

The Breast Health Global Initiative *Bulletin*

Global Summit on International Breast Health: *Optimizing Healthcare Delivery*

Washington, DC • June 2010

Summer 2010 will be an exciting time for breast health care experts from around the world who will meet in Washington, DC for the 4th **Global Summit on International Breast Health (“Global Summit”)**. The theme for the 2010 Summit is **Optimizing Healthcare Delivery**.

The **Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI)** and the **Latin American & Caribbean Society of Medical Oncology (SLACOM)** will convene the biennial Global Summit in June of 2010 in the nation’s capital, bringing together collaborating national and international organizations to address the **optimization of breast healthcare delivery in limited resource countries**. Just prior to the BHGI Global Summit, Susan G. Komen for the Cure, a global leader in advocacy and the fight against breast cancer, will hold a global summit on international breast cancer advocacy in association with the BHGI summit.

The 2010 BHGI Global Summit will provide a forum to examine and report on the effectiveness of breast health care delivery in diverse socioeconomic settings and to address how existing healthcare resources can most effectively be organized to improve breast health outcomes. The systematic analyses performed during this three-

day Summit will be guided by the BHGI resource-sensitive comprehensive breast care guidelines for early detection, diagnosis and treatment (Cancer, October 15, 2008 supplement). Case studies of successful programs from around the world will be presented. Special issues of Latin American countries will be highlighted, framed by the special needs survey performed by SLACOM and published with BHGI (Cancer, 113(8 suppl):2359-65, 2008). Model approaches to breast healthcare improvement will be developed during the three-day Summit.

“The BHGI Summit in 2010 will be a very important meeting that is relevant not only to low- and middle-income countries, but to all countries,” said **Eduardo Cazap, MD**, President of SLACOM-Sociedad Latino Americana y del Caribe de Oncologia Medica, and President-Elect of the UICC-



Washington, DC

International Union Against Cancer, and one of the Global Summit leaders.

Global Summit leaders and panelists will be selected through a review process conducted by the BHGI Scientific Advisory Committee working in conjunction with SLACOM.

Issues applicable to optimal program implementation, education and training, communication and informatics, and medical technology will specifically be considered. The Global Summit in Washington, DC will serve as the foundation for publication in a peer-reviewed medical journal, of the major findings and observations generated through the Summit. *“The resource level available for optimizing healthcare delivery within a country or community is a critical component of implementation that has not been directly addressed by other health care guidelines,”* said **Benjamin O. Anderson, MD**, Chair and Director of the BHGI. The Summit will provide a unique event in the international health community to



Eduardo Cazap, MD
President, SLACOM
President-Elect, UICC

enhance knowledge of breast health care delivery in low- and middle-income countries (LMCs).

What to Expect

Each day of the **Global Summit on International Breast Health: Optimizing Healthcare Delivery** will address different health care scenarios.

- **Day 1** will address **low-income scenarios** in breast healthcare delivery where basic level diagnosis and treatment are commonly fractionated or incomplete. Multidisciplinary coordination to provide a framework for coordination, accurate diagnosis and basic level treatment will be emphasized. Patient navigation approaches will be considered.
- **Day 2** will address **middle-income scenarios** in breast health care delivery, where treatment is provided, but outcomes are hampered because patients commonly present with advanced stage disease. Practical early detection strategies will be considered, tailored to economic and geographic constraints with special focus on public education, use of clinical resources to facilitate patient selection and triage, and cost-effective imaging and tissue sampling strategies.
- **Day 3** will address **special limited capacity scenarios** in breast health care delivery, going beyond financial constraints such as countries with financial resources but inadequate numbers of trained personnel, social obstacles that limit women participating in early detection programs, or economic situations that undermine access to care.

The morning sessions will provide a forum for **scientific presentations**. Speakers will present on successful **pilot projects**, from the design, anticipated outcomes and relevant actual outcomes, for programs in low- and middle-income countries, specifically considering the BHGI stratified guidelines as a framework for identifying existing resources or programmatic gaps. Key **process metrics** will be considered to assist in the assessment of actual breast healthcare delivery outcomes. Program successes and failures will be analyzed for the purposes of understanding the key elements to promote improved outcomes through optimal healthcare delivery based upon real resources. The morning session will be moderated by panel co-chairs, who will organize the written summaries of these presentations.

Health advocates are key players at the summit.

