

# CRAN-related NCI Activities and Research Priorities

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Behavioral Research Program

Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences

# Leadership Updates

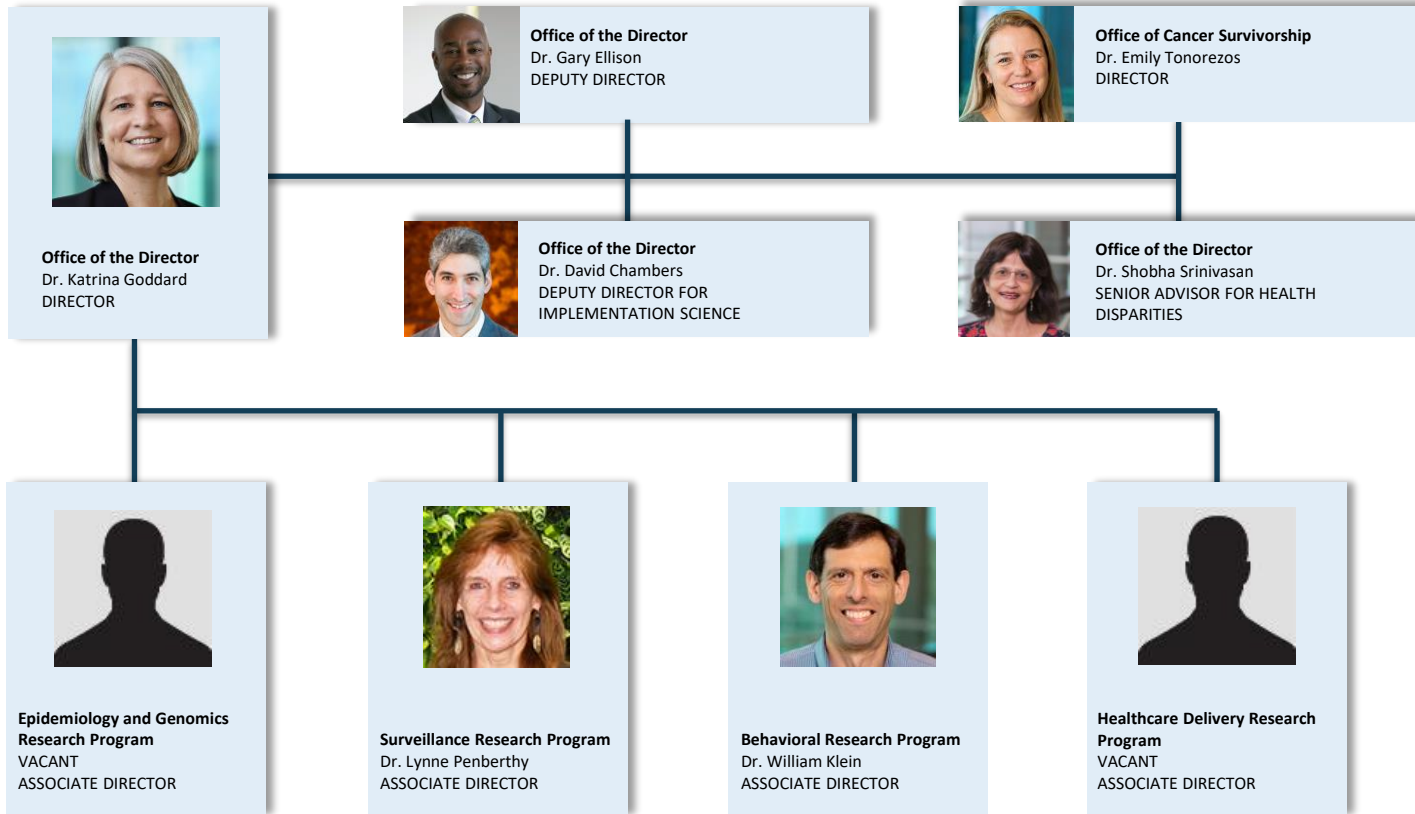


**Dr. Monica Bertagnolli**  
NIH Director



**Dr. Kimryn Rathmell**  
NCI Director

# Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS) Organizational Leadership



