



ANNUAL REPORT ON
Complementary and Alternative Medicine

FISCAL YEAR 2009



The research the National Cancer Institute (NCI) supports, both in our own laboratories and at institutions worldwide, is focused on the ultimate goal of helping cancer patients. That mission – achieved through rigorous science – extends to NCI's program on complementary and alternative medicine, also known as CAM.

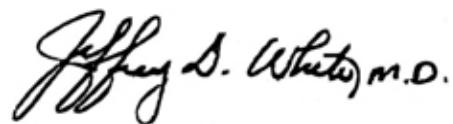
It is with great pleasure and pride that we once again provide NCI's research partners, physicians, the advocacy community, policymakers and cancer patients with this fifth annual review of NCI's extensive accomplishments in advancing evidence-based CAM interventions and therapies.

Fiscal year (FY) 2009, marked the 10th anniversary of the establishment of NCI's Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine (OCCAM). Since its creation, OCCAM has held the job of coordinating and fostering the Institute's CAM research portfolio and partnerships with extramural researchers as well as within NCI's intramural programs.

Over the past ten years, NCI's portfolio of CAM research grew from about \$20 million to around \$120 million. This growth has been due to the hard work of hundreds of cancer researchers around the world as well as many individuals throughout the NCI, including OCCAM's efforts in developing new funding opportunities, enhancing CAM technical assistance to grant applicants, and creating collaborative partnerships. There also has been substantial growth in the number of clinical trials relevant to CAM therapies, including landmark studies which for the first time provided solid evidence that improvements in lifestyle and dietary interventions are feasible and can impact the recurrence of certain cancers.

NCI's commitment to CAM research and clinical practice has been steadily supported, coordinated, and expanded by OCCAM over the years. That mission is continuing with the identification of new research priorities for NCI's CAM office. OCCAM's new priorities will expand NCI's ability to extend the search for effective therapies into areas outside the mainstream of conventional biomedical research.

I hope you find this report helpful and informative. I also hope that it will generate an enhanced dialogue – especially between patients and health care professionals – about the appropriate uses of CAM interventions in conjunction with conventional medicine. Cancer patients deserve credible, unbiased information about any intervention or treatment regimen that they are considering. It is our duty to conduct and support the science that makes wise and informed decisions possible.



Jeffrey D. White, M.D.

Director
Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine
Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis
National Cancer Institute

The following acronyms are used throughout this report:

NCI	National Cancer Institute
CAM	complementary and alternative medicine
OCCAM	Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine
FY	fiscal year
NIH	National Institutes of Health
DCB	Division of Cancer Biology
DCCPS	Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences
DCP	Division of Cancer Prevention
DCTD	Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis
CCR	Center for Cancer Research
DCEG	Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics
ARRA	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
DOC	Divisions, Offices and Centers
TCM	Traditional Chinese Medicine
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NPB	Natural Products Branch
DTP	Developmental Therapeutics Program
CSC	cancer stem cells
RDSP	Research Development and Support Program
PA	program announcement
CCOP	Community Clinical Oncology Program
CARRA	Consumer Advocates in Research and Related Activities
COP	Communications and Outreach Program
PAP	Practice Assessment Program
BCS	Best Case Series
CIS	Cancer Information Service
PDQ	Physician Data Query
SQF	Sheng Qi Formula
ND	Naturopathic Doctor
FOA	funding opportunity announcement
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
PMID	PubMed Identifier

