

Standing Committee Members Biography  
(Information will be posted on Committee pages of the NYSCC website)

Name: Catherine R. Messina PhD

Organization:

Department of Preventive Medicine, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook NY

Position: Research Associate Professor

NYSCC Committee(s) Membership: Evaluation Committee

Brief description of education and work experience:

I am Research Associate Professor of Preventive Medicine. I have been with the department of Preventive Medicine at Stony Brook University since 1995. My doctoral degree is in Social/Health Psychology (1999). I'm currently the Principal Investigator of the NCI funded grant titled "Decision Making about Cancer Screening among Older Women". The purpose of this project is to describe the decision-making processes specific to older (> 65 years of age), post-menopausal women participating in the Women's Health Initiative Extension Study, for breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer through a prospective study design and self-report mailed questionnaire over a two-year period. I received a Stony Brook University Seed Grant for Survey Research Award which funded the project: "Health literacy and Health Decision Making among the Disadvantaged" project (I'm principal investigator). The purpose of this pilot project is examine relationships among health literacy and decision making for cancer screening among a small, diverse sample of disadvantaged women and men, with the goal of employing findings to develop an appropriate intervention project. I'm also Data Manager for Systems and Evaluation/Co-Investigator for the CDC-funded colorectal cancer screening project "Suffolk County Preventive Endoscopy" and was Co-Principal Investigator of two other NCI funded projects: the Colorectal Cancer Screening in County Health Centers" project and the "Reducing Barriers to Colorectal Cancer Screening" project.

Other affiliations: None

Current interests in cancer care: (i.e. Pediatric cancer, lung cancer screening, genetic research, etc.) (This information will give members more opportunity for networking.)

Psychosocial predictors of breast and colorectal cancer screening among age-eligible average risk adults. Decision making for breast and colorectal cancer screening. Colorectal cancer screening among disadvantaged populations. Health literacy and colorectal cancer screening. Smoking and risk for colorectal neoplasia.

Additional information:

*Please send to [nyscccp@cancer.org](mailto:nyscccp@cancer.org) upon completion.*