Each afternoon session will begin with a breast cancer advocacy presentation to set the tone for the day, followed by an **open panel discussion** of the key topics. The afternoon sessions,

also moderated by the panel co-chairs, will be directed at the discussion of healthcare delivery based upon guideline implementation, focusing on the learning points deemed most relevant to program execution in low- and middle-income countries. The last hour of the panel meeting will be a **closed planning discussion** during which specific plans for document preparation and execution will be made. Participants not involved in the closed panel discussion will attend concurrent sessions that will include **poster presentations** as well as special focus group meetings.

Contact Information for the BHGI Alliance and Global Summit

BHGI is an ongoing collaborative global health alliance comprised of a strategic mix of public, private, for-profit and non-profit organizations and health care professionals around the world working within a network in order to produce tangible and successful outcomes.

To partner in the ground-breaking work on Guidelines implementation in the period ahead (2010, 2011), and participate in the **Global Summit on International Breast Health-Optimizing Healthcare Delivery** to be held in Washington, DC, June 2010, organizations should **contact: Leslie Sullivan**, BHGI Senior Program Manager, lsullivan@fhcrc.org.

Planning Committee

In conjunction with SLACOM, a Global Summit Advisory Group will meet on May 29th during the annual ASCO meeting (May 29 – June 2, 2009) in Orlando, Florida to begin discussion on scientific issues of the meeting.

About SLACOM

The Latin-American & Caribbean Society of Medical Oncology (SLACOM) is a regional society of Latin America which gathers more than 1700 specialists in oncology from 19 countries. It is a non-profit civil society, with headquarters in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and with a Board of Directors representing various countries of the region. SLACOM has agreements to carry out joint activities with a great number of cancer institutes, scientific societies and other organizations in the region. It also has cooperation agreements at the international level with ASCO, ESMO, UICC, NCI-US, ACS, WHO and PAHO.

Priority fields of activity are medical education, cancer prevention, clinical research and guidelines, especially those that can be adapted to low-and middle-income countries.

www.slacom.org ▲



HopeXchange Medical Center in Kumasi, Ghana, site of the first BHGI Learning Laboratory

BHGI Learning Laboratory: Guidelines Put into Action

A core strategy of the multi-year Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI) implementation plan is creation of international LEARNING LABORATORIES (LL) in low- and middle-income countries (LMCs) to develop and test **education and training modules** based on the BHGI clinical breast health and cancer control guidelines that can be adapted and used by diverse communities to expand their existing breast health programs. BHGI Learning Laboratories will serve as the foundation for shared information exchange regarding early detection, diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer.

Ghana Hosts the First Learning Laboratory for Low-Income Countries

Dedicated space has been provided to the BHGI to establish its first Learning Laboratory at the HopeXchange Medical Center in Kumasi, Ghana, a new facility that was officially dedicated last October as the centerpiece of the HopeXchange Ghana Health Project, an international humanitarian project aimed at improving healthcare outcomes in Kumasi and the Ashanti Region of Ghana. The new 80-bed specialty hospital facility currently in the final stages of construction in Kumasi will serve as a regional medical and education hub for the delivery of high quality healthcare services and training in five specific areas: women's cancers, HIV, malaria, facial malformations and ophthalmology. Breast cancer will be the initial pilot program of the HopeXchange Ghana Health Project, through the BHGI Learning Laboratory.

"Taking the evidence-based consensus BHGI implementation guidelines into the community is the critical next step in developing programs that are culturally, politically and economically appropriate," says **Riccardo Masetti, MD**, HopeXchange Senior Medical Advisor and Surgeon at the Catholic University of Rome Medical Center, Rome, Italy.

The purpose of BHGI LLs will be to establish educational and research pilots that will form the basis for breast health program expansion in LMCs. The first LL in Kumasi will focus on low-income country program development and serve as a core training component of the newly formed **Ghana Breast Cancer Alliance**, supported by Susan G. Komen for the Cure. BHGI Learning Laboratories are planned for **Latin America**, to focus on medical educational curricula oriented to middle-income country program development.



Dr. Riccardo Masetti
HopeXchange
Senior Medical Advisor



HopeXchange 2009 Ghana Mission Site Visit

From left, Andrew Halpern, Esq., Special Advisor, HopeXchange, Dr. Yao Tettey, Vice Dean, University of Ghana Medical School, Dr. (Mrs.) Christine T. Ntim-Amponsah, Dean, University of Ghana Medical School, Benjamin O. Anderson, MD, Chair and Director, BHGI, Riccardo Masetti, MD, Senior Medical Advisor, HopeXchange, Dr. Joe Nate Clegg-Lampthey, Korle Bu Teaching Hospital, and Alexandru Eniu, MD, oncologist, Romania and BHGI collaborator, in Accra.

