

# Accelerating cancer prevention

***We already know how to prevent most cancer.***

**Joint BSA&NCAB meeting**

**Dec 4 2014**

**National Cancer Institute**

Graham A. Colditz, MD DrPH, FAFPHM

Department of Surgery  
Division of Public Health Sciences



Washington University in St. Louis

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

# Goals of talk

Review potential for prevention

Challenge us to address and define – distinctive roles for NCI in cancer prevention research

Issues:

- Improving cancer prevention,
- Implementing what we know,
- Identifying what needs to be done to achieve desired effects, and
- NCI's role/priorities and collaborations with other agencies.

Shared understanding of what implementation science is

Clarity on boundaries between components of HHS

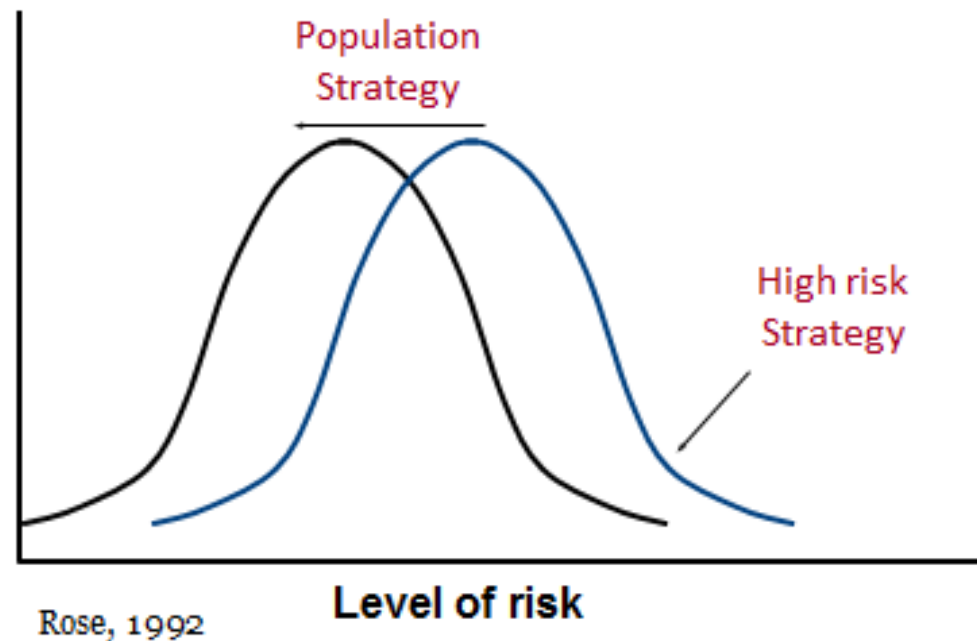
# Medical interventions proven to prevent cancer

(Sci Trans Med 2012)

Intervention	Target	Magnitude of reduction	Time (yrs)
Aspirin	Colon mortality	40%	20+
SERMs	Breast incidence	40-50%	5+
Salpingo oophorectomy	Familial breast ca	50%	3+
Screening for colorectal ca	Colon ca mortality	30-40%	10
Vaccination	Cervical ca incidence	50-100%	20+
	Liver ca incidence	70-100%	20+
Mammography	Breast ca mortality	30%	10-20
Serial CT lung	Lung ca mortality	20%	6+

# Population approach versus high risk strategy

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# Behavioral, Social and Policy interventions that impact Cancer Prevention

Intervention	Target	Type of Ix	
Reduce tobacco use	Children and Adolescents  Smokers to quit	Combined Pharmaco/behavioral Ixs  Smoke-free policies Tobacco taxes	SG
Increase physical activity	Individuals and community norms	Urban design Stairs and workplace	SG
Reduce Obesity	Population	Messages School & work environ  Physical activity Food & beverage	IOM report
Limit alcohol intake	Population	Taxes	WHO