Director’s Message	1
Introduction	5
Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine (OCCAM)	6
NCI CAM Communications Programs	16
Training and Conferences	22
HIGHLIGHTS FROM NCI’S CAM TRAINING PROJECTS	26
NCI Supports Mentoring Program in Psychoneuroimmunology Research	28
Mentoring Helps Researcher Pursue Study of Ginger for Preventing Colorectal Cancer	29
Naturopathic Doctor Studies Antioxidant Use in Breast Cancer Patients	30
NCI Research in Complementary and Alternative Medicine	32
NCI CAM RESEARCH PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS: FY 2009	35
HIGHLIGHTS FROM NCI’S WIDE-RANGING CAM RESEARCH	38
<hr/>	
Understanding the Causes and Mechanisms of Cancer	40
Pooling Resources to Examine Associations Between Vitamin D and Risk of Rarer Cancers	41
Large Populations and Rigorous Methods Needed for Vitamin D Research	42
Targeting Prostate Cancer Cells with Bioflavonoids	43
Traditional Chinese Mind-Body Practice Studied in Long-Term Cancer Survivors	44
Traditional Chinese Medicine Oil Studied Against Prostate Cancer	46
<hr/>	
Accelerating Progress in Cancer Prevention	48
West African Plants Studied for Inflammation and Cancer Prevention	49
Exercise May Boost the Immune System and Improve Cancer Vaccine Effectiveness	50
Red Algae from the Sea Studied for Colon Cancer Prevention	51
Pomegranate Studied as Preventive Agent Against Prostate Cancer	52
Dietary Components May Help Colon Cancer by Targeting Inflammation	53
Cranberry Juice Shows Promise for the Prevention of Bladder Cancer	54
Ancient Medicine from India Studied to Prevent Prostate Cancer	55
<hr/>	
Developing Effective and Efficient Treatments	56
Vitamin K Studied in Treatment and Prevention of Liver Cancer	57
Vitamin D Studied to Treat Advanced Prostate Cancer	58
Dietary Restrictions Treat Cancer as a Metabolic Disease	59
Exercise and Antidepressants May Counteract Stress-induced Tumor Growth	60
Enhancing Cancer Immunoprevention and Immunotherapy with Naturally Occurring Beta Glucans	61
Botanical Products Examined for Prevention of Endometrial Cancer From Tamoxifen Treatment	62
<hr/>	
Improving the Quality of Life for Cancer Patients, Survivors, and their Families	63
Cranial Stimulation Tried for Managing Side Effects of Chemotherapy in Breast Cancer	64
Exercise Intervention Studied for Heart Failure in Cancer Survivors	65
SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS	66
Appendix	68



FIGURE 1. MAJOR CATEGORIES OF CAM THERAPIES

ALTERNATIVE MEDICAL SYSTEMS

DEFINITION: Alternative medical systems are built upon complete systems of theory and practice. Often, these systems have evolved apart from and earlier than the conventional medical approach used in the United States.

EXAMPLES: Acupuncture, Ayurveda, Homeopathy, Naturopathy, Traditional Chinese Medicine, Tibetan Medicine

ENERGY THERAPIES

DEFINITION: Energy therapies involve the use of energy fields.

There are two types:

- **Biofield therapies** are intended to affect energy fields that purportedly surround and penetrate the human body. The existence of such fields has not yet been scientifically proven.

EXAMPLES: Qi gong, Reiki, Therapeutic touch

- **Electromagnetic-based therapies** involve the unconventional use of electromagnetic fields, such as pulsed fields, magnetic fields, or alternating current or direct current fields.

EXAMPLES: Pulsed electromagnetic fields, Magnet therapy

EXERCISE THERAPIES

DEFINITION: Exercise therapies include health-enhancing systems of exercise and movement.

EXAMPLES: T'ai chi, Yoga asanas

MANIPULATIVE AND BODY-BASED METHODS

DEFINITION: Manipulative and body-based methods in CAM are based on manipulation and/or movement of one or more parts of the body.

EXAMPLES: Chiropractic, Therapeutic massage, Osteopathy, Reflexology

MIND-BODY INTERVENTIONS

DEFINITION: Mind-body medicine uses a variety of techniques designed to enhance the mind's capacity to affect bodily function and symptom.

EXAMPLES: Meditation, Hypnosis, Art therapy, Biofeedback, Imagery, Relaxation therapy, Support groups, Music therapy, Cognitive-behavioral therapy, Aromatherapy

NUTRITIONAL THERAPEUTICS

DEFINITION: Nutritional therapeutics are an assortment of nutrients and non-nutrients, bioactive food components used as chemo-preventive agents, and specific foods or diets used as cancer prevention or treatment strategies.

EXAMPLES: Macrobiotic diet, Vegetarianism, Gerson therapy, Kelley/Gonzalez regimen, Vitamins, Soy phytoestrogens, Antioxidants, Selenium, Coenzyme Q10

PHARMACOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGIC TREATMENTS

DEFINITION: Pharmacological and biologic treatments include the off-label use of prescription drugs, hormones, complex natural products, vaccines, and other biological interventions not yet accepted in mainstream medicine.