An overarching goal of the HopeXchange program is to significantly improve breast health and to reduce breast cancer mortality among women in Ghana and sub-Saharan Africa. Education and Training Modules targeting healthcare providers are being developed for application in Ghana as a model for educational programs that could be developed in other similar low-income countries.

The Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons will be actively involved in this effort. Basic and advanced training programs in breast cancer will also be planned for nurses and technicians as well as primary care providers and cancer treatment specialists.

The BHGI Learning Laboratory in Kumasi within facilities of the HopeXchange Medical Center will serve as an **international study center**, and provide a one of a kind environment for shared learning and information exchange relevant to breast cancer

early detection, diagnosis and treatment, where new interventions aimed at breast health guideline implementation can be planned, executed and monitored.

The Kumasi Learning Laboratory will be the first site at which the BHGI curriculum will be applied and tested by visiting international faculty from both developed and developing countries that will come to the Kumasi Learning Laboratory to teach breast health care and breast cancer biology and to discuss ways to overcome real-world resource limitations that exist in Ghana and other LMC's.

Dr. Joe Nate Clegg-Lampthey (pictured at left), Consultant Surgeon and Breast Clinic Surgeon at the Breast Cancer Clinic in Korle Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra, supports these developments toward enhanced healthcare in Ghana. *"The HopeXchange Medical Center offers for us the potential of a valuable training centre for our senior residents and other surgeons. I therefore*

see the project as an opportunity for offering help to Ghanaian patients as well as helping us acquire valuable surgical skills in our doctors," said Clegg-Lampthey.

In late January, Mario Cappello, HopeXchange President and CEO, along with Dr. Riccardo Masetti, Senior Medical Advisor, Andrew Halpern, Esq., Special Advisor and Counsel, Dr. Anderson, BHGI Chair and Director, and Alexandru Eniu, MD, oncologist from Romania and BHGI collaborator, traveled to Accra and Kumasi, Ghana for the first meeting of the **Ghana Breast Cancer Alliance (GBCA)**. The GBCA is a coalition supported by HopeXchange, through initial funding provided by **Susan G. Komen for the Cure**, to aid breast health related activities at the HopeXchange Medical Center in Kumasi. The aim of the GBCA is to create a collaborative force of local and international breast cancer experts and institutions to work together to achieve three main goals:

1. Reduce the rate of breast cancer cases detected at an advanced stage through better coordination and expansion of ongoing outreach activities and through a national campaign to increase awareness and education on breast health.
2. Develop new programs for sub-specialty training in breast cancer for different categories of healthcare providers and increase collaboration and shared information exchange among experts through the creation of the first BHGI Learning Laboratory.
3. Increase availability of affordable and effective clinical services for the diagnosis and treatment of breast disease in Ghana.

A group of 25 attended the first GBCA meeting in Kumasi in January, to discuss the content and structure of successful outreach efforts to down-

stage diagnosis of breast disease in Ghana. Another site visit by the HopeXchange delegation is planned in July of this year to meet with the GBCA regarding the launch of the Learning Laboratory in Kumasi in the fall.

Learning Laboratory Projects for Latin America

BHGI Learning Laboratories provide an opportunity to develop and test curriculum and assessment tools appropriate for use with diverse audiences. Learning Laboratories that focus on middle-income country program development are planned for Latin America. **Physician education and training curricula oriented to middle-income countries** will be developed through joint projects conducted in collaboration with host countries, including Brazil, Mexico and Colombia, and organizations, such as the European School of Oncology (ESO) and American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). ▲

Scientific Review Committee in Action

GSK Ethnic Research Initiative (ERI)