# When we implement what we know, we prevent cancer

Tobacco –

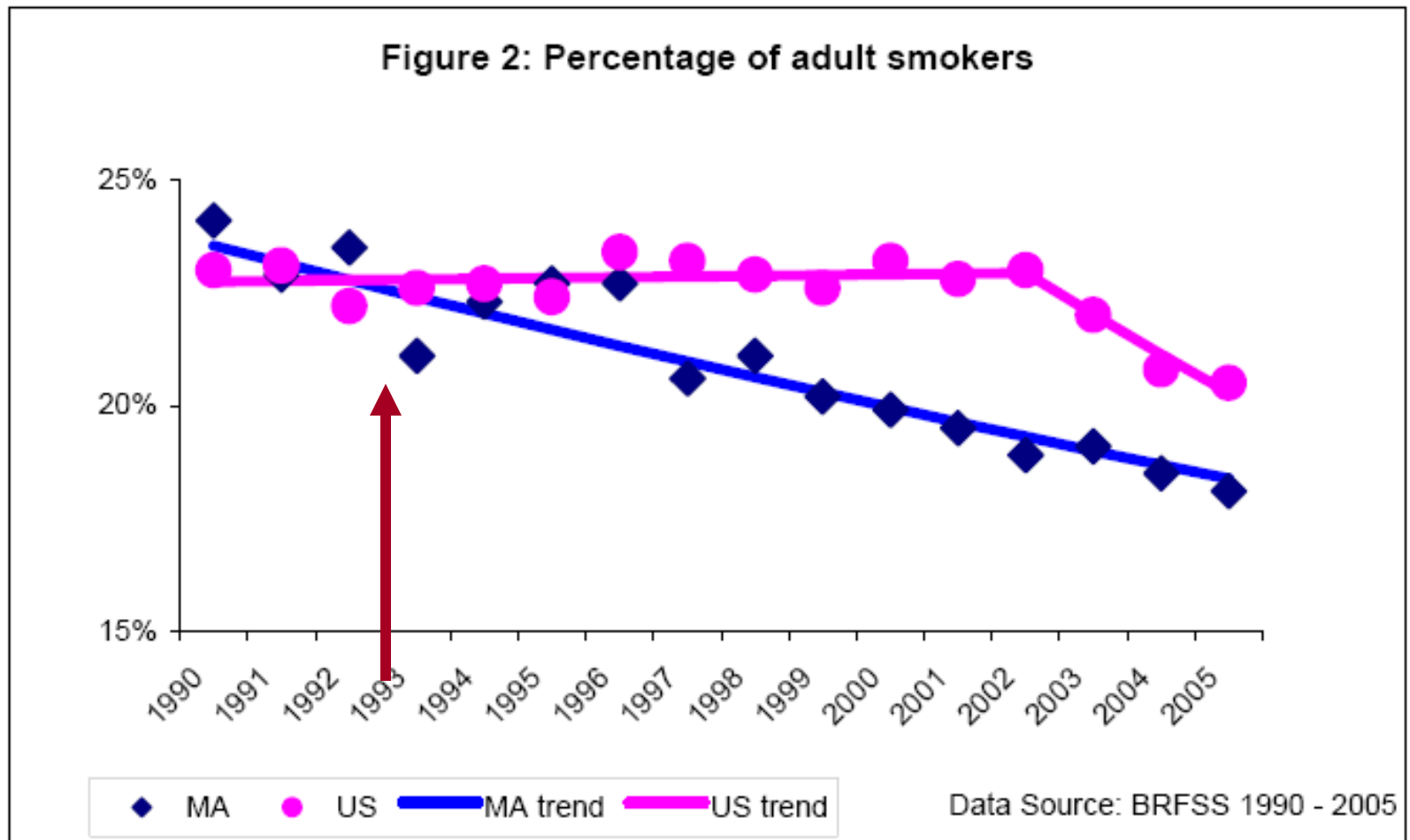
lung cancer mortality decreased by one third

- Adolescent smoking decrease 35% (1999) to 18% (2011)

Colorectal cancer screening –

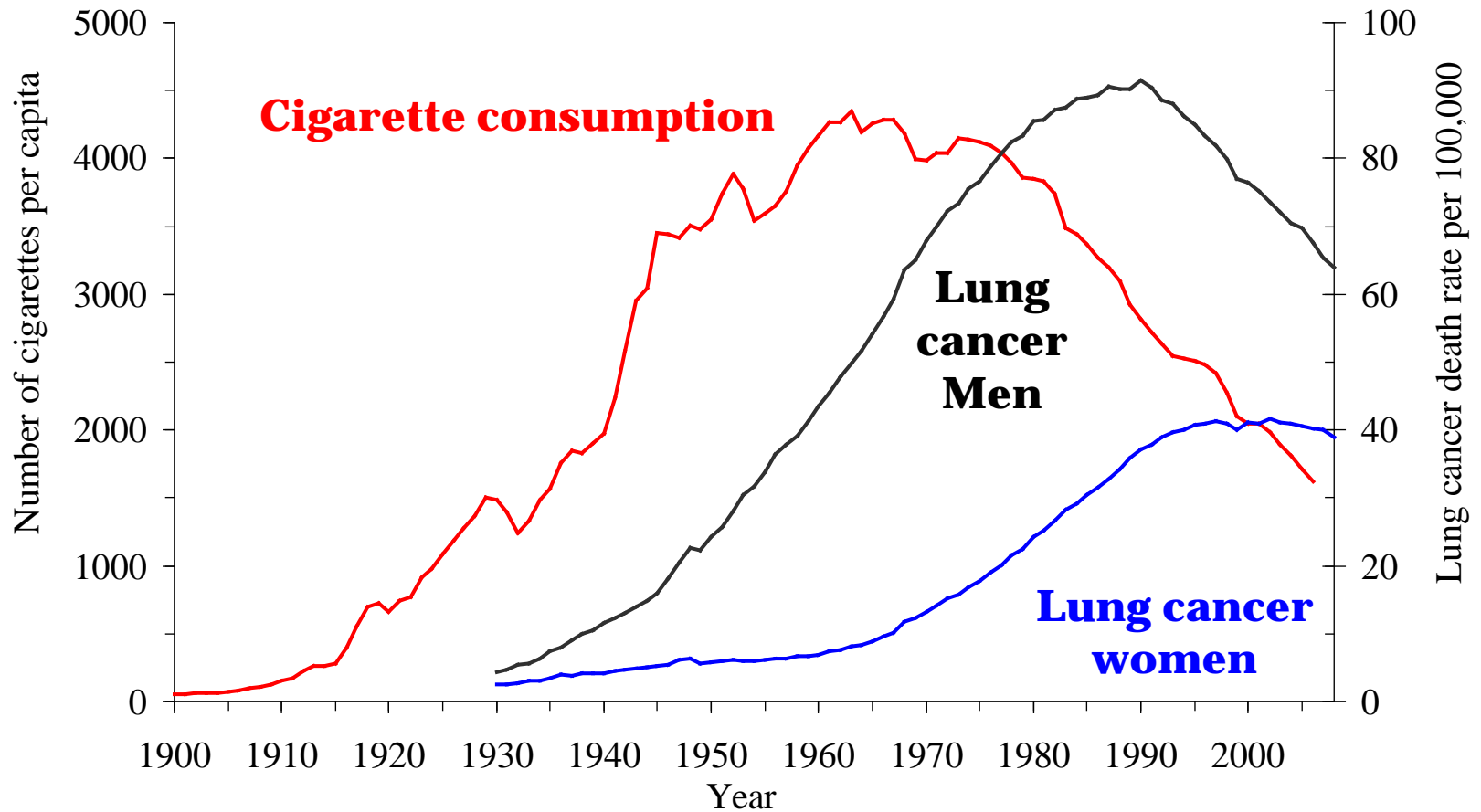
steady increase in use and reduction in CRC mortality over time

