Letter from the Editor

Well, it’s a new year...and as we start 2013, I am pleased to report that there are many great diversity and health equity initiatives going on all around the Cancer Center, the Hospital, and the University. With the NIH Site Visit, EPIC, and the Diversity Conference all coming up in short order, it should be a very exciting few months!

Anees B. Chagpar, MD
Assistant Director for Diversity and Health Equity
Yale Cancer Center

Administrative Corner

NCI Site Visit
We’re gearing up for the site visit which will be held on February 6, 2013. As you know, Diversity and Health Equity is an integral part of Yale Cancer Center’s Strategic Plan, and we’ll be highlighting a number of our activities at the site visit.

Towards Health Equity in Cancer
Save the date! Friday, May 10 will be the inaugural "Towards Health Equity in Cancer“ conference. We will host a cadre of internationally renowned speakers to share their work, but perhaps more importantly, this will be a wonderful opportunity for people from a wide array of backgrounds to share their own expertise. The conference will help us to work together to identify key areas that need to be addressed to push the health equity agenda forward, along with best practices and action items.
Register early, space is limited!
Learn More >>

Workforce Diversity
As most of you know, Yale is committed to workforce diversity, and all search committees require a representative who has been through diversity training. For those who would like more information about this training, please contact Merle Waxman.

I like Yale, the NIH is also committed to improving diversity in the...
biomedical research workforce nationally. Francis Collins, the Director of the NIH, is currently recruiting a Chief Officer for Scientific Workforce Diversity with the goal of developing a diverse cadre of investigators, and promoting inclusiveness and equity in the research community. 

Learn More >>

---

**Clinical Corner**

**Epic is Here!**
All of you are gearing up for the launch of EPIC, and I just wanted to remind everyone to please ensure that we use this powerful resource to better capture our patients' self-reported racial and ethnic information. These data are critically important as we try to evaluate outcomes in our diverse patient population.

Also, as you explore the patient information in EPIC, know that for a number of commonly used patient information sheets, these are available in a myriad of languages to suit your patients.

**Deaf and Hard of Hearing Resources**
I was recently asked about the resources available for our deaf and hard of hearing patients - Yale has the availability of American Sign Language interpreters both onsite and by video conference - which is nice to know if you have patients in need of these services!

Also, for those interested, a national survey of deaf and hard of hearing physicians and trainees recently published in *Academic Medicine* found that most are satisfied with the accommodations made by employers and educators.

Learn More >>

**Association of American Indian Physicians and AAMC Cross Cultural Medicine Workshop**
The AAIP and AAMC are offering a Cross Cultural Medicine Workshop March 1-3, 2013 in Washington, DC.

Learn More >>

---

**Education Corner**

**Updated Policies on Promoting Diversity and Equal Opportunity at Yale**
Yale has a long-standing commitment to diversity and inclusiveness, and offers a number of resources to support the needs of our diverse academic community. As such, a new version of the policies, resources and procedures aimed at promoting diversity and equal opportunity is now available.

Learn More >>
Affinity Groups
There are a number of wonderful affinity groups that highlight the broad spectrum of our faculty and staff. These offer a great opportunity to network with colleagues and participate in programs and initiatives that may be of interest.

Asian Network @ Yale
Yale African American Affinity Group
Yale Latino Networking Group
Yale LGBTQ Affinity Group

AAMC Call for Submissions on LGBT Best Practices
The AAMC has issued a call for submission on best practices, policies and guidelines that address the health of LGBT people. Funded in part by the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, this initiative is designed to create an anthology of resources to guide academic medical institutions in providing high-quality and patient-centered care for these unique populations. The call for submissions is supported by MedEdPORTAL, the association's cross-indexed suite of services that aims to equip healthcare educators and professionals across the continuum with effective and efficient educational tools to improve patient care. The AAMC is offering three web sessions for individuals to learn more about the initiative and review submission instructions.

Learn More >>

Research Corner

Minority Participation in Clinical Trials
We continue to work hard, networking with our community to demystify clinical trials and encouraging participation, particularly amongst minority populations. We are partnering with the NAACP and the Yale Center for Clinical Investigation to present a series of interactive workshops aimed at encouraging minority participation in clinical trials. Join us at the Wexler-Grant School on Saturday, January 26. Contact Tesheia Johnson for more information.

NIH Focusing on Advancing LGBT Research
The NIH LGBT Research Coordinating Committee (RCC), in response to the IOM report "The Health of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender People: Building a Foundation for Better Understanding," has released its plans for advancing LGBT health research.

Learn More >>