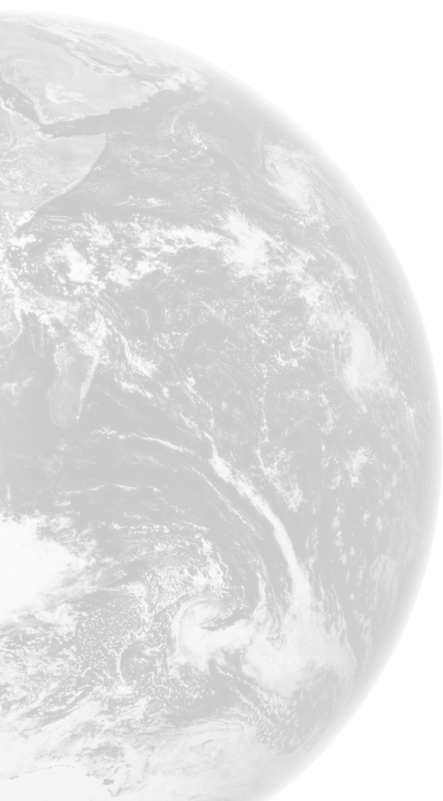
External scientific grant reviews provide an essential service to organizations that fund research. Consequently, it is an aim of the Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI) to be part of the process that encourages funding of international research.

An international research program established in 2008 by **GlaxoSmithKline Oncology (GSK)**, called the **Ethnic Research Initiative (ERI)**, provided the first opportunity for BHGI to organize and manage a scientific review of grant applications submitted through the ERI grant mechanism. A 13-member BHGI Scientific Review Committee met at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle in January to review 23 grant applications. Of the 23 applications, four projects were identified for funding by the committee, to take place in Malaysia, Brazil, Yemen and Hong Kong. *“Research initiated by scientists and clinicians in developing countries is one of the greatest needs in understanding the global increase in breast cancer incidence and mortality. Funding to support this research is key to improving breast health around the world,”* said **Peggy Porter, MD**, who co-chaired the scientific review with Dr. Benjamin O. Anderson. Dr. Porter is Full Member in the Divisions of Human Biology and Public Health Sciences, and Head of Breast Cancer Research Program at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and Professor of the Department of Pathology, University of Washington.

The long-term goal of the ERI is to help reduce breast cancer incidence, morbidity and mortality in ethnically diverse populations of the world. ERI grant funding builds on a previous GSK funded study that surveyed breast cancer opinion leaders in medicine, policy and advocacy from 30 countries. A key study finding was a reported higher breast cancer incidence, with more aggressive tumors, in younger women in non-Western populations compared to Western populations. The study also identified the need for basic research and national registries to validate these observations. The new grant funding will target basic and applied research in non-Western populations. ▲



Peggy Porter, MD
Fred Hutchinson
Cancer Research Center



Communications and Informatics

SharePoint Portal

BHGI is creating the technological foundation to become an international 'go-to' source for information and collaboration on breast healthcare and cancer control in low- and middle-income countries (LMCs) through development of its SharePoint portal.

The secure web-based portal has been successfully used for international collaborative writing of the Guidelines for International Breast Health and Cancer Control-Implementation, pilot projects, and dialoguing.

The BHGI interactive portal will include a member directory, a searchable literature library, secure member discussion, information sharing areas, and links to other global health care organizations and events. Features, such as these, help accelerate the development of trust and community so essential to a successful collaboration, thus accelerating the science.

SharePoint has been used successfully by other Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center international groups such as the HIV/AIDS Network Coordination (HANC), which works with the six HIV/AIDS clinical trials networks and their partners in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas, as well as by the Asia Cohort Consortium, a collaborative effort with participants all over the US and Asia.

Literature Library for LMCs

The shared **Literature Library** will provide a searchable literature database of articles relevant to breast health care and cancer control oriented to LMCs. The user-friendly interface will allow members to post existing publications to the library database, with minimal site-management.

A Much Needed Resource

"Currently, there is no place where one can go to interact with others having an interest in breast cancer in low- and middle-income countries or to access resources on this topic," said **Joe Harford, PhD**, Office of International Affairs of the U.S. National Cancer Institute (NCI).

BHGI and NCI will jointly coordinate the use of portal by the International Union Against Cancer (UICC) **Common Interest Group on Breast Cancer** in Low- and Middle-Income Countries. *"It is our plan to utilize the SharePoint portal to service this community and facilitate interaction among its members. Over time, the members themselves will more and more define and design the site and the term 'community' will approach its true meaning,"* said Dr. Harford. ▲

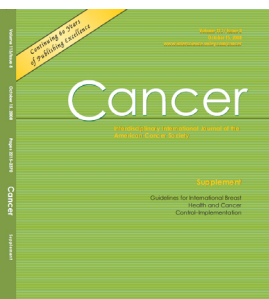
"Currently, there is no place where one can go to interact with others having an interest in breast cancer in low- and middle-income countries or to access resources on this topic."