# Adult smoking prevalence US & Massachusetts, 1990-2005



Massachusetts Dept of Public Health, 2007

# Trends in smoking and lung cancer, USA





# Lifestyle: high income countries

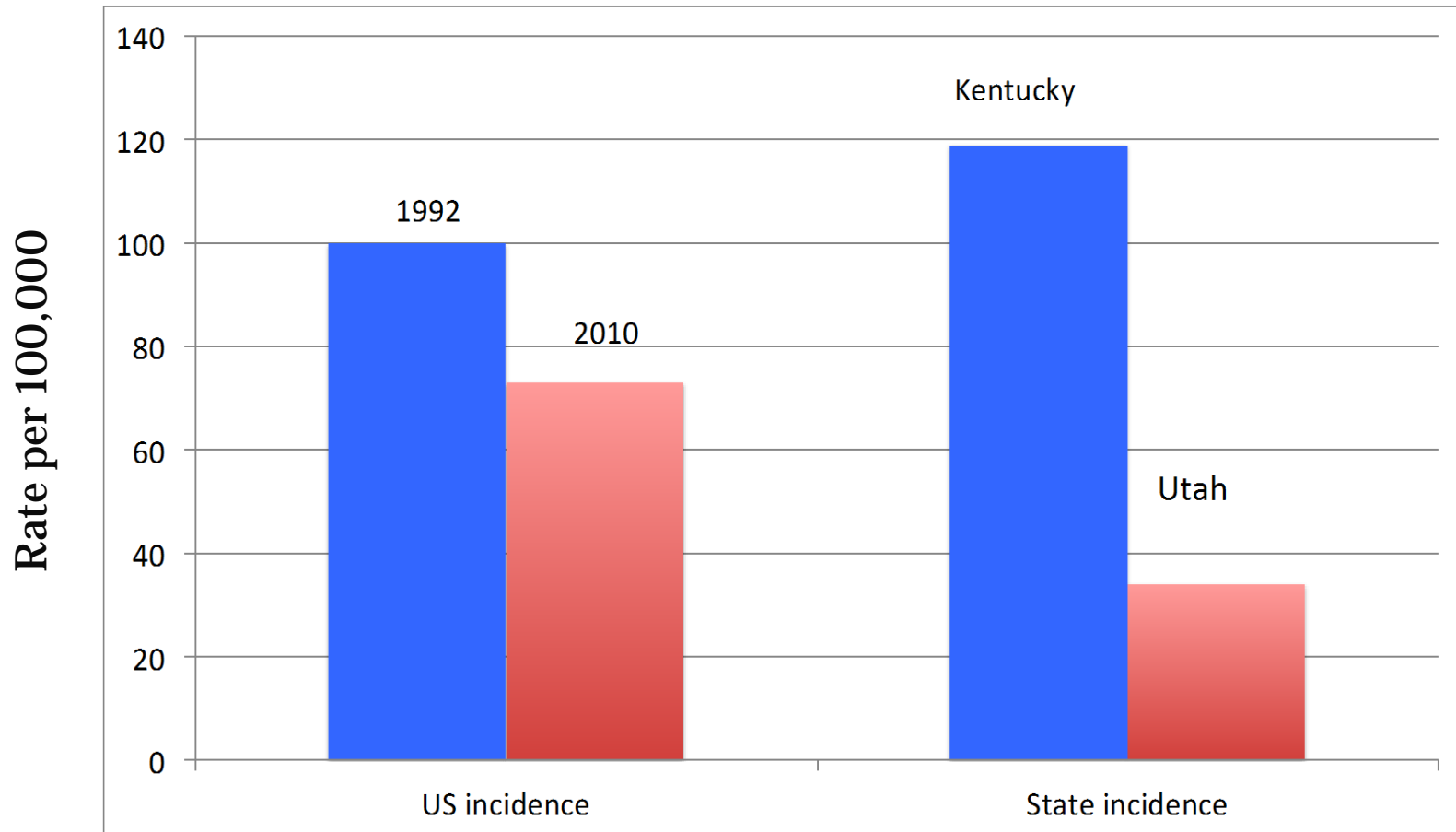
Cause	% cancer caused	Magnitude possible reduction	Time (yrs)
Smoking	33		
Overweight/obesity	20		
Diet	5		
Lack of exercise	5		
Occupation	5		
Viruses	5-7		
Family history	5		
Alcohol	3		
UV/ionizing radiation	2		
Reproductive	3		
Pollution	2		

