



GULF COAST CENTER
**PRECISION
ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH**

NIEHS EHSCC MEETING SPEAKERS

2023

Informational Workshop: Precision Environmental Health Initiatives



Dr. Gillman joined the National Institutes of Health in 2016 as the inaugural director of the Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO) Program. Dr. Gillman came to NIH from Harvard Medical School, where he was a professor of population medicine and director of the Obesity Prevention Program, and Harvard School of Public Health, where he was a professor of nutrition. With a background in the fields of internal medicine, pediatrics, and epidemiology, he has led cohort studies and randomized controlled trials and published widely on prevention of chronic disease across the life course. Dr. Gillman won mentoring awards at Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Public Health and has served in several national and international leadership positions, including on the United States Preventive Services Task Force and for the International Society for Developmental Origins of Health and Disease, from which he won the David Barker Medal in 2017. His clinical experience includes primary care for children and adults and preventive cardiology among children.



Cathrine Hoyo is the Goodnight Distinguished Innovation Chair and Professor of Epidemiology in the Biological Sciences, and directs the Epidemiology and Environmental Epigenomics Laboratory. Her group's research program aims to improve our understanding of how early development influences risk of common chronic-diseases, especially those that exhibit racial/ethnic differences in outcomes, including liver-cancer and metabolic diseases. Her group has used a two-pronged approach to accomplish this. First to identify environmentally responsive epigenetic elements, whose perturbation can be evaluated as a link between environmental stressors and common chronic diseases in children and adults. She also has assembled and is following multiple cohorts of newborns and otherwise healthy adults to identify environmentally-responsive epigenetic targets that mediate environmental exposures and chronic diseases susceptibility in children and in adults.



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Dr. LaSalle is a Professor of Microbiology and Immunology at UC Davis with expertise in epigenetic mechanisms at the interface of genes and environment. Dr. LaSalle serves as the Deputy Director of the UC Davis EHSCC and Co-Director of the Perinatal Origins of Disparities Center. Her laboratory uses genomic and epigenomic technologies to investigate DNA methylation signatures in autism spectrum disorders and beyond. Her lab utilizes perinatal tissues such as placenta, cord blood, newborn blood spots, and cell free fetal DNA for epigenomic prediction and prevention of health disparities.



Dr. Aschebrook-Kilfoy is an Associate Professor at University of Chicago. The major focus of her research is to elucidate the role of environmental, lifestyle, and genetic factors in the development of cancer and chronic disease. She received training in environmental, chronic disease, and cancer epidemiology, with specific training and expertise in key research areas to study the impact of the urban exposome on population and precision health. She is particularly interested in health equity and innovation that promotes inclusion in research. She is Co-Director of both the CACHET IHSFC and CECs. She is from the Illinois Precision Medicine Consortium where she serves as MPI for the All of Us Research Program at UChicago and is the UChicago PI for the Nutrition Precision Health Study. She also co-leads the NCI's Connect for Cancer Prevention Study at UChicago and is the contact PI for the new epidemiological cohort study among Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders. She is an expert in environmental health and her research focuses on the role of both physical and social environmental factors on disease risk, disease disparities, and prevention.