# Crosscutting Areas of Focus



Health Equity



Data Strategies



Modifiable Risk Factors



Climate Change



Evidence-based Policy



Digital Health

# Recent NCI Activities

- BRP Program Directors integral in the development of the HHS Framework to Support and Accelerate Smoking Cessation, as part of recent details to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH)
- Tobacco Use Supplement to the Current Population Survey (TUS-CPS) fielded 2022-2023 wave, September 2022 data now publicly available
- BRP presentations on alcohol and cancer messaging at AP20 and WCC
- Cannabis questions added to the Health Information National Trends Survey (HINTS) - [hints.cancer.gov](https://hints.cancer.gov)
  - timing and mode of cannabis use
  - whether use is for medical, non-medical, or both
  - perceived harm/benefit of using cannabis

# Recent NCI Activities

- NCI and the French National Cancer Institute (INCa) established a collaboration to address shared priorities for advancing tobacco cessation research, particularly among persons who use multiple tobacco products, persons with co-occurring conditions such as mental health and substance use disorders, and subpopulations that experience other social and health disparities
- SmokefreeNATIVE launched December 2023
  - Smokefree.gov partnered with the Indian Health Service to launch a free text messaging resource to help American Indian and Alaska Native adults and adolescents quit smoking commercial tobacco
- Recent tobacco policy and health equity grantee workshop

# Selected CRAN-Relevant Funding Opportunities

Shortened Title	Announcement #	Expires	Contact
Notice of Special Interest: Public Policy Effects on Alcohol-, Cannabis-, Tobacco-, and Other Drug-Related Behaviors and Outcomes	<a href="#">NOT-AA-21-028</a>	September 08, 2024	<a href="#">Carolyn Reyes-Guzman</a> 240-276-7244 <a href="mailto:carolyn.reyes-guzman@nih.gov">carolyn.reyes-guzman@nih.gov</a>
Population Approaches to Reducing Alcohol-related Cancer Risk	<a href="#">PAR-23-244</a>	January 08, 2027	<a href="#">David Berrigan</a> 240-276-6752 <a href="mailto:berrigad@mail.nih.gov">berrigad@mail.nih.gov</a>  <a href="#">Heather D'Angelo</a> 240-276-6597 <a href="mailto:heather.dangelo@nih.gov">heather.dangelo@nih.gov</a>
Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment or Prevention (SBIRT/P) for alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (ATOD) use and misuse in adult populations that experience health disparities	<a href="#">PAR-23-270</a>	May 08, 2027	<a href="#">Joseph Ciccolo</a> 301-639-0943 <a href="mailto:joseph.ciccolo@nih.gov">joseph.ciccolo@nih.gov</a>
Notice of Special Interest: Basic Mechanisms of Cannabis and Cannabinoid Action in Cancer	<a href="#">NOT-CA-22-085</a>	May 08, 2027	<a href="#">Jeffrey White</a> 240-276-6595 <a href="mailto:jeffreyw@mail.nih.gov">jeffreyw@mail.nih.gov</a>

## Recently Expired

- Advancing Adolescent Tobacco Cessation Intervention Research ([RFA-CA-22-042/043](#))
- Public Health Communication Messaging about the Continuum of Risk for Tobacco Products ([RFA-OD-23-021](#))
- Resource Center for Cannabis and Cannabinoid Research ([RFA-AT-24-006](#))
- Cannabis and Cannabinoid Use in Adult Cancer Patients During Treatment: Assessing Benefits and Harms ([RFA-CA-22-052](#)) 7

## Hot Topics

1. *Tobacco*
2. *Cannabis*
3. *Alcohol*



# FDA Update: Menthol-flavored Cigarettes

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

## Biden administration indefinitely postpones rule that would have banned menthol-flavored cigarettes

Biden's top health official gave no timeline for issuing the rule, saying only that the administration would take more time to consider feedback, including from civil rights groups

By Matthew Perrone and Zeke Miller | The Associated Press • Published April 26, 2024 • Updated on April 26, 2024 at 3:41 pm