Colditz et al. Sci Transl Med 2012: March 28

# Lifestyle: high income countries

Cause	% cancer caused	Magnitude possible reduction	Time (yrs)
Smoking	33	75%	
Overweight/obesity	20	50%	
Diet	5	50%	
Lack of exercise	5	85%	
Occupation	5	50%	
Viruses	5-7	100%	
Family history	5	50%	
Alcohol	3	50%	
UV/ionizing radiation	2	50%	
Reproductive	3	0	
Pollution	2	0	

# Burden Cigarette Smoking, USA

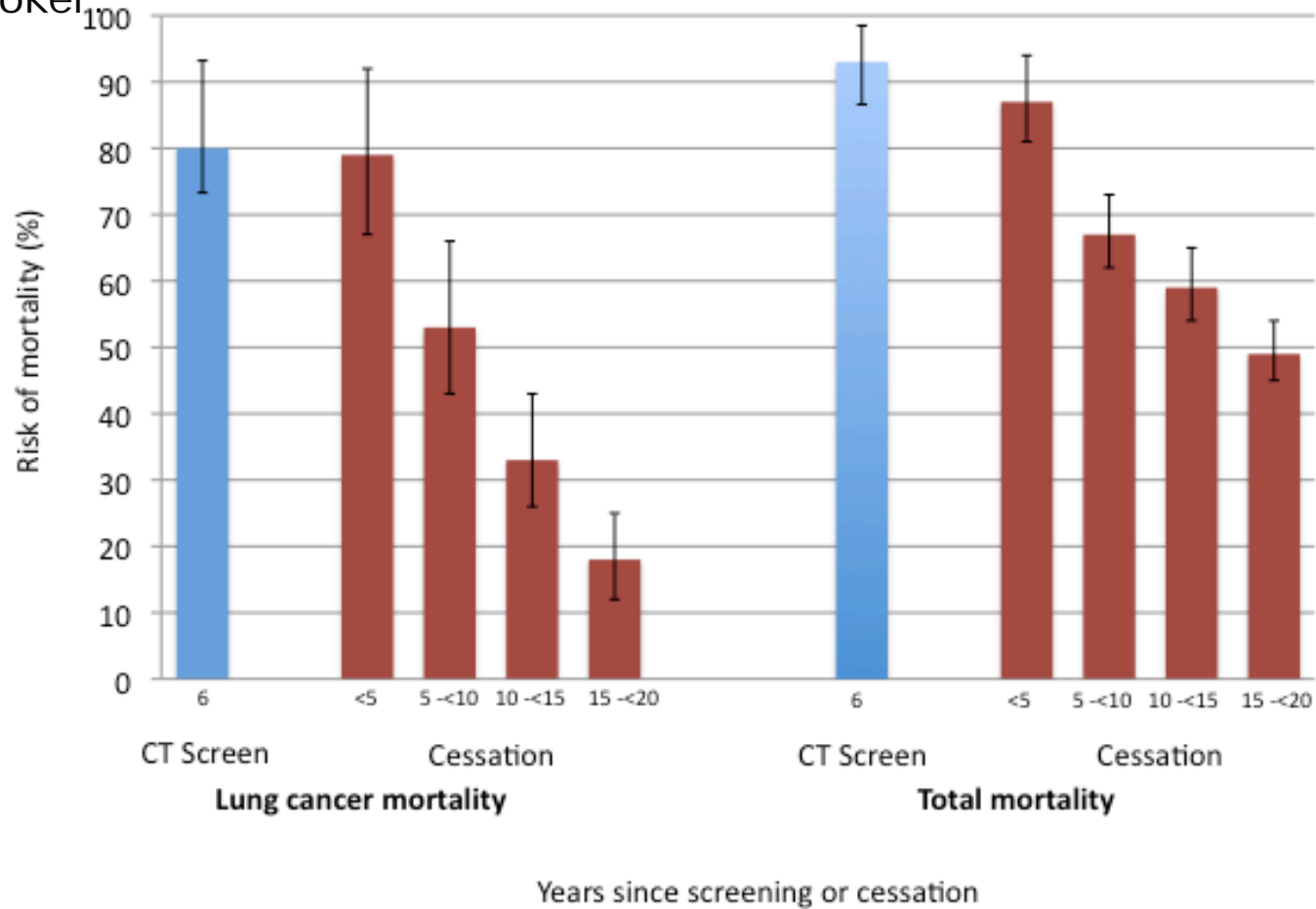


# Lifestyle: high income countries

Cause	% cancer caused	Magnitude possible reduction	Time (yrs)
Smoking	33	75%	10-20
Overweight/obesity	20	50%	2-20
Diet	5	50%	5-20
Lack of exercise	5	85%	5-20
Occupation	5	50%	20-40
Viruses	5-7	100%	20-40
Family history	5	50%	2-10
Alcohol	3	50%	5-20
UV/ionizing radiation	2	50%	2-10
Reproductive	3	0	N/A
Pollution	2	0	N/A

