

Network News

Research Center Spotlight: Count Me In

Count Me In (CMI)'s Osteosarcoma Project was honored to attend the Make It Better (MIB) Agents' FACTOR Conference in June! MIB Agents is a leading pediatric osteosarcoma nonprofit group and one of our many advocacy partners whom we collaborate with to engage participants, gather more data, share insights, and amplify our impact in the fight against osteosarcoma.

FACTOR is a one-of-a-kind conference bringing together the communities of osteosarcoma medical professionals, scientists, and patients and their families to collaboratively discuss disease management, clinical trials, and osteosarcoma research, and create solutions together. CMI presented on the osteosarcoma project as part of the "Clinical Trials" session where we shared the current project status including the number of participants consented and samples received, as well as recent engagement efforts. We also shared de-identified cohort demographics for a subset of 100 osteosarcoma patients who have had their clinical data abstracted from their medical records.



The opportunity to directly thank the many participants and their families who have contributed to this project and engage with them at the CMI information table was very meaningful. We will continue to share and engage with Osteosarcoma and Leiomyosarcoma Project participants, and the advocacy, medical, and scientific communities in an effort to gather the most comprehensive data available for these rare cancer types.



Additionally, in honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month, Count Me In is preparing new content to launch on their Spanish-language social media platforms to expand outreach and raise awareness. This initiative underscores the importance of inclusivity and ensuring that all communities have a voice in advancing cancer research.

NCI Clinical Cancer Genetics Virtual Forum: Fostering Collaboration Across NCI Initiatives

On September 10, Dr. Erin Linnenbringer from Washington University in

St. Louis gave a presentation on the topic titled "Conducting community health worker outreach to inform targeted recruitment approaches and address barriers to cancer genetics research & clinical care" on behalf of the Network. The presentation highlighted efforts to collect data on barriers and facilitators in existing outreach, education, and referral systems within Black communities, aiming to design and evaluate a community health worker training program to enhance community engagement in cancer genetics research, testing, and education.



Join us for the September 19 All Hands Meeting

All Network members are invited to join the All Hands Meeting **today at 3pm ET** to learn about the genomic approaches and genetic ancestry considered in cancer genomics study analyses. [Use this Zoom link to join.](#) The presenter will be Dr. Paul Boutros, Professor - Human Genetics and Director of the Cancer Data Science program, UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Join us for the September 24 Communications Subcommittee Meeting

All Network members are invited to join the Communications Subcommittee Meeting on **September 24 at 3 PM ET** to hear a presentation from Brittany Cordeiro, Program Manager at NCI-CONNECT. She will share some strategies and lessons learned from NCI-CONNECT, a Comprehensive Oncology Network Evaluating Rare CNS Tumors. [Use this Zoom link to join.](#)



Ways to Collaborate

Subcommittee Updates

We invite all members of the PE-CGS Network to consider joining our scientific subcommittees; please discuss this opportunity with your team and contact the Coordinating Center to be added: pe-cgs@osumc.edu.

- **Health Equity (9/3):** The subcommittee met and reviewed key discussion points. A new topic was suggested for developing ideas for colorectal cancer registry and AI collaborations. There is continued interest in publications regarding recruitment, health literacy and data harmonization. Guest speakers are sought for population descriptors/derived variable guidance, health literacy and new OMB standards for race/ethnicity data. This led to the discussion of the race, ethnicity and gender identity data presentations on the PE-CGS data dashboard.
- **Participant Engagement:** The subcommittee did not meet this month.
- **Return of Results (9/11):** The subcommittee met and discussed the progress of the two ongoing manuscripts (Paper 1: Managing Return of Results of Somatic Data, Paper 2: Benefits of paired germline and somatic testing) in breakout sessions. Additional updates and suggestions are being incorporated into the current versions before sending them to the co-authors for final review.
- **Genomic Data Commons (GDC) Data Sharing Subcommittee (9/16):** The Steering Committee formed this subcommittee as data sharing is a critical component to meet the requirement of the Cancer Moonshot Public Access and Data Sharing policy. The subcommittee met and started working on its initial task, which is to develop a core set of clinical/epidemiologic variables to accompany the GDC molecular data submission. The goal is to finalize the core set of variables by early October because at least two research centers are likely to have publications ready in the near term and will need the core variable set in-place to submit their analytic datasets.

Ways to Communicate

PE-CGS Publication and Conference Tracker

The Network has a [tracker](#) to document the status of PE-CGS-related publications from idea stage to completion. The tracker also provides option for you to request assistance from the Coordinating Center in finding collaborators. Please share information in the Tracker about your center's work you plan to publish.

We also have a dedicated [Conference tracker](#) to monitor the progress of PE-CGS-related abstract submissions for scientific meetings and conferences. Please update this Tracker with information about abstracts you plan to submit or have already submitted to conferences.

To request access, please enter your email address in the Tracker and notify the Coordinating Center by sending an email to pe-cgs@osumc.edu.

Upcoming Events

Register for the 2024 PE-CGS Annual Meeting

The 2024 PE-CGS Annual Meeting will be held at the Eric P. Newman Education Center, Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri from **Tuesday, October 8th at 8 am CT to Wednesday, October 9th at 4 pm CT**. In person registration will close this week. Please continue to encourage your center team and participants to [register](#) to attend virtually. Please visit the [event website](#) for an updated agenda. If you have any questions about the Annual Meeting, please contact the PE-CGS Coordinating Center at pe-cgs@osumc.edu.

Upcoming PE-CGS Network Meetings

Date	Time	Meeting
9/20	12 pm ET	Annual Meeting Planning
9/24	3 pm ET	Communications
9/26	3 pm ET	Network Managers
10/1	11 am ET	Health Equity
10/3	3 pm ET	Steering Committee
10/8-10/9	8 am (10/8) - 4 pm (10/9) CT	2024 PE-CGS Annual Meeting

Funding and Opportunities

RFI on Recommendations to Improve Postdoctoral Experiences

The National Institutes of Health is seeking feedback from the biomedical research community through a follow-up Request for Information (RFI) as part of its efforts to better support the postdoctoral scholar workforce. Through the RFI, the NIH is seeking additional specific suggestions, evidence-based strategies, and relevant data or related experiences that will help inform their potential strategies. **Feedback will be accepted electronically until October 23, 2024.** [Learn more 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.

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