EXAMPLES: Antineoplastins, 714X, Low dose naltrexone, Immunoaugmentative therapy, Laetrile, Hydrazine sulfate, Melatonin

COMPLEX NATURAL PRODUCTS

DEFINITION: Complex natural products are an assortment of plant samples (botanicals), extracts of crude natural substances, and un-fractionated extracts from marine organisms used for healing and treatment of disease.

EXAMPLES: Herbs and herbal extracts, Mistletoe, Mixtures of tea polyphenols, Shark cartilage

SPIRITUAL THERAPIES

DEFINITION: Spiritual therapies are therapies that focus on deep, often religious beliefs and feelings, including a person's sense of peace, purpose, connection to others, and beliefs about the meaning of life.

EXAMPLES: Intercessory prayer, Spiritual healing

Each year, Congress requests a report of the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) annual expenditures in complementary and alternative medicine (CAM)* research. To give more meaning to the numbers provided to Congress, a more detailed account of the Institute's investment in CAM has been produced for the last four years. The reports, (including last year's *NCI's Annual Report on Complementary and Alternative Medicine: Fiscal Year 2008*), are intended as a way for NCI to communicate its progress in this area of medical research, not only to Congress but also to other interested stakeholders including cancer researchers, CAM practitioners, health care providers, advocacy organizations, cancer patients, and the general public.

The NCI's Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine (OCCAM) is proud to present the latest such report, *NCI's Annual Report on Complementary and Alternative Medicine: Fiscal Year 2009*. Similar to the previous reports, this publication provides an overview of the NCI-supported work in this field along with details on certain selected projects in the areas of cancer CAM relating to communication, training and conferences, and research.

This report highlights projects, grants, and cooperative agreements supported by each of

the Institute's extramural grant funding divisions – Division of Cancer Biology (DCB), Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS), Division of Cancer Prevention (DCP), and the Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis (DCTD), along with projects from NCI's intramural laboratories – Center for Cancer Research (CCR) and the Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics (DCEG). These projects represent a variety of CAM categories, cancer types, research types, and grant mechanisms. This report includes summaries of selected training grant awards, as well as a breakdown of NCI's CAM research portfolio. In fiscal year (FY) 2009, NCI's research expenditures for CAM were an estimated \$114,441,501 for the funding of 429 CAM research projects. In addition, during FY 2009, NCI used \$21,637,877 in funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to award 104 CAM research grants.

As this report on cancer CAM indicates, we at the NCI are committed to an integrated approach to marshalling all of the many resources and approaches necessary to make cancer a condition that is – at worst – a manageable, chronic illness similar to heart disease and diabetes. We believe that evidence-based CAM techniques, systems, and products can have an important role in helping us reach that worthwhile goal.

* CAM is often defined as any medical system, practice, or product that is not thought of as "western medicine" or standard medical care. Complementary medicine means it is used along with standard medicine, also called conventional medicine. Alternative medicine is used in place of standard treatments. CAM treatments may include dietary supplements, megadose vitamins, herbal preparations, acupuncture, massage therapy, magnet therapy, spiritual healing, and meditation (See Figure 1, on page 4 for the major categories of CAM therapies).

Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine





NCI's Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine (OCCAM) is a coordinating office responsible for: identifying gaps

in the science and creating corresponding funding opportunities for cancer CAM research; partnering with NCI program staff and other governmental and nongovernmental organizations to increase the testing of CAM approaches for cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment, symptom management, and rehabilitation; developing communication products for various audiences concerning the investigation and use of these approaches; and helping to build bridges between CAM practitioners and the cancer research community.

OCCAM is part of the NCI Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis (DCTD). The division's mission is to improve the lives of the American public by discovering better ways to diagnose, assess, treat, and cure cancer through stimulating, coordinating, and funding a national program of cancer research. OCCAM's programs and activities complement DCTD's mission and are enhanced by the other major programs and branches within DCTD.

