

FY 2020 Prevention Outreach

- **Michael Pignone, M.D.**, Chair, Department of Internal Medicine, Director of the Program on Cancer Prevention & Control, Livestrong Cancer Institutes, Dell Medical School at The University of Texas at Austin, co-chaired and presented at the national summit on *Mailed FIT Outreach Promoting Colorectal Cancer Screening*, hosted by the CDC's National Association of Chronic Disease Directors in September 2019. Dr. Keith Argenbright and Dr. Amit Singal also presented on the CPRIT colorectal cancer screening projects they lead in North Texas. During his presentation, Dr. Pignone explained, "I wanted to reiterate that for me and my co-chair Dr. Samir Gupta, the support of CPRIT was critical to our work in this field. I would not have been able to be involved at this level without the CPRIT program (PP190063)."
- The lung cancer screening project led by **Roger Zoorob, M.D.**, professor and chair in family medicine at Baylor College of Medicine (PP180016) started using Uber Health, a HIPAA-compliant digital dashboard that allows healthcare professionals to schedule rides for patients immediately or within 30 days of an appointment, to help reduce transportation barriers. The first patient in the CPRIT-funded program to use UBER healthcare piloted the service in September 2019.
- **Abbey Berenson, M.D., Ph.D.**, professor, Departments of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Pediatrics, director, Center for Interdisciplinary Research in Women's Health at The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, presented findings from her CPRIT-funded project, "Postpartum Administration of HPV Vaccine" (PP160058) at the fourth annual Global Obstetrics and Gynaecology Congress in Prague, Czech Republic.
- **Ellen Shohet, M.N.**, program manager with the "Passport for Care" project led by Dr. David Poplack of Baylor College of Medicine (PP170036), presented at the Children's Oncology Group meeting in Atlanta in September 2019. Ms. Shohet explained, "I received so much positive feedback about how much users across the country are loving the "Passport for Care" and how it makes their ability to care for long term survivors better – I know we have funding from CPRIT, but our reach is national and now international as we are available in almost 140 children's oncology clinics; just wanted you all to know how far and impactful your reach really is with this project!"
- *Texas Medicine's* December 2019 issue included an article highlighting The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center's genetic testing program, "Detecting Unaffected Individuals for Lynch Syndrome (DUAL): Screening, Diagnosis, and Navigation" (PP160103).

- **Jennifer Salinas, Ph.D.**, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso, presented work on “Pasos Para Prevenir Cancer: Obesity-related Cancer Prevention in El Paso” (PP180026). Her presentation at the American Public Health Association annual conference held November 2 – 6, 2019, received a lot of attention. The U.S. Army contacted Dr. Salinas’ team with interest in the project’s use of electronic medical record data for surveillance of obesity.
- **Amy Raines-Milenkov, Dr.P.H.**, University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth, highlighted the increase in breast and cervical screening rates resulting from her CPRIT-funded project. Dr. Raines-Milenkov’s designed her project, “Building Bridges: Cancer Prevention Education and Screening for Refugees” (PP170012), for each culture group it serves. Her presentation at the American Public Health Association 2019 annual conference reported significant increases in breast and cervical cancer screening rates - from 8% to 47% and from 8% to 67%, respectively - after the intervention.
- The “Lung Cancer Screening and Patient Navigation” (PP180025) team, led by **Keith Argenbright, M.D.**, professor in the Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center and Department of Clinical Sciences, chief of Community Health Sciences at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, presented an overview of the program at the 2019 Lung Cancer Screening and Care Conference held November 14 – 15, 2019.
- **Dr. Keith Argenbright** also presented the cumulative findings and analysis learned from “The C-SPAN Coalition: Colorectal Screening and Patient Navigation” project (PP150061) at several national and international conferences in 2019, including the National Colorectal Cancer Round Table in Baltimore, Maryland, the Behavioral Insights into Business for Social Good Conference in Vancouver, and the Society for Judgement and Decision-Making Conference in Montreal, Canada.
- **Simon Lee, Ph.D.**, Program Co-Leader for Population Sciences & Cancer Control research in the Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, gave the keynote lecture, “Tiny Stitches: Strengthening the Patchwork for Rural Cancer Screenings” at a November 2019 statewide community oncology service partners forum sponsored by the University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center in Madison. Dr. Lee’s presentation showcased the “Breast Screening & Patient Navigation for Rural Underserved Women across North Texas (BSPAN)” (PP180018) program delivery model leveraging the CDC’s national Breast & Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program.

- The “STOP HCC-HCV Prevention Program Dissemination Project (PP150079),” directed by **Barbara Turner, M.D.**, professor of medicine, founding and former director of the Center for Research to Advance Community Health at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, delivered a lecture on the popular Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai webinar series “HepCure,” which reaches a national audience. This team also discussed implementation strategies to improve HCV screening and care for disadvantaged populations with the Centers for Disease Control in January 2020.
- **Kathleen Schmeler, M.D.**, professor in the Department of Gynecologic Oncology and Reproductive Medicine at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, (PP190014), presented “Cervical Cancer Screening and Follow Up Care within the Challenging Context of US-Mexico Border Communities” at the March 2020 “Advancing Progress in the Development and Implementation of Effective, High-Quality Cancer Screening: A Workshop by the National Cancer Policy Forum,” organized by the National Academies of Science.
- In a commentary published in the July 30, 2020, issue of the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, **Dr. Michael Pignone** contends that the 600,000-strong postal workforce offers exciting wide-reaching opportunities to re-imagine how the US Postal Service can play a critical role in improving health care, while also providing financial benefit to the agency. Dr. Pignone, Chair, Department of Internal Medicine, Director of the Program on Cancer Prevention & Control, Livestrong Cancer Institutes, Dell Medical School at The University of Texas at Austin, contends that the mailed FIT testing program funded by CPRIT (PP190063, PP200066) would not be cost-effective without the infrastructure of the USPS.