

# JULIE NOEL HARRIS

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## EDUCATION

**PhD, University of Washington School of Public Health, 9/04-7/08** *Institute for Public Health Genetics*

Dissertation: *Understanding the role of context and communication on the utility of family history information.*; Deb Bowen PhD (chair), Kelly Fryer-Edwards PhD, Diane Magyary PhD, Wylie Burke MD PhD

**MPH, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: School of Public Health, 8/03** *Health Behavior and Health Education*

Thesis: *Genetic Testing and Family Communication*

**B.S. University of North Carolina at Wilmington, 5/98**  
*Biology/Marine Biology*

## AWARDS

National Cancer Institute Cancer Prevention and Control Training Fellowship: 8/04 – 7/08

Delta Omega- Honorary Public Health Society- inducted 5/03

United States Public Health Traineeship- 8/01-5/02

## DISSERTATION RESEARCH

**Title:** *Understanding the role of context and communication on the utility of family history information.* Deb Bowen, PhD (chair)

I have designed three specific studies, which together begin to answer the question, ‘Does communication about hereditary cancer risk in different contexts (i.e. clinical and familial) affect whether or not individuals engage in cancer prevention behaviors?’ In the first study, the relationship between familial communication about hereditary cancer information and familial characteristics, dynamics, and structures is examined within families with a family history of cancer. The second expands on this question to examine whether familial communication about hereditary cancer risk influences individual cancer prevention behaviors. The third study examines the role of the clinical context, specifically focusing on whether providers communicate about family cancer history with their patients and the process, content, motivations, and purpose of those conversations.

### Key Tasks:

- Developed novel quantitative measures of family communication and functioning.
- Conduct multiple logistic and linear regression and factor analysis using SPSS.
- Develop novel qualitative data coding procedure and use it to analyze patient-provider communication.

## PUBLICATIONS

K Debnam, **J Harris**, I Morris, S Parikh, L Shirey; *Community Diagnosis of Socially Isolated Elderly in Durham, NC*; 2002: <http://www.hsl.unc.edu/phpapers/phpapers.cfm>

Henrikson N, **Harris J**, Bowen D; *Predictors of self-referral into a cancer genetics registry.* Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers, and Prevention.; 2007. July; 16(7): 1387-1392

Veenstra DL, **Harris J**, Burke W, Gibson R, Rosenfeld M, Watts C; *Pharmacogenomics and aminoglycoside-induced hearing loss in cystic fibrosis patients: An evaluation of potential clinical and economic outcomes.* Genetics in Medicine; 2007. Oct 9(10):695-704.

James RD, Yu JH, Henrikson NB, Bowen DJ, Fullerton SM, **Health Disparities Working Group**. *Strategies and stakeholders: minority recruitment in cancer genetics research*. Community Genetics; 2008. 11(4) 241-249

Bowen D, **Harris J**, Jorgensen C, Myers M, Edwards K; *Influence of socioeconomic factors in response to a genetic testing direct-to-consumer marketing campaign*. (under review)

**J Harris**, A Kuniyuki, L McIntosh, E Ostrander, J Stanford, D Bowen; *Interest in Genetic Testing Among Affected and Unaffected Men from HPC Families*. (under review)

*IN PREPARATION*

**J Harris**, S Beresford, W Demark- Wahnefried, D Buller, S Havas, K Peterson, D McLerran, Z Feng, L Nebeling; *Common predictors of efficacy of 5-a-Day interventions among adults: Results from the 5-A-Day programs*.

Bowen DJ, Hay J, **Harris J**, Meischke H, Press NA, Shoveller JA, Asgari M, Burke W, Edwards M. *What is a family?*

Bowen DJ, Boehmer U, **Harris J**. Disparities in colorectal cancer (CRC) post-treatment surveillance: An explanation for mortality differences between Black and White CRC patients.