During FY 2009, OCCAM announced its new research priorities:

- Identifying novel therapeutics in the pharmacopeia of traditional medical systems as defined by the World Health Organization
- Using complementary approaches to improve the therapeutic ratio of standard and investigational anti-cancer therapies
- Research on lifestyle modifications (e.g., diet, exercise, mind-body approaches) for their impact on cancer outcomes (e.g., response to conventional cancer therapy, survival)

The new priorities were developed after OCCAM became part of the NCI Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis (DCTD) in FY 2007. This move allowed OCCAM to develop a new focus on cancer treatment research in addition to its historical role of supporting the growth of CAM research in all of NCI's divisions, offices, and centers (DOCs). The three research priorities identified by OCCAM represent areas of special opportunities in the CAM field that do not overlap with the DOCs' existing research projects.

FOCUSING ON BOTANICALS RESEARCH

BOTANICALS AND CANCER RESEARCH: CLINICAL TRIALS WORKSHOP

In July 2009, OCCAM convened a meeting attended by more than 100 researchers, policymakers, and experts for a two-day workshop designed to tackle the topic of botanicals and clinical cancer research. Based on the type of expertise, the attendees were assigned to one of the following six working groups:

- Targets, Pathways, and Networks of Pre-Clinical Models;
- Botanical Drug Issues;
- Clinical Trial Design and Implementation I;
- Clinical Trial Design and Implementation II;
- Role of Industry in Botanical Drug Development; and
- Obtaining Grant Funding for Botanical Drug Research.

Each working group was tasked to answer a series of questions about the challenges as well as the opportunities related to the current state of botanicals and cancer research.

A number of ideas emerged about how to establish an effective and organized clinical trial research infrastructure in the United States. The image of a pathway was used by some at the workshop as a way to describe how a botanical could move through the entire development spectrum: from discovery and reliable harvesting, into preclinical research at the bench, through to animal testing and human clinical trials, and ultimately to approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as a cancer treatment in humans. The discussions from this meeting are being used by OCCAM to better assess how to grow research in this topic and to improve technical assistance to grant applicants.

For more information, visit http://www.cancer.gov/cam/attachments/workshop_agenda_09.pdf.

NCI SIGNS RESEARCH AGREEMENT WITH CHINESE BOTANICAL INSTITUTE

After the United States government signed a research agreement with China to foster collaboration between researchers studying integrative and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) in both countries, one of the first and most promising of these projects is a partnership between the Kunming Institute of Botany (KIB) of China Academy of Sciences and two groups at NCI.

OCCAM began to oversee the growing collaboration after a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between KIB and NCI in October 2008. KIB is supplying unique natural compounds from Chinese plants, while NCI's Natural Products Branch (NPB) of the Developmental Therapeutics Program (DTP) will screen them for anticancer activity in NCI's system of 60 human cancer cell lines. If any of the botanical compounds show promise, more drug analysis and development will follow.

OCCAM SUPPORTS INTRAMURAL RESEARCH

During FY 2009, OCCAM financially supported two research projects within NCI's Center for Cancer Research (CCR). One research project led by William Farrar, Ph.D., head of the CCR Cancer Stem Cell Section, identified two phytochemicals – parthenolide and gossypol – that target prostate cancer stem cells (CSC) and may be used to eradicate CSCs in such tumors.

Thus far, parthenolide has been shown to affect:

1. tumor incidence and latency in animal studies;
2. signals associated with tumor proliferation and cancer cell invasion in micro-array studies; and
3. prostate cancer initiation, progression, and metastasis through altering transcription factor binding, which was found in protein/DNA array studies.

OCCAM COMPLETES ITS FIRST DECADE AT NCI

The beginning of FY 2009 marked the 10th anniversary of OCCAM's creation at NCI. During its first decade, OCCAM contributed to and documented the approximately \$100 million growth of NCI's CAM research portfolio. There was also significant growth in the number of clinical trials of CAM interventions, including landmark studies which for the first time provided solid evidence that improvements in lifestyle and dietary interventions are feasible and can impact the recurrence of certain cancers. NCI's commitment to CAM research and clinical practice has been steadily supported, coordinated, and expanded by OCCAM over the years and that mission continues.

