc in Psychosocial Oncology (T32)**
- 1987-94 Assistant to Associate - MSKCC**

- 1985 R03 NIMH: Psychological reactions to learning HTLV-III results**
- 1992 R01 NCI: Nausea prevention in cancer therapy**

Facilitators

Right place at the right time

Post-doctoral training

Excellent mentors, collaborators, and colleagues

Early publication success and productivity

Focus on theory-driven clinically meaningful research

Generous paylines, limited competition

My Background – Part 2

- 1994-08 Clinical Program Leader
Moffitt Cancer Center**
- 1994-12 Research Program Leader
Moffitt Cancer Center**
- 1994-16 Associate/Full Professor
University of South Florida**
- 2012-16 Associate Center Director
Moffitt Cancer Center**

My Background – Part 2

- 1996 R01 NCI; Stress management training for chemotherapy patients**
- 1999 R01 NCI: Cognitive-behavioral aspects of cancer-related fatigue (renewed 2004)**
- 2002 R25T NCI: Behavioral oncology education and career development (renewed 2009, 2014)**
- 2003 P20 NCI/NIA: Aging and cancer program development**
- 2008 R01 NCI: LHRH Agonist therapy and cognitive functioning**

My Background – Part 2

2005 ACS: Stress management and exercise during cancer chemotherapy

2012 ACS: Stress management training for Latinas receiving chemotherapy

2015 R21: Internet-assisted cognitive-behavioral intervention for targeted therapy fatigue

Plus industry- and private foundation-funded research

Plus CCOP and NCORP funded studies

Plus numerous grants as Co-I, Site PI

Facilitators

Right place at the right time (again)

Excellent mentors, collaborators, and colleagues (again)

Excellent graduate students and post-docs

Development and supervision of research team

Continued publication success and productivity

Focus on theory-driven clinically meaningful research (again)

Continuity plus innovation (understanding and addressing quality of life issues in cancer)

Journal service, organizational service, visibility

Study section experience

Networking

Lessons Learned

Priority setting and time management is critical

Personnel and fiscal management skills essential

Keep looking ahead – new ideas, new areas, new applications of existing approaches

Seek out feedback and constructive criticism

Be opportunistic and entrepreneurial

Have several irons in the fire at any one time

Shake off but learn from mistakes/rejections

Learn all you can about review and funding processes

Don't forget why you engage in research

My Background – Part 3

2016- Associate Director, Healthcare Delivery Research Program, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, NCI

Questions