Joe Harford, PhD, NCI

BHGI—A Go To Source

- Portal provides *"open access"* to disseminate health information
- Global partnerships need low-cost communication tools
- Secure web-based portal for information exchange.
- Facilitates global communications and collaborations
- Searchable literature library featuring the latest in breast cancer publications

Guidelines for International Breast Health and Cancer Control on Implementation — Published in *Cancer*



Through the support and collaboration of the Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI) international alliance of organizations and individuals around the world, the Guidelines for International Breast Health and Cancer Control–Implementation (“Guidelines”) were published in a Supplement to *Cancer*, October 15, 2008, during breast cancer awareness month. The evidence-based guidelines address issues of implementation

in early detection, diagnosis, treatment and health care systems.

“The BHGI guidelines are intended to assist ministers of health, policymakers, administrators and institutions in prioritizing resource allocation as breast cancer treatment programs are implemented and developed in their resource-constrained countries,” the authors note in their overview of the 172-page supplement.

The 16 articles by 56 authors from around the world are the culmination of work begun in 2002 when the first of three global summits on breast health took place.

The resource-sensitive Guidelines are presented in a stepwise matrix format that allows adoption of the same Guidelines by healthcare systems with varying economic conditions and existing facilities. This real-world stepwise approach provides a guide for incremental advancement in care options, based upon the Guideline principles that healthcare delivery should be addressed at all levels of care and economic levels, basic, limited, enhanced, and maximal, to evolve systems as new resources become available.

“Although incidence of breast cancer is lower in LMC’s, mortality rates are higher, and since survival from breast cancer depends on early detection and adequate access to treatment, implementation of the BHGI guidelines stratified by resource levels, and in the areas of early detection, diagnosis and treatment should improve breast cancer care and hence survival in the LMC’s,” said **Cheng Har Yip, MD**, professor and head of the Department of Surgery at the University of Malaya Medical Center in Malaysia and Co-Chair of the Early Detection panel with **Robert A. Smith, PhD**, of the American Cancer Society.

Free Online Access

Barriers to guideline implementation include lack of access. Making the guidelines freely available to healthcare decision makers is an important aspect of the BHGI mission. The guidelines are available on-line at www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/121429470/issue.

Consensus Guidelines

The 16 article publication was developed beginning with **four consensus manuscripts**, structured to reflect the organization of the BHGI 2007 **Global Summit on International Breast Health–Implementation**, which was led by Dr. Anderson and the 2007 Global Summit panel co-chairs, Dr. Cheng Har Yip (Malaysia) and Dr. Robert A. Smith (Georgia), **Early Detection**; Dr. Roman Shyyan (Ukraine) and Dr. Stephen F. Sener (Illinois), **Diagnosis**; Dr. Alexandru Eniu (Romania) and Dr. Robert W. Carlson (California), **Treatment**; and Dr. Joe Harford (USA) and Dr. Edward Azavedo (Sweden), **Health Care Systems**. The co-chairs solicited contributions to the Guidelines publication from the (84) international panelist experts—representing the five continents of Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, Latin America—who had participated in the BHGI working summit meeting in Budapest.

Focus Group Articles

Other articles followed the consensus articles in the *Cancer* supplement, which outline how countries implement programs in **pathology, radiation therapy**, and **treatment of locally advanced breast cancer**. These articles were based on focus group discussions held at the BHGI Budapest summit.

Individual Articles

Individual articles related to BHGI guideline implementation topics include seven peer-reviewed articles which were accepted for publication that address strategies for healthcare communications, breast cancer prevention, re-establishment of surgical pathology services in Kumasi, Ghana, breast cancer revision surgery, cost-effective but cost prohibitive drugs, expert opinion survey as an alternative data collection methodology in Latin America and defining a global research agenda.

Guidelines Translations

In the ongoing effort to globally disseminate the Guidelines, translations will be developed in Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, and French. In partnership with the **Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)**, currently a Spanish translation of the Guidelines Overview article is underway, soon to be available online.

