NIH NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

Basic Biobehavioral and Psychological Sciences Branch (BBPSB)

cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brp/bbpsb

About BBPSB

Mission

BBPSB cultivates an extramural portfolio that generates basic behavioral, biobehavioral, and psychological science knowledge with translational relevance to cancer prevention and control.

Highlighted Research Domains and Funding Opportunities

Affective Science

Effects of affect and emotion on individual and collective cancer-related behavioral decision-making.

Funding Opportunity
Fundamental Mechanisms of Affective and Decisional Processes in Cancer Control

PAR-18-681 (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

Medication Adherence

Psychological, behavioral, and contextual factors underlying adherence to oral anticancer treatment.

Funding Opportunity
Oral Anticancer Agents: Utilization, Adherence, and Health Care Delivery

PA-18-004 (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)
PA-18-014 (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)

Neural Regulation

Mechanisms used by the nervous system to promote tumor initiation, progression, and metastasis.

Funding Opportunity
Neural Regulation of Cancer

PAR-19-353 (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
PAR-19-354 (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Cancer-Related Cognitive Impairment

Integration of cognitive neuroscience approaches to improve assessment of cognitive impairment related to cancer.

Funding Opportunity
Leveraging Cognitive Neuroscience to Improve Assessment of Cancer Treatment-Related Cognitive Impairment

PAR-19-340 (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)
PAR-19-339 (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)

Perception and Cognition

Basic research in perception, attention, and cognition relevant to cancer control and prevention.

Funding Opportunity
Perception and Cognition Research to Inform Cancer Image Interpretation

PAR-18-640 (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)
PAR-18-641 (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)

A complete list of BRP funding opportunities can be found at cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brpfunding.

Organizational Structure

- **NCI** — National Cancer Institute
- **DCCPS** — Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences
- **BRP** — Behavioral Research Program
- **BBPSB** — **Basic Biobehavioral and Psychological Sciences Branch**

Modular R01s

This NCI funding opportunity will support projects in the population sciences that lend themselves to a shorter time span and reduced budget. Topics of interest to BBPSB include:

- Behavioral consequences of immunotherapies
- Complex patients with co- and multimorbidities
- Aging trajectories in cancer survivors (see next page)
- Ethical issues in behavioral research
- Methodology and measurement of biobehavioral moderators and mediators
- Identification and validation of psychological and biobehavioral mechanisms or processes hypothesized to be measurable, malleable, and implicated in behavior change

Funding Opportunity
Modular R01s in Cancer Control and Population Sciences

PAR-18-869 (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

Aging Trajectories in Cancer Survivors

BBPSB is interested in better understanding the effects of cancer and its treatment on well-being and aging trajectories during survivorship. Areas of research emphasis include:

- Identification of aging phenotypes in cancer survivors, and mechanisms underlying them
- Development of methods and measurement approaches to identify aging trajectories
- Implications of aging-related biological, behavioral, and psychosocial changes for cancer risk and outcomes
- Inclusion of older adults in studies of survivorship

Webinar Series

Learn more about BBPSB interests at https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brp/bbpsb/aging-trajectories.html and about our webinar series on cancer and aging at https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brpwebinars.

Cancer and Accelerated Aging: Advancing Research for Healthier Survivors

Cancer & Accelerated Aging ADVANCING RESEARCH FOR HEALTHIER SURVIVORS

This initiative represents a collaboration of the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute on Aging, and representatives from cancer research institutions throughout the country. It aims to identify research gaps and promising approaches to improve our ability to understand, predict, and mitigate aging consequences of cancer and treatment.

Relevant Publication

Guida JL, Ahles TA, Belsky D, et al. Measuring aging and identifying aging phenotypes in cancer survivors. J Natl Cancer Inst. 2019. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31321426.

Pop-Up Perception Labs

Studying trained professionals, such as radiologists, is key to improving cancer detection and diagnosis through perceptual and cognitive research on cancer image perception. However, limited access to these professionals makes this research difficult. To address this barrier, NCI hosts pop-up labs at scientific meetings where these professionals are present. These labs provide a shared facility for investigators to recruit and test radiologist observers, with support from the meeting organizers. Past labs have been held at the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) annual meeting; learn more at https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brp/bbpsb/rsna-perception-laboratory.html.

Relevant Publication

Toomey RJ, McEntee MF, Rainford LA. The pop-up research centre–Challenges and opportunities. Radiography. 2019. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31481183.

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