POLITICS

STAT+

## Biden administration punts menthol cigarette rule indefinitely



By Sarah Oweremohle April 26, 2024

[Reprints](#)

- FDA had announced proposed product standards to prohibit menthol as a characterizing flavor in cigarettes and prohibit all characterizing flavors (other than tobacco) in cigars, and sent the proposed rules to the White House Office of Management and Budget for review
- In a recent statement, HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra gave no timeline for issuing the rule, saying only that the administration would take more time to consider feedback, including from civil rights groups

# Tobacco Corrective Statements

- On December 6, 2022, the US Department of Justice (DOJ) and Department of Health and Human Services announced a court order that resolves the civil racketeering lawsuit first brought against four US tobacco companies more than 20 years ago. As part of the lawsuit, the companies were required to issue a series of “corrective statements” about the harms of cigarettes
- DOJ asked NCI to evaluate potential wording for the corrective statements, to help provide the court with a scientific foundation for determining how the proposed statements would affect consumers
- The order went into effect on July 1, 2023, and gave defendants three months to post the required corrective statements. Retailers will display the signs for 21 months thereafter

A FEDERAL COURT HAS ORDERED  
R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO & PHILIP MORRIS USA TO STATE:



**Cigarette companies intentionally designed cigarettes with enough nicotine to create and sustain addiction.**

A FEDERAL COURT HAS ORDERED  
R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO &  
PHILIP MORRIS USA TO STATE:



**Smoking kills,  
on average,  
1,200  
Americans.  
Every day.**



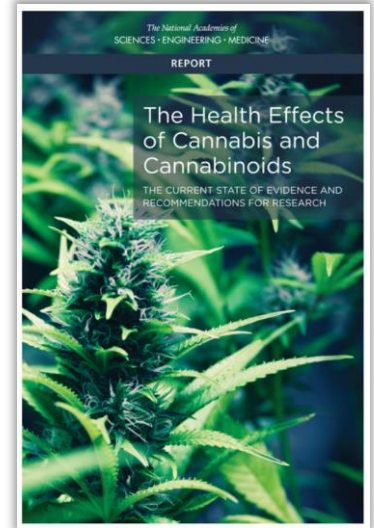
# Trans-NCI Cannabis and Cancer Research Interest Group

- Goals of the Trans-NCI Cannabis and Cancer Research Interest Group (CCRIG) include:
  - Develop a trans-NCI research agenda related to cannabis and cancer
  - Coordinate activities related to cannabis and cancer research across NCI
  - Develop communication materials for various audiences about cannabis and cancer
  - Coordinate with other NIH Institutes and Centers and other federal agencies on matters related to cannabis and cancer

<b>Division of Cancer Biology</b>	<b>Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences</b>
Ron Johnson	Kathleen Castro
<b>Division of Cancer Prevention</b>	Joe Ciccolo – <i>Co-Chair</i>
Sharon Ross	Curt Dellavalle
Rachel Altshuler	Gary Ellison
<b>Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis</b>	Kelly Filipski
Yali Fu	Andrew Freedman – <i>Co-Chair</i>
Oluwadamilola Olaku	Neal D. Freedman
Jeffrey White	Rachel Grana Mayne
	Sonia Rosenfield

# Changes in the Cannabis Landscape

- With contributions from NCI, NIDA, NCCIH, and CDC, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) is developing a report that will provide an objective and authoritative account of the experiences in states and localities in the United States that permit medical or non-medical (adult) use of cannabis and cannabinoids. Report anticipated spring/summer 2024
- The first public meeting of the Committee on the Public Health Consequences of Changes in the Cannabis Policy Landscape was held September 2023. [More information](#)



## 2017 NASEM Report

*The Health Effects of Cannabis and Cannabinoids* provides a comprehensive review of scientific evidence related to the health effects and potential therapeutic benefits of cannabis