The following articles, that present the results of this research, were published in FY 2009 (PubMed Identifier (PMID) numbers are provided for the citations):

- Kawasaki BT, Farrar WL. Cancer stem cells, CD200 and immunoevasion. *Trends Immunology*, October 2008;29(10):464-8. Epub 2008 Sep 3. PMID: 18775673.
- Kawasaki BT, Hurt EM, Kalathur M, Duhagon MA, Milner JA, Kim YS, Farrar WL. Effects of the sesquiterpene lactone parthenolide on prostate tumor-initiating cells: An integrated molecular profiling approach. *Prostate*, June 1, 2009; 69(8):827-37. PMID: 19204913.
- Klarmann GJ, Hurt EM, Mathews LA, Zhang X, Duhagon MA, Mistree T, Thomas SB, Farrar WL. Invasive prostate cancer cells are tumor initiating cells that have a stem cell-like genomic signature. *Clinical & Experimental Metastasis*, 2009; 26(5):433-46. Epub 2009 Feb 17. PMID: 19221883.
- Mathews LA, Crea F, Farrar WL. Epigenetic gene regulation in stem cells and correlation to cancer. *Differentiation*, July 2009;78(1):1-17. Epub 2009 May 14. Review. PMID: 19443100.

In addition, for a third year, OCCAM has supported a CCR study on the Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) therapy called Sheng Qi Formula (SQF). O.M. “Zack” Howard, Ph.D., staff scientist and her team in the CCR Laboratory of Molecular Immunoregulation, Cancer and Inflammation Program conducted several studies during FY 2009 in follow up to work that was featured in a previous NCI CAM research annual report (An article on the earlier research is on page 35 of the FY 2007 CAM report which can be found at <http://www.cancer.gov/cam/attachments/CAMAnnualReportFY2007.pdf>).

These previous studies largely focused on the immunologic mechanisms of action of SQF. However, the CCR researchers’ recent experiments have begun to explore the direct effects of the TCM therapy on cancer cells. The resulting data from this year’s work indicate that the *in vitro* and *in vivo* effects of SQF on the 4T1 breast cancer model are due to the induction of apoptosis through the mitochondrial pathway.

OCCAM PROGRAMS

RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT PROGRAM

NCI sponsored 387 cancer CAM research projects in FY 2009, each of which are managed within the various Divisions and Centers of the Institute. OCCAM’s Research Development and Support Program (RDSP) staff manages a portion of this portfolio and works with other program staff throughout NCI, assists investigators in identifying funding opportunities, and provides guidance in the pre- and post-review periods of grant application. The staff also coordinates programs and initiatives designed to stimulate research in cancer CAM as well as activities to develop the foundation of the science in cancer CAM research.

Isis Mikhail, M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H. was named as RDSP Program Director in November 2008. Dr. Mikhail received her medical degree from Cairo University Medical School. She then received her MPH and DrPH degrees in Epidemiology and International Health from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Before coming to OCCAM, Dr. Mikhail was a program director, epidemiologist and acting branch chief at the Clinical and Translational Epidemiology Branch (CTEB) of the NCI Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS).

Under Dr. Mikhail's leadership, OCCAM reissued the program announcement (PA) PA-09-167 "Developmental Projects in Complementary Approaches to Cancer Care and Treatment" in April 2009. This PA solicits grant applications to encourage and support the development of basic and clinical complementary cancer research projects (prevention, therapeutic, and palliative) through the exploratory/developmental research grant (R21) award mechanism.

For more information, visit

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-167.html>.

In addition, OCCAM initiated a new small grant R03 funding opportunity announcement. This announcement, PA-09-168 offered R03 grant awards for researchers interested in starting small pilot and feasibility studies of CAM therapies and practices. Through this mechanism, studies can be funded that generate data needed for conducting larger scientific studies of CAM. OCCAM seeks to encourage investigators to initiate research in areas not typically explored in larger studies funded by other grant mechanisms, such as R01 and R21 awards. Outreach to international audiences was conducted for this PA.

For more information, visit

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-168.html>.

