



Cancer and Aging Program



Conference Announcement

AGING, DECISION MAKING, AND CANCER: AN INVITATION FOR MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

Friday, November 4, 2005, 8:00 am to 4:15 pm

Kelch Conference Room, 1289 CBRB, University of Iowa [MAP](#)

This conference will focus on the promising collaboration between basic scientists investigating human decision making and applied scientists conducting research with cancer populations. Presentations will emphasize how applied cancer research can benefit from findings in the field of basic decision-making. Topics will include risk perception, heuristics and biases, affect, motivation, and social influence.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Ellen Peters, PhD
Decision Research Institute and the University of Oregon

Dr. Peters studies affective and analytical processes underlying decisions that people make in our increasingly complex world, particularly the interaction of characteristics of the decision situation and characteristics of the individual. She also teaches courses in Decision Making and Motivation and Emotion at the University of Oregon.

Sponsors: The UI Dept. of Neurology and the Cancer and Aging Program, an NCI/NIA grant program (5 P20 CA 103672-03) through the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center and the UI Center on Aging.

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Registration and conference agenda available on the Cancer and Aging website at www.cancerandaging.uiowa.edu or call 319- 335-8599.

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Cancer and Aging Program Office

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*The Cancer and Aging Program at the University of Iowa presents a
Topical Meeting on Cancer Research*

AGING, DECISION MAKING, AND CANCER: AN INVITATION FOR MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

November 4, 2005

Overview

This one-day meeting is modeled after several national conferences focused on the promising collaboration between basic scientists investigating human decision making, and applied scientists conducting research with cancer populations.

Significance

The field of judgment and decision making has made important advancements over the past 50 years in how well humans make relatively simple decisions. In real life, however, decision making is often complex and emotional, as in the cases of individuals with cancer. Decision making occurs at all points along the cancer continuum, from prevention and diagnosis, to treatment, survivorship, and palliative care.

Cancer can be considered a disease of the aged, with 77% of newly diagnosed cases occurring in individuals over age 55. There are approximately 9 million cancer survivors in the United States, with the majority over age 60. Thus, the modal cancer patient is an older adult with improving survival rates given expanded treatment options.

This meeting will emphasize how applied cancer research can benefit from the findings in the field of basic decision making, including topics such as risk perception, heuristics and biases, affect, motivation, and social influence.

Presenters

Speakers and panel members include Ellen Peters (Psychology, The University of Oregon; and the Decision Research Institute, a nonprofit research corporation in Eugene, OR), Antoine Bechara (Psychology, University of Southern California), and the following University of Iowa faculty members: Robert Wallace (Epidemiology, Internal Medicine and PI for the Cancer and Aging Program), George Bergus (Family Medicine), John Brooks (Pharmacy), Elizabeth Chrischilles (Epidemiology), Natalie Denburg (Neurology), Irwin Levin (Psychology), David Moser (Psychiatry), and Catherine Cole, Gary Gaeth and Dhananjay [D.J.] Nayakankuppam (Marketing).

Who Should Attend?

Investigators, clinicians, and students interested in multidisciplinary approaches to enrich the design and conceptualization of cancer research. Such information is also highly relevant to health care professionals, cancer patients, and individuals at risk for cancer.

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