# Selected NCI Activities in Alcohol and Cancer

- Promoting Healthy Lifestyles to OPTimize Cancer Survivorship (OPTICS) project on alcohol (with MSK Psychologist Dr. Jennifer Hay)
- 2025 Dietary Guidelines Alcohol Recommendations
  - Congressionally mandated NASEM “Review of Evidence on Alcohol and Health”
  - Interagency Coordinating Committee on Prevention of Underage Drinking (ICCPUD/SAMHSA) commissioned group of experts to assess health impacts
  - Both reports should be released late 2024
- Efforts addressing alcohol labeling



## The IARC Perspective on Alcohol Reduction or Cessation and Cancer Risk

**Authors:** Susan M. Gapstur, Ph.D., Véronique Bouvard, Ph.D., Suzanne T. Nethan, M.D.S., Jo L. Freudenheim, Ph.D., Christian C. Abnet, Ph.D., Dallas R. English, Ph.D., Jürgen Rehm, Ph.D., <sup>†</sup>, and Béatrice Lauby-Secretan, Ph.D. [Author Info & Affiliations](#)

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[VOL. 389 NO. 26](#)

- Working Group concluded that alcohol reduction or cessation decreases the risk of oral cancer and esophageal cancer
- The review also revealed scientific gaps on some or all alcohol-related cancers, including the duration of cessation necessary to observe a reduced risk, reduction in consumption, patterns of consumption over the life course, and more

Cancer Site	All	
	Population Attributable Fraction %	No. of New Cases <sup>†</sup>
All sites excluding nonmelanoma skin cancer (ICD-10 codes C00–C97 excluding C44)	4.1	741,300
Lip and oral cavity	20.2	74,900
Pharynx	22.0	39,400
Larynx	15.0	27,600
Esophagus <sup>‡</sup>	31.6	189,700
Colon	8.1	91,500
Rectum	9.0	65,100
Liver <sup>§</sup>	17.3	154,700
Female breast	4.4	98,300

Global Population Attributable Fractions and Number of New Cancer Cases Attributable to Alcohol Consumption in 2020, According to Cancer Site and Sex.\*

<sup>†</sup> The number of new cases has been rounded to the nearest 100,000. The number of cases for each cancer site may not sum to the total according to sex or for all sites because of rounding.

<sup>‡</sup> The alcohol-attributable number of cases of esophageal cancer is for squamous-cell carcinoma; the population attributable fractions are for all esophageal cancers.

<sup>§</sup> The alcohol-attributable number of cases of liver cancer is for hepatocellular carcinoma; the population attributable fractions are for all liver cancers.

# Resources

- Health Information National Trends Survey (HINTS)
- Smokefree.gov
- Tobacco Use Supplement to the Current Population Survey (TUS-CPS)
- Classification of Laws Associated with School Students (CLASS)
- Automated Self-Administered 24-Hour (ASA24) Dietary Assessment Tool
- Activities Completed over Time in 24 Hours (ACT24) Previous Day Recall Tool
- Library of webinars about alcohol, tobacco, and funding opportunities:  
<https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brp/events/webinar-series>



# Training in DCCPS

## TYPES OF FELLOWSHIPS AND TRAINING AT NCI

### Cancer Research Training Award

Open to high school, post-baccalaureate, post-master's, postdoctoral, or post-medical students. Rolling application deadline.

### Cancer Prevention Fellowship

Open to postdoctoral, post-medical, or J.D. students. Applications accepted from May to August of each year.

### NCI Communications Fellowship

Open to post-master's or postdoctoral students. The application period for the 2020 NCI Communications Fellowship is now closed. The application cycle will re-open in November 2021.

### Presidential Management Fellows

Open to post-masters, postdoctoral, post-medical, or J.D. students. This fellowship is sponsored by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and has different specifications.

### Summer Internship Program

The Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics (DCEG) offers a summer research internship for students interested in exploring careers in cancer epidemiology, biostatistics, and genetics.

In FY 2023, DCCPS hosted over **50 fellows** from various training mechanisms, including Cancer Research Training Awardees, Cancer Prevention Fellows, summer interns, University of Maryland semester interns, iCURE Fellows, Presidential Management Fellows, and Management Interns





Cancer Prevention  
Fellowship Program

Now Accepting  
Applications

**Apply by August 1**

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