# Time course: lung & total mortality

Current smoker:  
continuing



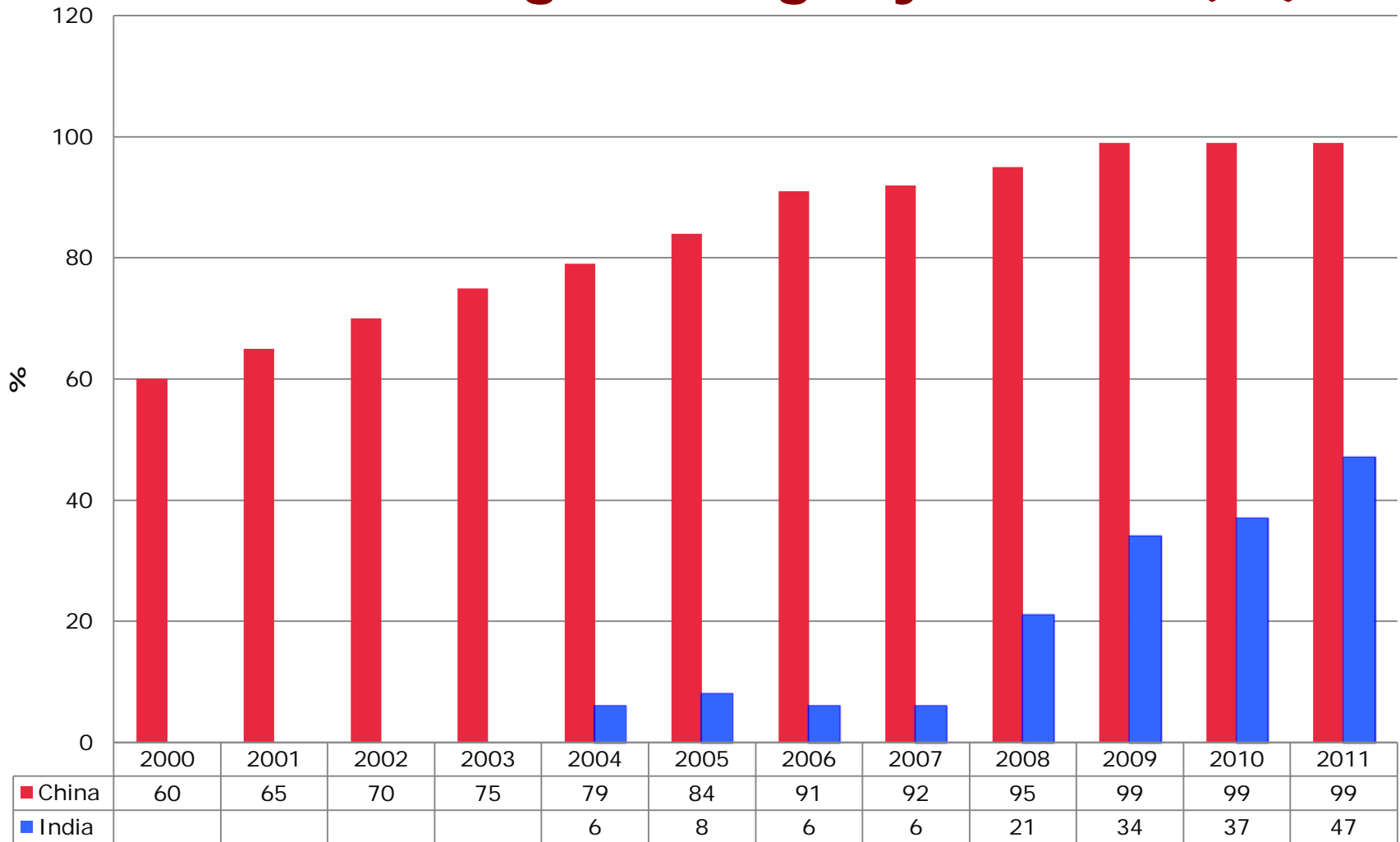
Sources: Kenfield et al, 2008; Aberle et al, 2011

# Infections

- Helicobacter pylori
- HPV
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C
- Epstein-Barr virus
- HTLV
- Human herpes virus 8
- *Schistosoma haematobium*
- *Opisthorchis viverrini*
- High income countries 7.4%
- Low and middle income countries 23% of cancer
- 2 million cases/yr (16%)
- Note: IARC excludes HIV as only a co-factor for other infectious causes through immunosuppression