We thank and gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the BHGI global health alliance of organizations and individuals who have made possible the landmark Guidelines publication on Implementation. It will be a significant and essential medical reference in perpetuity for LMCs to improve breast health outcomes. ▲

BHGI Pilot Research and Demonstration Projects — Update

International Research Awards

Three pilot research projects are underway related to implementation of BHGI guidelines and are funded by the generous support of Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

SOUTH AMERICA

Early Detection Project

Opportunistic screening, Colombia

Establishing a randomized trial introducing opportunistic mammographic screening accompanied by annual standardized Clinical Breast Exam (CBE) for women aged 50 to 69 is the research goal of the pilot project lead by Raul Murillo, MD, MPH, National Cancer Institute of Colombia. A total of 20,000 women participating in healthcare centers in Bogotá, Colombia, are expected to be enrolled in this study, now in its second year of a two-year study period.

Healthcare Systems—Early Detection Project

Clinical breast examination training for midwives, Kaja, Jakarta, Indonesia

Twenty five midwives in 6 primary health care clinics received training to perform clinical breast examination and teach women breast self-examination. The pilot study lead by Kardinah, MD, Dhamais Cancer Hospital is in its second year of a two year study to determine if this intervention can result in breast cancers being diagnosed at an earlier stage.

EASTERN EUROPE

Treatment Project

Population-based breast cancer screening, Bahcesehir, Istanbul, Turkey

This study led by Vahit Ozmen, MD, Istanbul Faculty of Medicine, Istanbul University investigates the feasibility of initiating a breast cancer screening program in a large city, using survey data to identify barriers to screening. Participating women aged 40 to 69 were surveyed; 908 of the 1200 study women completed the survey. Data is currently being analyzed.

Research and Development Awards

Readiness Assessment for Implementation of BHGI Guidelines in LMCs

Funded by Puget Sound Partners for Global Health, this pilot project has two components: 1) development of a set of implementation-readiness assessment tools, and 2) evaluation of tools for feasibility and cultural appropriateness. The first tool being developed is a survey questionnaire to assess existing breast cancer diagnosis and treatment resources. The tools are being tested in three selected healthcare centers in Bogotá, Colombia, by the research team operating the BHGI pilot project on opportunistic screening.

Survey questions were developed and reviewed by an international team of investigators in Seattle. In April, 2009, the Seattle research team, comprised of Benjamin O. Anderson, MD, Project PI; David Thomas, MD, DrPH, BHGI Scientific Advisor; and Wenjin Li, MD, MPH, BHGI International Research Manager at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center traveled to Bogotá to meet with Raul Murillo, MD, MPH, National Cancer Institute of Colombia, and his research team to finalize the survey questions and discussed plans for implementation of the survey questionnaire. Three hospitals have been selected to test the questionnaire.

HopeXchange Medical Center and Ghana Breast Cancer Alliance (GBCA)

In recognition of the importance of international collaborative partnerships, Susan G. Komen for the Cure is funding specific activities that support the development of the Ghana Breast Cancer Alliance (GBCA) Program and establishment of the first BHGI Learning Laboratory (LL) in Kumasi, Ghana. (Full details on the GBCA and the BHGI LL are outlined on pages 3-5.)



A choir of breast cancer survivors in Bogotá

Announcements

David B. Thomas Joins BHGI as Senior International Research Advisor

David B. Thomas, MD, DrPH has joined the BHGI as Senior International Research Advisor. Dr. Thomas is a Full Member in the Program in Epidemiology at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and Professor in the Department of Epidemiology at the University of Washington.



An internationally recognized scientific investigator, Dr. Thomas received his Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Washington and his Doctor of Public Health degree from Johns Hopkins University. He was head of the Program in Epidemiology at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center from 1983-2000, and head of the Breast Cancer Program at that institution from 1994-98. He has conducted epidemiologic studies of breast cancer etiology and prevention during much of his professional career. Dr. Thomas coordinated for the World Health Organization a multinational study of the role of steroid contraceptives as possible causes of breast and other cancers. He conducted a study of the value of calcifications and densities in mammograms from women under the age of 50 years for predicting risk of subsequent breast cancer. With Chinese colleagues, he conducted a randomized trial of breast self-examination in Shanghai; and he utilized the resources developed for that trial to also study the possible roles of dietary, genetic, occupational, and hormonal factors in the etiology of breast cancer and benign breast conditions in Chinese women. He was a member of the working group that produced the IARC Handbook on Breast Cancer Screening in 2002.

