

OUR MISSION

To implement tailored interventions that promote health equity and improve quality of life in under-resourced communities, with an emphasis on Black people across the African diaspora.

WHAT WE DO

We use both qualitative (words) and quantitative (numbers) methods to investigate disparities in survivorship outcomes and develop community-led interventions for breast and lung cancer thrivers (aka survivors) and their family caregivers.

CURRENT PROJECTS



The Bench to Community Initiative



The impact of social determinants of health (SDH) on lung cancer surgery family caregivers and patients

WHY IT MATTERS



- 1 in 8 women will develop breast cancer in their lifetime.
- Black women are 41% more likely to die from the disease than White women.



 Lung cancer is the leading cause of death for both men and women in the United States.

American Cancer Society Cancer Facts & Figures 2022

MEET THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR



Dede K. Teteh, Dr.P.H.
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Department of Health Sciences
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Dede K. Teteh, Dr.P.H. is a certified health education professional with a wide breadth of experience across academia, research, policy development, and strategic communications. She brings a deep knowledge of the public health sector—spanning both individual and community health—as well as a teaching and research-based background. Through her work in community advocacy and prevention, as well as several roles at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, she has refined her interest in sustainable public health infrastructure and building healthier communities across the African Diaspora.



For more information about Dr.Teteh and her publications, scan the OR code.

CURRENT PROJECTS



The Bench to Community Initiative (BCI)*‡

The BCI partners with community organizations and advocates to gain an understanding of how hazardous chemical exposures from personal care products influence breast cancer risk.

Goal 1: Determine the sociocultural factors that influence breast cancer survivors when selecting personal care products.

Goal 2: Determine the effects of parabens (endocrine disrupting chemicals found in personal care products) on the survival, migration, and invasion of genetically diverse breast cancer cell lines.

Goal 3: Develop community and policy interventions that reduce exposure of harmful chemicals from personal care products and breast cancer risk for Black people.





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The impact of social determinants of health (SDH) on lung cancer surgery family caregivers and patients*‡

This study focuses on the socioeconomic factors that may affect the quality of life (QOL) outcomes for lung cancer patients and family caregivers.

Goal 1: Describe the relationship between socioeconomic influences (economic stability, education access, and quality, healthcare access and quality, neighborhood and built environment) and QOL outcomes for lung cancer family caregivers and patients.

Goal 2: Explore potential barriers to QOL and caregiving burden for lung cancer family caregivers and patients.

*Projects are in collaboration with researchers at City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center (Duarte, CA). ‡Projects are funded by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) & National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) -National Institutes of Health, learn more.