

Network News

Count Me In - Center Update

Pictured here is the dedicated team behind Count Me In's PE-CGS Osteosarcoma and Leiomyosarcoma Projects gathered for a recent "mini retreat" spanning a full day to strategize on optimizing project operations. Notably, Count Me In (CMI) was also able to recently release the first of their Somatic Shared Learning Letters - empowering participants with information by sharing some of the genetic information found within their tumor sample, and how that genetic information may align with known genes associated with osteosarcoma or leiomyosarcoma.



Additionally, in an effort to increase Hispanic and Latino representation in cancer research, CMI has also recently launched a Spanish-language version of OSProject.org. The Spanish speaking population constitutes one of the largest ethnic groups in the United States. Despite this, they face a disproportionate impact from cancer, coupled with a lack of representation in research. By making the Osteosarcoma Project accessible to Spanish speakers, Count Me In aims to dismantle a longstanding barrier to enrollment in cancer research: the lack of information available in languages other than English. All necessary

materials for Osteosarcoma Project enrollment, including surveys, consent and medical release forms, website content, and sample collection kit materials, have been translated into Spanish. These materials have been thoughtfully crafted to be culturally sensitive, fostering a stronger connection within the community.

[Visit the Count Me In website here](#)

PE-CGS AACR Annual Meeting Session - Community Health Educator Supplement

Members of the Network will present at the upcoming AACR Annual Meeting, **April 9**, in San Diego, CA. The session will provide updates and insights gained from those participating in the Community Health Educator Supplement Program. Scheduled talks are as follows:

- Strengthening Hispanic/Latino Osteosarcoma Patient Engagement in Genomic Sequencing Studies - Timothy Rebbeck (Count Me In)
- Increasing cancer genetic education and research engagement among Latino communities: the Community Genetic Navigation Engagement Specialists (CoGENES) training program - Mariana Stern (COPECC)
- Conducting Community Cafes to Enhance Cancer Genetic Research and Referral Approaches for Black Americans - Erin Linnenbringer (Wash-U)
- OPTimizing Engagement of Latino Communities to Promote Equity in Low Grade Glioma Genomic Research (OPEL) - Elizabeth Claus (OPTIMUM)

[Learn more about the AACR Annual Meeting 2024](#)

PE-CGS on the Road

2024 Advancing the Science of Cancer in Latinos Conference

- In February 2024, Noriela Elia from Count Me In presented a poster titled 'Accelerating Hispanic/Latino Engagement in Three Research Centers of the Participant Engagement and Cancer Genome Sequencing (PE-CGS) Network: Lessons from the Field' on behalf of three of the Research Centers: Count Me In, COPECC, and OPTIMUM.
- These Centers are participating in the Community Health Educator Supplement Program with a focus on optimizing Hispanic/Latino engagement in their projects.



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ELSIcon2024: Reimagining the Benefits of Genomic Science

- In June 2024, Anne Schuster from the PE-CGS Coordinating Center will present a poster titled 'Examining the benefits of Participant Engagement in Cancer Genome Sequencing (PE-CGS): Progress to date of the PE-CGS Network' on behalf of the Network.
- [ELSIcon2024](#) will focus on innovative, integrative research and scholarship on the potential benefits of genomics research while embracing a wide range of ELSI topics from across the broadening genomic landscape.

Ways to Collaborate

Proposals for Collaborative Set-Aside Funds

Collaborative set-aside funds are meant to promote and facilitate sharing best practices, optimizing approaches, and addressing common issues across the Network. The deadline to submit your collaborative proposal is **Thursday, April 18**. If you are looking for collaborators please reach out to the Coordinating Center and we will help facilitate.

You can find more information about collaborative set-aside funds and proposals in the Repository (Steering Committee Folder -> Governance Documents). The file provides information about what to include and how to submit proposals.

Subcommittee Updates

- **Health Equity:** (3/5) The Common Data Elements catalog is complete and plans were discussed to share during the March All Hands meeting. The subcommittee discussed suggestions for the annual meeting and interest in opportunity to get more involvement from the GCUs, including perhaps a retreat or small meeting during the summer on topics such as reference genomes and genetic ancestry.
- **Participant Engagement:** (no meeting) The subcommittee did not meet this month.
- **Return of Results:** (no meeting) The subcommittee did not meet this month. The returning of somatic results, cascade testing, and integrative reporting projects continue to meet separately and report back to the subcommittee.

Ways to Communicate



We're on LinkedIn

We are excited to share that we have recently launched our [official LinkedIn account](#). We also have an [active X \(formerly known as Twitter\) account](#). We invite you to follow us on both platforms to stay up-to-date and share updates about our network, its goals, and progress, including on our publications and presentations at scientific meetings.

We look forward to seeing you on social media.

[Follow the PE-CGS LinkedIn page here](#)

Upcoming Events

Lessons Learned from NCI's MyPART Network

Please join us on **March 26 at 3 pm ET** for a presentation titled 'Communications Lessons Learned from NCI's My Pediatric and Adult Rare Tumor (MyPART) Network.' Christina Vivelo, PhD, MyPART Communications Editor, National Cancer Institute, will share about the MyPART Network and their lessons learned developing communications materials, website design, and digital engagement strategies for children, teens, and young adults with rare solid tumors. [Use this Zoom link to join](#)

2024 PE-CGS Annual Meeting

The 2024 PE-CGS Annual Meeting will be held at the Eric P. Newman Education Center in St. Louis, Missouri. We hope many people can attend in-person, but a hybrid option will also be available. To accommodate travel time, the meeting will start at **8 am CT on Tuesday, October 8 and end at 5:30 pm CT, on Wednesday, October 9.**

Upcoming PE-CGS Network Meetings

Date	Time	Meeting
3/26	3 pm ET	Communications
3/28	3 pm ET	Network Managers
4/2	11 am ET	Health Equity
4/2	3 pm ET	Annual Meeting Planning
4/4	3 pm ET	Steering Committee
4/10	1 pm ET	Return of Results
4/11	3 pm ET	Participant Engagement
4/18	3 pm ET	All Hands

Funding and Opportunities

Administrative Supplement for Research & Capacity Building Efforts Related to Bioethical Issues

NIH, through the Office of Science Policy, is announcing the availability of administrative supplements to support research on bioethical issues that either inform future policy directions or augment bioethics research capacity. Areas of interest include: digital health and/or real-world data; patient and community engagement; return of results for individuals, families, communities, and/or society; and data sharing. Applications will be accepted until **5:00 pm (local time) on April 1**. [Learn more about the administrative supplement here](#)

Multi-Sectoral Preventive Interventions Research Network to Address Social Determinants of Health in Populations that Experience Health Disparities

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Disease Prevention (ODP) and participating Institutes, Centers, and Offices are seeking applications for a new collaborative research network to test multi-sectoral preventive interventions for health conditions in populations that experience health disparities. Applications are due **August 5**.

- **PAR-24-053:** This research network funding opportunity encourages UG3/UG3 research project applications that intervene beyond the individual level and collaborate with two or more service sectors (e.g., health, housing, transportation, education). [Learn more about this funding opportunity here](#)
- **RFA-OD-24-006:** The coordinating center funding opportunity encourages U24 applications that propose activities in administration, methodology, and community engagement. [Learn more about this funding opportunity here](#)

PE-CGS SHORT READS submissions

Have news to share with the PE-CGS Network community?
For consideration, send your news to pe-cgs@osumc.edu.

[Join the PE-CGS Website Repository](#)

[Join the Slack PE-CGS Workspace](#)

Keep in touch!

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