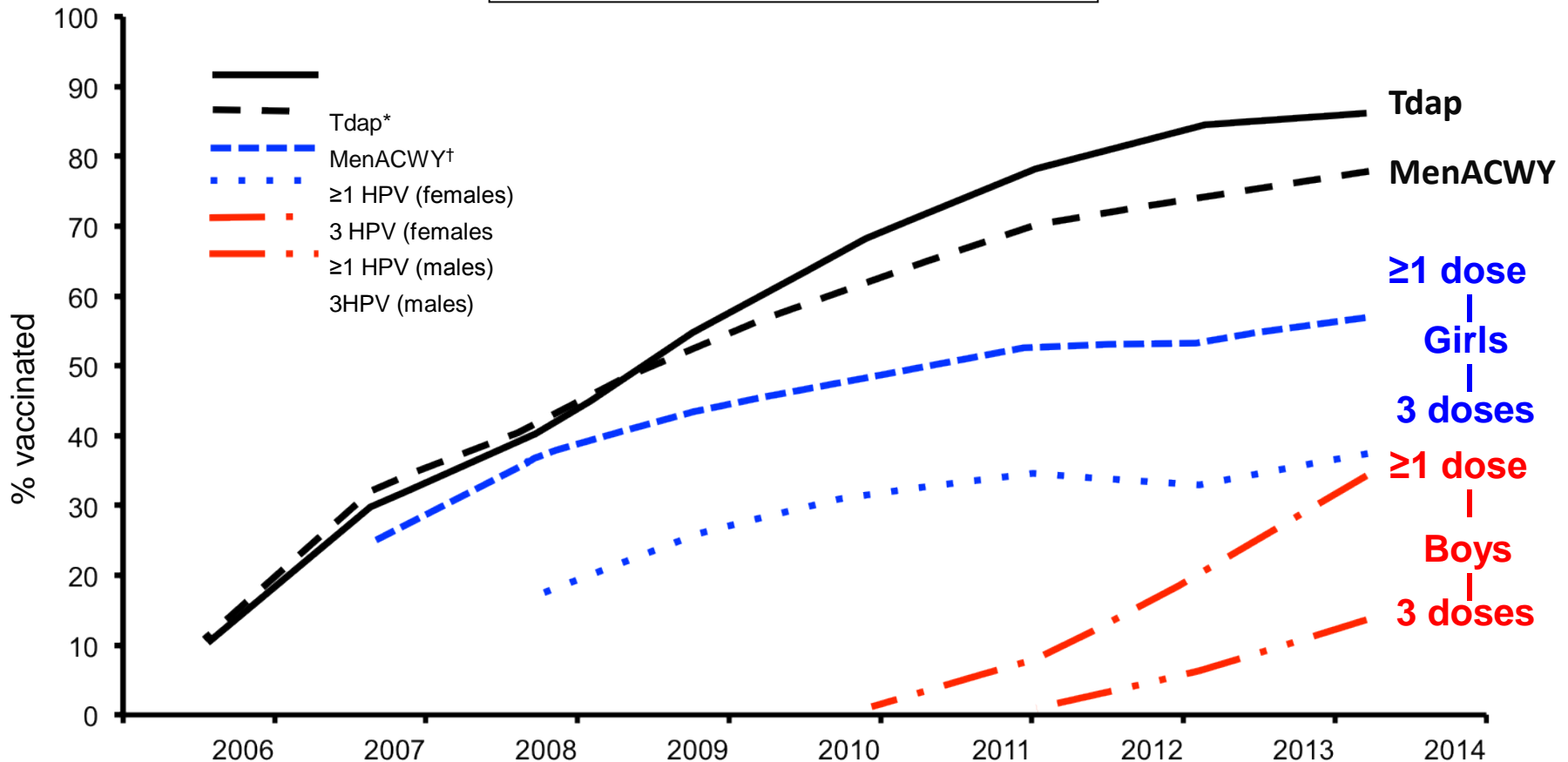
de Martel et al, Lancet Oncology, 2012

# Hepatitis B (HepB3) immunization coverage among 1-year-olds (%)



# Trends in U.S. Vaccination Rates: Ages 13-17 Yrs

MMWR Vol 63, #29, July 25, 2014



Abbreviations: Tdap = tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis vaccine; MenACWY = meningococcal conjugate vaccine; HPV-1 = human papillomavirus vaccine, ≥1 dose; HPV-3 = human papillomavirus, ≥3 doses.

\* Tdap and MenACWY vaccination recommendations were published in March and October 2006, respectively.

† HPV vaccination recommendations were published in March 2007.