**POSTERS/  
PRESENTATIONS**

N Press, **J Harris**, A Kuniyuki, D Bowen; *Modeling Family Based Research in the Prevention of Melanoma*; 6<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Melanoma. Sept, 2005. Vancouver, BC. (poster)

**J Harris**, Kuniyuki A, McIntosh L, Ostrander E, Stanford J, Bowen D; *Interest in Genetic Testing Among Affected and Unaffected Men from HPC Families*; American Society of Preventive Oncology Annual Meeting, Feb. 2006. Bethesda, MD. (poster)

Henrikson N, **Harris J**, Bowen D; *Predictors of self-referral into a cancer genetics registry*; American Society of Preventive Oncology Annual Meeting, Feb.2006. Bethesda, MD. (poster)

**Harris J**, Watts C, Burke W, Gibson R, Rosenfeld M, Veenstra DL; *Pharmacogenomics and aminoglycoside-induced hearing loss in cystic fibrosis patients: An evaluation of potential clinical and economic outcomes*. American College of Medical Genetics: Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting, March, 2006. San Diego, CA (poster)

**Harris J**. *Interest in Genetic Testing Among Affected and Unaffected Men from HPC Families*; Biobehavioral Cancer Prevention and Control Spring Symposium; April, 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006. Seattle, WA (Oral Presentation)

**Harris J**, Veenstra D, Wang G, Watts C; *Policy implications of cost effectiveness analysis for genetic testing: a case study*. American Society of Public Health Annual Meeting. Nov, 2006. Boston, MA; November, 2006 (poster)

**Harris J**, Bowen D, Jorgensen C, Myers M, Edwards K; *Influence of socioeconomic factors in response to a genetic testing direct-to-consumer marketing campaign*. International Society of Behavioral Medicine 9<sup>th</sup> International Congress. Dec, 2006. Bangkok, Thailand; December, 2006 (poster)

Bowen, DJ, Hay, J, **Harris, J**, Meischke, H, Press, NA, Shoveller, JA,

Asgari, M, Burke, W, Edwards, M. What is a family? Communication opportunities with Melanoma Families. American Society of Preventive Oncology Annual Meeting, Feb. 2007. Houston, TX (poster)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### **Predoctoral Fellow; NCI Biobehavioral Cancer Prevention and Control Training Program, *University of Washington*, 9/04 – 7/08**

#### *Evaluation of a Direct-to-Consumer Advertising campaign for genetic testing:*

*PI: Deb Bowen*

In collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control, I examined whether socioeconomic status affected the impact of a mass-media advertising campaign for genetic testing.

#### Key tasks:

- Developed analysis plan.
- Worked with investigators to conduct logistic regression analysis on population-based dataset using SAS.
- Co-authored manuscript (under review) and presented results at an international conference.

*Genetic Services and Policy Project; Three year project funded by HRSA to investigate the current model of genetics services delivery.* <http://depts.washington.edu/genpol/>

*PI: Carolyn Watts, PhD/ Co-PI: Dave Veenstra, PhD:* <http://depts.washington.edu/genpol/>

I worked with Dr. Veenstra on a research project examining the cost-effectiveness and the factors impacting cost-effectiveness of a pharmacogenomic test for hearing loss.

#### Key tasks:

- Conducted a meta-analysis of the clinical, epidemiological, and biological literature on the genetic test, and interviewed clinical experts to gather data for the model.
- Designed a cost-utility economic model and conducted the analysis using TreeAge software.
- Co-authored the manuscript currently in press in *Genetics in Medicine*.

*Prostate Cancer Genetic Research Study (PROGRESS): Ongoing study of a large cohort of high-risk prostate cancer families with the goal of identifying genetic mutations involved in prostate cancer.* *PI: Janet Stanford*

I examined survey data collected from over 300 cases and first-degree male relatives to identify psychosocial, cognitive, familial, and sociodemographic characteristics associated with interest in prostate cancer genetic testing.

#### Key tasks:

- Developed an analysis plan and assumed primary responsibility on the conduct of all aspects of the project and manuscript writing.
- Used SAS to conduct multiple logistic regression analysis of data.

*SunTalk Study: Randomized-controlled-trial of a web-based intervention designed to increase melanoma prevention behavior among families with a history of melanoma.* *PI: Deb Bowen*

I synthesized multiple behavioral and psychological theories to determine an appropriate theoretical and conceptual model for measuring important aspects of the family system.

#### Key Tasks:

- Review and summarize the theoretical and empirical literature on the role of families on health behaviors.
- Identify existing measures and/or develop novel measures of family functioning and family communication.

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

### **Project Coordinator, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in partnership with Genetic Alliance, Seattle, WA, 8/06- 3/07**

Assume responsibility for coordinating evaluation of a community-based participatory research study examining the efficacy of a culturally-adapted family health history tool.

#### Specific Tasks:

- Train and supervise research assistants.
- Work with a team to develop recruitment strategies, measures, and surveys for baseline and follow-up assessment to be used in three diverse communities.
- Develop and implement data collection, tracking, and recording protocols and training materials for research staff in each community.