Funding CAM Research with Stimulus Act Funds

OCCAM successfully proposed funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 for three new supplements to grants in its portfolio. The ARRA awardees were chosen, in part, because they were addressing highly significant areas of cancer research:

- Dr. Rakesh Srivastava "Chemoprevention of Pancreatic Cancer by EGCG" (3R01CA125262-02S1). University of Texas Health Center at Tyler.

- Dr. Fazlul Sarkar "A Novel and Targeted Approach to Inhibit Invasion and Angiogenesis" (R01CA131151-02S1). Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan.
- Dr. Yung-Chi Cheng "Nucleoside Analogs as Anticancer Compounds" (3R01CA063477-14S1). Yale University.

OCCAM also provided an administrative supplement to the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group, Community Clinical Oncology Program (CCOP) Research Base (CA037422) to support components of a phase II/III study comparing acupuncture-like transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (ALTENS) versus pilocarpine in treating early radiation-induced xerostomia (dry mouth).

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH PROGRAM

OCCAM's Communications and Outreach Program (COP) develops and disseminates information about NCI program initiatives and funding opportunities, workshops and other events, and educational materials through OCCAM's publications and Web site (<http://www.cancer.gov/cam>).

This program also assesses the opinions, interests, and informational needs of cancer researchers, CAM practitioners, and cancer patients regarding CAM research through surveys, public comment sessions, and focus groups. Results from these explorations are used to guide outreach efforts to these communities.

Assessing Cancer Patients Information Needs

In FY 2009, COP made a commitment to expand its outreach and communication efforts to cancer patients and produce additional resources that fill the existing gaps in patients' information needs.

In order to develop resources that best serve the needs of patients, OCCAM began a qualitative needs assessment to identify the CAM issues and topics most important to cancer patients. The needs assessment started by targeting health care professionals who work closely with patients, including patient educators, social workers, nurses, physicians, and CAM practitioners. The information collected in OCCAM's assessment will shape a dialogue about cancer patients' needs related to CAM. It will also help NCI determine high priority areas for new patient-focused publications and resources.

Other major communication activities in FY 2009 included:

- Redesign of Health Information and About Us sections of the OCCAM website, along with usability testing of entire website.
- Creating a Wikipedia entry on OCCAM http://www.cancer.gov/cam/newsletter/2009-fall/cam_information_occam_fall2009.html

COP also published the following publications in FY 2009:

- *NCI's Annual Report on Complementary and Alternative Medicine: Fiscal Year 2008* http://www.cancer.gov/cam/attachments/fy2008_CAM_annual_report.pdf
- *NCI CAM News* – Spring 2009 <http://www.cancer.gov/cam/newsletter/2009-spring/home.html>
- *NCI CAM News* – Fall 2009 http://www.cancer.gov/cam/newsletter/2009-fall/fall2009_OCCAM_newsletter_home.html

In addition to sending staff and publications to the numerous professional meetings listed below, COP improved OCCAM's outreach efforts by unveiling a new exhibit on NCI CAM research in FY 2009.

This exhibit better promotes the mission of OCCAM and gives NCI a larger, more integral presence at key cancer CAM meetings, events, and symposia.

- Frontiers in Integrative Oncology; American College for Advancement in Medicine; Las Vegas, NV; October 15-19, 2008 (OCCAM staff attending: Shea Buckman)
- 5th International Conference of the Society for Integrative Oncology; Atlanta, GA; November 20-21, 2008 (OCCAM staff attending: Shea Buckman, Dr. Isis Mikhail, Dr. Dan Xi)
- Evidence-based Complementary and Alternative Cancer Therapies Conference; West Palm Beach, FL; January 8-10, 2009 (OCCAM staff attending: Shea Buckman)
- 8th Annual Oxford International Conference on the Science of Botanicals; Oxford, MS; April 2009 (OCCAM staff attending: Shea Buckman, Dr. Isis Mikhail)
- North American Research Conference on Complementary and Integrative Medicine; Minneapolis, MN; May 2009; (OCCAM staff attending: Shea Buckman, Commander Colleen Lee, Dr. Dan Xi)
- Oncology Nursing Society (OCCAM staff attending: Commander Colleen Lee)
- American Society of Clinical Oncology (OCCAM staff attending: Dr. Farah Zia)
- American Association of Family Physicians (materials only)