# Gaps → Research opportunities

## Target vaccine: whole population

- Convenient dosing current vaccines
- Next generation vaccine / broader protection, easier storage, etc, fewer doses
- Oropharyngeal HPV infections and cancer
- More effective ways to communicate about HPV-associated disease and HPV vaccines
- Determine how best to integrate HPV vaccination and cervical cancer screening

President's Cancer Panel Annual Report 2012-13

# Gaps → Research opportunities

## Target: high risks women – SERMs to prevent breast cancer

Stratify risk (epidemiology/genomics/imaging)

Identify “high risk” women

**Identify**



Communicate risks and benefits

**Deliver**

Clinical implementation of tools and strategies



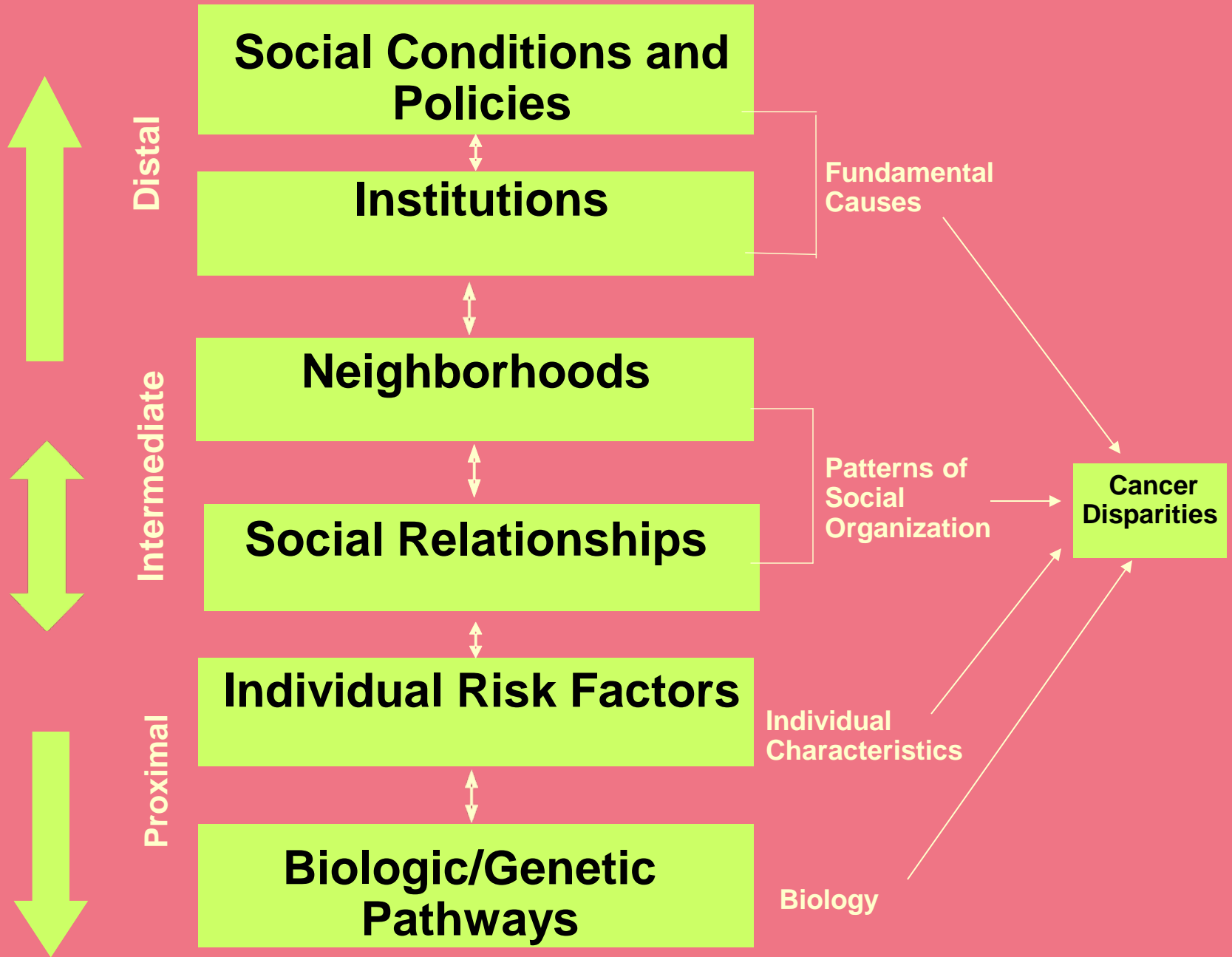
Uptake and sustained use by women

**Reduce  
incidence**

# Moving from Discovery to Delivery

Translation scientific evidence base to population health

- Implementation of what works
- Evidence → guidelines (USPSFT or CDC community guide)
- Benefit estimates → time frame for risk reduction
- Disparities → Worsened, improved, or unchanged?