### **Project Director, Thurston Arthritis Research Center, UNC School of Medicine Chapel Hill, NC, 7/03-9/04**

Assume primary responsibility for a 5-year federally funded NIH study on social support and chronic illness and a sub-study aimed at developing a scale to measure empathic accuracy.

#### Specific Tasks:

- Selected, revised, and evaluated appropriate psychosocial and social support measures for inclusion in the main study and in the sub-study.
- Analyzed outcome data using SAS and SPSS.
- Conducted and supervised structured interviews with over 75 couples.
- Hired, trained and supervised four research assistants on all aspects of patient recruitment, data collection, entry, and coding.
- Developed and maintained IRB protocols, budget, and NIH oversight reports and meetings.

### **Research Assistant, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education**

*UNC School of Public Health, Chapel Hill, NC, 1/02-6/03*

- Developed a comprehensive theory-based qualitative interview guide for telephone interviewing using relevant health behavior and interpersonal communication theories.
- Developed an approved IRB protocol for the pilot study and conducted all aspects of the project according to federal and state standards.
- Recruited and coordinated patient and clinic populations for pilot study, and collected data from 30 participants.
- Worked with a team of researchers to develop a CDC grant proposal.

### **Policy/Program Analyst, The Council for Senior Citizens**

*Durham, NC, 8/02-5/03*

- Worked independently to assess and evaluate current policies and programs serving the needs of older adults in Durham County.
- Compiled a report for a coalition of community based organizations indicating policy and programmatic changes.
- Presented results to a coalition of community based organizations and politicians.

### **Project Manager, Health Education in Libraries Project**

*UNC School of Public Health Chapel Hill, NC, 5/02-9/02*

- Recruited and organized community based organizations, county health dept, county libraries, and faith communities to assist in developing a community outreach plan.
- Recruited fifty participants and organized six focus groups and internet training sessions.
- Analyzed and compiled questionnaire and demographic data using NVIVO and SPSS.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Instructor, Community Based-Participatory Research with Native Communities**

*University of Washington, Seattle, WA 6/06-10/06*

Worked with two other instructors to develop and conduct a two credit graduate seminar on issues surrounding community-based participatory research in Native American communities.

### **Teaching Assistant, Genetic Epidemiology**

*University of Washington, Seattle, WA 3/07-6/07*

- Tutored students in genetic epidemiology methods, content, and grant proposal writing.
- Conducted lecture on epidemiological methods and current statistical analyses tools.
- Facilitated workshops for students on: 1) developing a grant proposal 2) Critiquing research.

### **Teaching Assistant, Genetics and the Law**

*University of Washington, Seattle, WA 10/05-3/06*

- Conducted a class session focused on the legal aspects of clinical genetic services.
- Developed outline and objectives for a graduate course on law and genetics.
- Developed course topics, assignments, and reading materials.

### **Research Assistant, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education**

*UNC School of Public Health, Chapel Hill, NC 8/01-12/01*

- Developed outline and objectives for a graduate course in Public Health and Genomics.
- Developed course topics, assignments, and reading materials.

### **Teaching Assistant, Theoretical Foundations of Health Behavior**

*UNC School of Public Health, Chapel Hill, NC 8/02-12/02*

- Conducted and facilitated student participation in a weekly section of a graduate level theory course in health behavior and health education.
- Developed class materials and conducted lectures.

## **LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

### **Student Representative, Institute for Public Health Genetics**

*University of Washington, Seattle, WA 9/05-5/06*

- Participate in bi-monthly faculty meetings as doctoral student representative.

### **Committee Chair, Triangle United Way Committee on Senior Transportation**

*Triangle United Way, Durham, NC, 9/03-11/04*

- Led a coalition of community members and service providers towards initiating a transportation program for older adults in Durham, NC.

### **Student Liaison, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education**

*UNC School of Public Health, Chapel Hill, NC, 5/02-5/03*

- Conducted focus groups with students assessing student satisfaction.
- Attended monthly meetings with faculty addressing student concerns and action steps.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Public Health Association (APHA)

Public Health Genomics Society (PHGS)

Alliance for Reducing Cancer in the Northwest (ARC NW): Cancer screening group

Center for Genomics and Healthcare Equality: Health disparities working group

Center for Genomics and Healthcare Equality: Disabilities working group

American Psychological Association (APA)

Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM)

American Society for Human Genetics (ASHG)

Society for the Study of Psychological and Social Issues (SPSSI)

Public Health Genomics Caucus of APHA

Alumni Member of The Jackson Laboratory