COP Collaborations

Each fiscal year, groups around NCI request the expertise of the COP staff. In FY 2009, COP:

- Assisted the NCI Office of Partnerships and Dissemination Initiatives' Multicultural Media Outreach Program with developing an article on CAM titled: "Interested in Complementary

and Alternative Medicine for Cancer? Talk with Your Doctor” for NCI’s *Lifelines*, a biweekly column outreaching to Hispanic and African American community newspapers across the country. The CAM article was made available to the BlackPressUSA.com via the National Newspaper Publishers Association and Journey to Wellness, a radio media brand that provides health care and health literacy information through syndicated radio programming on public radio stations and on the CNN Radio network.

- Worked with the NCI Cancer Information Service’s (CIS) to edit the CAM script for the recorded message on CAM offered through the 1-800-4-CANCER telephone line. The CAM script is one of six automated treatment messages.
- Provided content review of CAM articles written for the *NCI Cancer Bulletin* biweekly newsletter, which reaches approximately 52,000 subscribers. In FY 2009, COP participated in the following article reviews:
 - Harnessing the Biological Activity of Natural Products
 - Chemotherapy Provides Longer Survival than Enzyme Therapy for Pancreatic Cancer
 - Dietary Supplements and Cancer Treatment: A Risky Mixture
 - Researchers Urge Caution and Greater Scrutiny of Colon-related CAM Treatments.

In FY 2009, cancer patient advocates were involved in the review of NCI’s CAM Annual Report. OCCAM solicited feedback from four Consumer Advocates in Research and Related Activities (CARRA) members who agreed to review a draft of the FY 2008 report. These members provided comments on whether the document was easy to read, contained relevant information to the cancer patient community, or omitted topics of patient interest. The feedback from these

CARRA members improved the quality of the *NCI’s Annual Report on Complementary and Alternative Medicine: Fiscal Year 2008*.

PRACTICE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

OCCAM’s Practice Assessment Program (PAP) reviews information on cancer patients treated with alternative therapies. PAP manages the NCI Best Case Series (BCS) Program, which provides an opportunity for CAM practitioners to submit retrospective case reports regarding cancer CAM treatments used in their settings. Practitioners are asked to submit patient records for evaluation by experts in clinical assessment and cancer treatment research. Results of the NCI BCS Program are used to inform decisions regarding NCI-initiated research and to share well-documented best cases with interested members of the scientific community in order to stimulate research.

In FY 2009, 29 cases of cancer patients treated with an alternative approach were submitted to the NCI Best Case Series Program and reviewed for eligibility. Two cases were found to fit the program criteria and reviews were completed on those cases (i.e., confirmation of pathological diagnosis of cancer, confirmation of radiological response to alternative treatment, and summary letter sent to submitters).

PAP is involved in an on-going collaboration with NCI’s Community Oncology and Prevention Trials Research Group of the Division of Cancer Prevention, which is involved in all aspects of the design and implementation of NCI’s large cancer prevention and symptom management clinical trials. PAP participates in concept and protocol reviews of trials utilizing CAM approaches, providing medical oncology and CAM research expertise and guidance.

During FY 2009, OCCAM staff published two articles about the NCI BCS Program and CAM practitioners:

- Zia F, White J. Letter to the Editor. *Integrative Cancer Therapies*, 2009; 8(2),113-114.
- Lee C., Zia F., Olaku O., Michie J., White J. Survey of CAM practitioners regarding cancer management and research. *Journal of the Society of Integrative Oncology*, Winter 2009; 7(1), 26-34.

On February 4, 2009, PAP hosted a talk given by Drs. Mary Tagliaferri and Emma Shtivelman, from Bionovo Inc. titled “Anti-tumor Effects of BZL 101 for Patients with Advanced Breast Cancer.”

OCCAM'S PARTICIPATION AT MAJOR PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

OCCAM staff members are active in both domestic and international professional conferences through presentations and interactions with cancer CAM researchers, practitioners, and patient advocacy groups attending the conferences.