# The Critical Intersection of Basic and Population Science

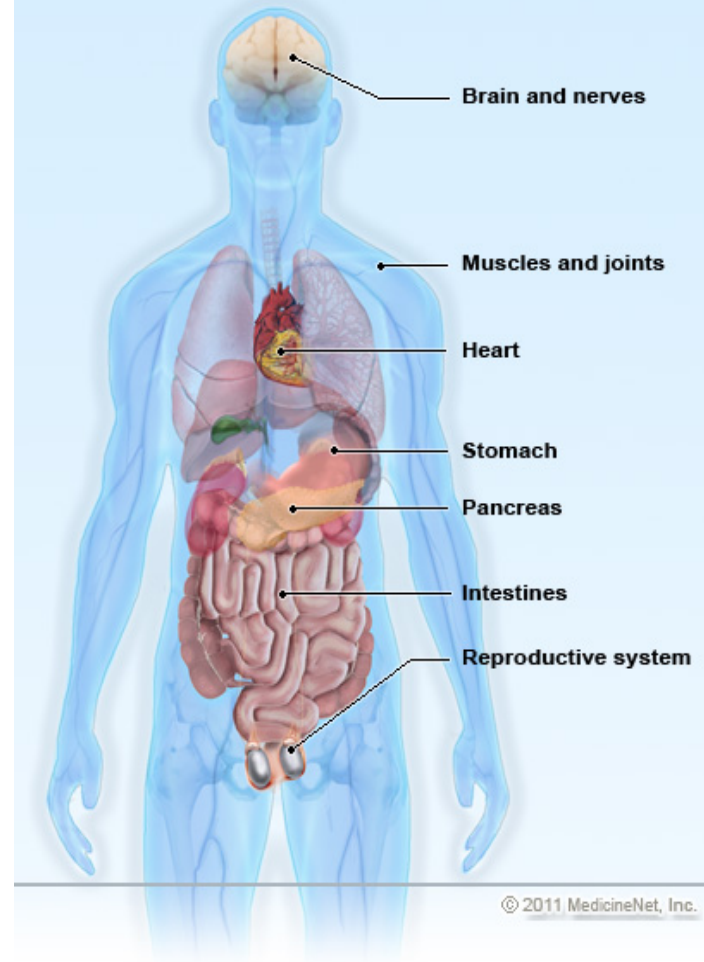
What are the biological mechanisms that translate disadvantaged social and economic circumstances into poorer health???



# University of Chicago's Center for Interdisciplinary Health Disparities Research

- Does the social-psychological environment that inner city black women live in increased their chances of dying from breast cancer??
  - Socially isolated mice:
    - Experience stress as a result of isolation
    - Developed spontaneous mammary gland cancers faster than control-group rats that were not kept in isolation.
  - Studied 230 newly diagnosed black breast cancer patients living on Chicago's South Side.
    - Endocrine burn-out?

Areas of the body affected by stress



# Why are we not preventing more cancer now?

Multiple barriers:

- 1. Skepticism that cancer can be prevented**
- 2. Short term focus of cancer research**
- 3. Interventions deployed too late in life**
4. Research focused on treatment not prevention
5. Debates among scientists
6. Societal factors ignored
7. Lack of transdisciplinary training
8. Complexity of implementation

Colditz et al Sci Transl Med 2012: March 28

## Barrier 2: Short-term focus

Time required for cancer prevention does not match funding periods

Long-term benefits, e.g., smoking cessation takes decades to show at population level

Funded studies focus too late in disease development process

In contrast, the natural history or time-course of cancer shows development over decades

Colditz et al. Sci Transl Med 2012: March 28



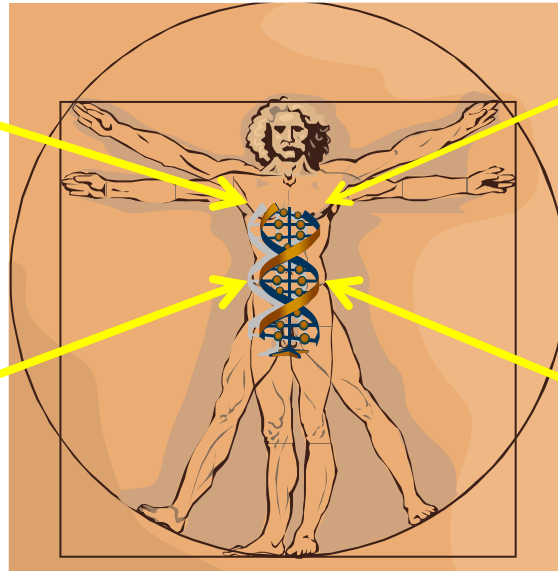
# What Potentially Influences Cancer?

## Genetic factors

telomere length  
Inherited mutations  
sporadic mutations

## Macro-level factors

crime  
poverty  
availability of services  
toxins



## Individual-level factors

diet  
health behaviors

## Demographic factors

age  
gender  
ancestry

# Definition – implementation science

Scientific study of how to move evidence-based **interventions** into practice and policy

Includes study of how to sustain changes to improve population health

\*\*PAR13-055

# Cancer Prevention Gaps to Fill

- How do we identify gaps in discovery?
- Where do we strengthen science?
- How do we sharpen focus: on individual/community/broader public health programs  
High risk vs. population-wide programs
- Increase translation and delivery to all members of society
- How much should NCI be doing and where do responsibilities of funding partners (NIH, CDC, AHRQ,) tie in?
- Even when program implemented, research gaps remain to achieve full population coverage and health benefits

**Graham Colditz, MD, DrPH**  
**Niess-Gain Professor of Surgery**  
**Chief, Division of Public Health Sciences,**  
**Dept. of Surgery**  
**Campus Box 8100**  
**660 South Euclid**  
**St. Louis, MO 63110**  
**(314) 454-7939**

**[colditzg@wustl.edu](mailto:colditzg@wustl.edu)**

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