

CCRAB Newsletter

SUMMER
2019

1. James and Esther King Biomedical Research Grant Symposium on September 19, 2019

Researchers who receive the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Grants from the Florida Department of Health will share project information and research findings at the Symposium on September 19, 2019 at Moffitt Cancer Center. The Symposium will be an opportunity with research award recipients and others working in the field. Dr. Cogle will represent CCRAB in a panel discussion at the event. For registration information and additional meeting details, please go here: <http://www.floridahealth.gov/provider-and-partner-resources/research/2019JamesandEstherKingBiomedicalResearchGrantSymposium/index.html>

2. CCRAB Presents at the Florida Cancer Data System Annual Meeting

On July 31, 2019, Dr. Cogle represented CCRAB at the Florida Cancer Data System (FCDS) Annual Meeting. He delivered a presentation on the role of CCRAB, efforts to revise the Florida Cancer Plan and the critical role of FCDS data and other data sources in reducing the burden of cancer in our state. Presentation audio recordings and presentation slides are available on the FCDS website: <https://fcds.med.miami.edu/inc/educationtraining.shtml>

3. Joint Committee on Cancer Center of Excellence

The Cancer Center of Excellence designation recognizes Florida hospitals, treatment centers, and other providers which demonstrate excellence in patient-centered coordinated care for persons undergoing cancer treatment and therapy in this state. Every three years, a Joint Committee consisting of CCRAB and Biomedical Research Advisory Council (BRAC) members is formed to review and update the Cancer Center of Excellence criteria for designation. The CCRAB members who have been invited to serve on the 2019 Joint Committee are: Drs. Chris Cogle, Clement Gwede, Jessica Bahari-Kashani, Robert Cassell, Asher Chanan-Khan, Mitchell Peabody, and Amy Smith.

4. CCRAB Member & Staff Spotlight: Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto

We are pleased to welcome Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto as a new CCRAB Council Member. She was appointed by the Florida Senate President. Senator Benacquisto is a long-time supporter of cancer-related issues. Among her many contributions to cancer patient advocacy in the state are championing legislation to ban e-cigarette sales to minors and the Cancer Treatment Fairness Act, which increased patient access to life-saving cancer treatment by requiring private insurers to cover oral chemotherapy the same way they cover intravenously administered chemotherapy.

5. CCRAB Member & Staff Spotlight: Dr. Scott Rivkees

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Scott Rivkees as a new CCRAB Council Member. Dr. Rivkees has been appointed by Governor Ron DeSantis to serve as Florida's Surgeon General. Dr. Rivkees is a pediatric endocrinologist and prior to this appointment he served as chairman of the UF Department of Pediatrics and member of the UF Health Shands Board of Directors.

6. Next CCRAB Meeting: Friday, September 27, 2019 at Moffitt Cancer Center

The next CCRAB meeting will be held on Friday, September 27, 2019 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the Stabile Research Building Trustees Boardroom at Moffitt Cancer Center located at 12902 Magnolia Drive in Tampa. Crafting the new state cancer plan will be the primary focus of the meeting. Additional details and an agenda will be made available prior to the meeting.



**Florida Cancer Control
& Research Advisory Council**

The Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory Council (CCRAB) was established by the Florida Legislature in 1979 with the purpose of advising the Legislature, Governor, and Surgeon General on ways to reduce Florida's cancer burden. Dr. Christopher Cogle is the Chair of CCRAB, and Dr. Clement Gwede is the Vice Chair.