

ATTACHMENT 1:
Scientific, Expert Panel, and Ongoing Working Group Meetings Information

Health Cognitions and Emotions Working Group

June 2010 – present, ongoing

Across all branches in the Behavioral Research Program, there are behavioral and psychological scientists interested in examining the role of health cognitions and emotions– such as bracing, anticipated regret, risk perception, worry, and self-related cognitions – in cancer prevention and control, and developing initiatives that revolve around the study of these health cognitions and emotions. This working group meets approximately once a month to formulate research questions and develop studies and items to test hypotheses related to these research questions. For example, the group developed a series of health cognition and emotion items for the fourth administration of the Health Information National Trends Survey (HINTS). The group is interested in developing, refining, and validating theory related to health cognition and emotion.

Risk Perception Interest Group

August 2010 – present, ongoing

The Risk Perception Interest Group is a working group of scientists interested in developing and refining risk perception theory – including identifying determinants and effects of risk perception and elucidating the components of risk perceptions themselves. This working group meets approximately once a month to work on developing a complex and comprehensive model of risk perception, and to discuss avenues for validating the model.

Theories Survey Expert Panel Meeting

June 2010

The Behavioral Research Program convened a panel of NCI scientific staff and external investigators with expertise in health behavior theory, health behavior change, and survey planning, methodology, and statistics to assist in designing the Theories Survey. The purpose of this survey is to Panel members agreed the survey will allow us to assess which constructs or groupings of constructs are most predictive of various behaviors; to assess moderators of the relationships between constructs and behaviors; to examine overlap between constructs in current health behavior theories; and to examine the role of constructs seldom studied in the context of health behavior theories, such as affect or environmental-level factors. Further, the group agreed achieving these goals makes the survey worth pursuing, provided careful attention can be paid to methodological issues that are often unresolved in health behavior theory research. One important outcome from the meeting was the formulation of a goal to conduct formative research in BRP to assess empirical overlap among health behavior theory constructs, which is an activity that would be supported under this generic clearance.

Theories and Behaviors Working Group

June 2010 – present, ongoing

As a result of the June 2010 Theories Survey Expert Panel meeting (described above), a sub-group of experts in health behavior theory were invited to participate in a working group to identify important theories and behaviors necessary to represent in the survey. Workgroups have

further stressed the need to conduct formative research to assess empirical overlap among health behavior theory constructs

Workshop on Conceptualizing and Measuring Risk

February 2003

This invitation-only workshop brought together scientists from a variety of perspectives to examine critically the perceived risk construct. The short-term goal was to arrive at a more sophisticated understanding of the various components of perceived risk in order to facilitate more productive research on the relation between risk communication, risk perceptions and health behavior. The longer-term goals were to: 1) Facilitate the development and enrichment of health behavior theories, and the translation of these theories into research that can predict behavior. 2) Guide health promotion efforts toward more effective interventions. 3) Assist applied researchers in determining whether their interventions have succeeded in altering the ways in which hazards are perceived.

For a complete meeting report and list of participants, see:

http://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brp/theories_project/concept-workshop/index.html