During FY 2009, this encompassed several important meetings (OCCAM staff attending):

- Cancer Patient Education Network Annual Meeting; October 20-22, 2008; Clearwater, FL; (Shea Buckman)
- Cancer Foundation of China: The Progress and Prospect of Traditional Chinese Medicine Cancer Therapy and Prevention; October 22-24, 2008; Zhangjiajie, China; (Dr. Libin Jia gave a presentation titled “Overview of the National Cancer Institute’s Cancer CAM Research”)
- 2nd International Congress of TCM and Integrated TCM-Western Medicine Oncology; October 24-26, 2008; Beijing, China; (Dr. Libin Jia was a session chairperson and gave a presentation titled “National Cancer Institute’s Traditional Chinese Medicine Related Research”)
- New York International Traditional Chinese Medicine Summit; New York City, NY; November 1-2, 2008; (Dr. Libin Jia gave a presentation titled “Cancer Research and Traditional Chinese Medicine: A Perspective from the U.S. National Cancer Institute”)
- Institute of Medicine Summit on Integrative Medicine and the Health of the Public; Washington, D.C.; February 25-27, 2009; (Dr. Isis Mikhail, Lauren Rice, Vera Rosenthal)
- American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting; Denver, CO; April 18-22, 2009; (Dr. Isis Mikhail and Dr. Libin Jia participated in Meet-the-Expert sessions)

- City of Hope CAM Research Seminar; Duarte, CA; May 15, 2009; (Dr. Jeffrey D. White gave a presentation titled “Complementary and Alternative Medicine and Cancer Research”)
- American Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Meeting; Orlando, FL; May 29-June 2, 2009; (Dr. Libin Jia participated in a Meet-the-Expert session)
- Cancer Guides™ II Cutting Edge Integrative Cancer Care; Washington, D.C.; June 11-14, 2009; (Dr. Isis Mikhail gave a presentation titled “Understanding OCCAM and Applying for Assistance” and Dr. Jeffrey D. White gave a presentation titled “Integrative Oncology: Thoughts Regarding Future Development”)
- International Workshop on Bioinformatics and Systems Biology in Traditional Chinese Medicine Research; Shanghai, China; August 3-6, 2009; (Dr. Dan Xi was co-chair)
- 8th Meeting of the Consortium for the Globalization of Chinese Medicine; Nottingham, England; August 25-28, 2009, (Dr. Jeffrey D. White was co-chair of session titled “Clinical Trial I: Cancer and Liver Inflammation”)
- 9th Annual Meeting of the Comprehensive Cancer Center of Wake Forest University Community Clinical Oncology Program Research Base; Ashville, NC; September 24-26, 2009; (Dr. Isis Mikhail gave a presentation titled “Complementary and Alternative Medicine at the NCI”)
- HINTS Data Users Conference Partners in Progress; Silver Spring, MD; September 24-25, 2009; (Elizabeth Austin)

OCCAM STAFF LIST: FY 2009

Jeffrey D. White, M.D.	Director, OCCAM
Christina Armstrong	Administrative Program Specialist
Akia Samuda	Administrative Assistant
Isis Mikhail, M.D., Dr.P.H., M.P.H.	Director, Research Support and Development Program
Dan Xi, Ph.D.	Program Officer, Research Support and Development Program
Oluwadamilola Olaku, M.D., M.P.H.	Scientific Program Analyst
Libin Jia, M.D.	Scientific Program Manager
Akiko Nakayama, M.S.	Scientific Program Analyst
Juanita Cox, B.S.	NCI Administrative Career Development Intern
Farah Zeba Zia, M.D.	Director, Practice Assessment Program
CDR (U.S. PHS) Colleen Lee, M.S., AOCN®	Coordinator, Practice Assessment Program
Shea Buckman, M.A.	Coordinator, Communications and Outreach Program
Lauren Rice, M.S.	Communications Analyst
Vera Rosenthal, M.P.H.	Health Communications Intern
Elizabeth Austin, M.S.	Health Communications Intern

Thank You for previewing this eBook

You can read the full version of this eBook in different formats:

- HTML (Free /Available to everyone)
- PDF / TXT (Available to V.I.P. members. Free Standard members can access up to 5 PDF/TXT eBooks per month each month)
- Epub & Mobipocket (Exclusive to V.I.P. members)

To download this full book, simply select the format you desire below