"The Breast Health Global Initiative is a pioneering effort in the development of evidence-based, cost-effective initiatives for the prevention and treatment of breast cancer. It can serve as a model for programs to also reduce morbidity and mortality from other cancers, and other non-communicable diseases, as these health problems assume a greater level of importance in the developing world," said Dr. Thomas. BHGI is very pleased to welcome Dr. Thomas as a consulting member of our international research team. ▲

Events & Meetings

Susan G. Komen

GLOBAL RACE FOR THE CURE

The National Mall • Washington, DC • June 6, 2009

Come celebrate 20 years of raising funds and awareness for the movement to end breast cancer forever. Join the more than 50,000 participants coming together as a living testament to the power of individuals to impact the world for the first-ever **GLOBAL RACE FOR THE CURE** in the nation's capitol city.

www.globalraceforthecure.org

Lance Armstrong Foundation (LAF) LIVESTRONG Global Cancer Summit Dublin, Ireland • August 24-26, 2009

Lance Armstrong Foundation (LAF) is making a commitment to fight cancer. The global community is coming together to make commitments to cancer control and to provide the resources and political will necessary to achieve them. The most significant commitments will be highlighted at the LIVESTRONG Global Cancer Summit in Dublin this summer.

www.livestrong.org

3rd International Cancer Control Congress "International Collaborations"

Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Dei Tumori,
Milano, Italy (Host) • World Health Organization
(Co-sponsor)
Cernobbio, Italy • November 8-11, 2009

The 3rd International Cancer Control Congress will bring together the world's best minds in cancer control to share knowledge and learn together what works and what does not in different resource settings to enable implementation of effective and sustainable population-based national cancer control strategies. **Silvana Luciani** of the Pan American Health Organization will chair a breast health workshop session oriented to breast cancer in low- and middle-income countries, and to showcase the BHGI clinical guidelines.

www.meet-ics.com/cancercontrol2009/

About BHGI

Co-sponsored by the **Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center** and **Susan G. Komen for the Cure**, the Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI) strives to **develop, implement and study** evidence-based, economically feasible, and culturally appropriate *"Guidelines for International Breast Health and Cancer Control"* for low- and middle-income countries (LMCs) to improve breast health outcomes. Organized as a global health alliance, BHGI is dedicated to advance the international fight against breast cancer and disseminate a message about breast health and breast cancer in a crowded public consciousness of the global health world.



Globally recognized for the innovation of an evidence-based expert consensus approach to create **resource-sensitive guidelines** for breast cancer early detection, diagnosis, treatment, and healthcare systems, as related to breast healthcare delivery in LMCs, BHGI produces tangible outcomes through collaboration of an extensive international network.

The BHGI alliance, comprised of government agencies, healthcare organizations, non-governmental organizations, for-profit and non-profit organizations, doctors, scientists, policy makers and advocates involved in breast healthcare and cancer control around the world, serves as a **hub for linkages**, operating as catalyst for international pilot research, and demonstration and education projects with partners and others. BHGI alliance member organizations contribute and collaborate in BHGI programs by sharing resources, knowledge and expertise. ▲

Going Forward

To Achieve Guideline Implementation

BHGI Implementation Plan & Programs

- Dissemination and Implementation (D&I) Research
- Education and Training Programs
- Technology Application and Development

Strategy

- Create international LEARNING LABORATORIES in LMCs to develop and test educational modules based on BHGI guidelines that can be adapted and used by diverse communities to expand their existing breast health programs.

For detailed information on the Breast Health Global Initiative and 2010 **Global Summit on International Breast Health: Optimizing Healthcare Delivery**, go to www.bhgi.info or email lsullivan@fhcrc.org.

The BHGI Global Public Health Alliance

We are grateful to our partners and collaborators throughout the world who share the vision for improved breast health for medically underserved women and who make this work possible. Thank you.



BENEFACTOR ORGANIZATIONS

Founding Organizations



Global Summit Host Organization



American Society of Clinical Oncology

*The Global Summit on International Breast Health Care—Implementation
October 1-4, 2007 • Budapest, Hungary*

Sustaining Scientific Organization Partner



Office of International Affairs (OIA)

Sustaining Corporate Partner



Scientific Organization Partners



Corporate Partners



GE Healthcare



Collaborating Organizations

American Society for Breast Disease (ASBD) · Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) · Oncology Nursing Society (ONS)

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

World Health Organization (WHO) · Breast Surgery International (BSI) · International Union Against Cancer (UICC) · International Network for Cancer Treatment and Research (INCTR) · International Atomic Energy Agency of the United Nations (IAEA, UN) · International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care (ISNCC) · International Society of Breast Pathology (ISBP) · World Society for Breast Health (WSBH)

The Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI)

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www.bhgi.info

