



**COSEHC** ERADICATING  
VASCULAR DISEASE IN ALL PEOPLE

**FROM THE COSEHC LEADERSHIP**

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Mark your calendars for the COSEHC

*18th Annual Scientific Sessions...*

Planning for this year's annual COSEHC's meeting is underway. It will be an exciting and important meeting with special focus on healthcare reform and its impact on physicians and ultimately patients. Utilizing feedback from previous meetings, federal law changes/regulations, and the current state of the healthcare environment, the committee has programmed what promise to be very provocative discussions on effective care delivery models, best practices, performance models, and payer reimbursement/incentive trends. It's a new world in healthcare and we expect that the topics covered in the annual meeting will help all of us become more knowledgeable and better prepared for this fast approaching new generation in healthcare.



MICHAEL A. MOORE, MD



DEBRA SIMMONS, RN, MS

**SPECIAL POINT OF INTEREST:**

- ◆ COSEHC and The Baton Rouge Clinic launched a ten primary care practice pilot program with Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BCBS) of Louisiana in January 2011. This process improvement program focuses on improving the management of cardiovascular risk factors and improving outcomes in BCBS subscribers. A unique aspect included in this program is monitoring changes in healthcare claims.
- ◆ The COSEHC AT GOAL PI-CME program on cardiovascular risk reduction was recently selected by an expert panel from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as one in five programs that will be further evaluated as part of a CDC initiative to identify innovative strategies that foster physician adherence to hypertension recommendations issued by the Joint National Committee on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation and Treatment of High Blood Pressure (JNC). Besides meeting with COSEHC to learn more about the AT GOAL program, the evaluation will include interviewing providers at two of the participating primary care practices. **This initial evaluation will assist the CDC in selecting the most promising programs for rigorous evaluation.**

**COSEHC 2011**

# Save the Date



Consortium for Southeastern Hypertension Control

## COSEHC

### 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Sessions

#### Agenda

**Nov 3-** Arrival; Dinner  
Event

**Nov 4:** All Day CME  
Program with evening  
Awards Dinner

**Nov 5: CME Program  
cont. followed by CV  
Centers Meeting  
FREE EVENING**

**Nov 6** 8 AM-12 Noon  
Board Meeting



Charlotte, North Carolina  
**Charlotte, North Carolina**

Renaissance Charlotte  
SouthPark Hotel

November 3-6, 2011

**COSEHC PEOPLE IN THE NEWS**

Ashley Moore is a MARC U\*STAR Scholars (Minority Access to Research Careers Undergraduate Student Training in Academic Research) undergraduate student from Winston Salem State University who is assisting **COSEHC investigators Dr. David Cline and Dr. JaNae Joyner** with the patient inertia (PtInert) model.

Moore AR, Mount DL, Ferrario CM, Cline DM, Joyner J. A Comparison of Lifestyle and Patient Inertia Factors among Emergency Department Patients and Church Community Members.

- Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), November, 2010.
- Winston Salem State University Health Disparities/Health Equity Research Summit, February, 2011
- The Collegiate Academy of the North Carolina Academy of Science Annual Meeting, March, 2011

Darin Johnson is a Post-baccalaureate Research Education (PREP) student at Wake Forest University School of Medicine who is assisting **COSEHC investigator Dr. JaNae Joyner and Wake Forest University investigator Dr. David Mount** with various projects surrounding psychology, spirituality, and chronic disease.

Johnson D, Mount DL, Ferrario CM, Cline DM, Joyner J. Church Based Blood Pressure Screening and its Association with Hopelessness among African Americans who attend Churches in Low Income Communities.

- Winston Salem State University Health Disparities/Health Equity Research Summit, February, 2011.

**Dr. JaNae Joyner** provided a Research in Progress (RiP) seminar to the Hypertension and Vascular Research Center at Wake Forest University on March 9, 2011. This presentation entitled "**COSEHC – Who We Are...What We Are Doing...Where We Are Going...**" provided an annual update to Wake Forest faculty, staff, and students about the presence, mission, and project goals of COSEHC.

**COSEHC PEOPLE IN THE NEWS**

Physicians and Allied Health Personnel from several COSEHC Cardiovascular Centers of Excellence™ are being supported in part by COSEHC to present research or projects from their clinics at the **American Society of Hypertension (ASH) 2011 Annual Meeting in New York City (May 21-24, 2011)**.

The following Cardiovascular Centers of Excellence™ will be represented at ASH: **Hattiesburg Clinic (Dr. Bryan Batson), Cary Healthcare Associates (Dr. Mazen Hamad), Palmetto Primary Care (Jennifer O'Donnell), and Access Healthcare (Dr. Brian Forrest)**. In addition, **Dr. Carlos Ferrario and Dr. JaNae Joyner** will present posters regarding the COSEHC database, risk tool, and quality improvement initiatives.

If you are attending ASH, please stop by and visit the following posters during the poster symposium on Saturday, May 21, 2011 (6:00-7:00pm) and Monday May 23, 2011 (4:30-5:30pm).

Bryan Batson, MD; JaNae Joyner, Ph.D.; Philip Mellen, MD; William Smith, PhD. Clinical Inertia in Hypertension: Identifying Barriers to Improve Quality.

Mazen Hamad, MD; Brian Forrest, MD, Michael A. Moore, MD; Debra Simmons, RN, MS; JaNae Joyner, PhD. A COSEHC sponsored quality improvement initiative enriches chronic disease practice and performance of North Carolina diabetic patients

Jennifer O'Donnell, MHA; Cyndi Shull, MD; Amber Winkler, MHA; JaNae Joyner, PhD, Laura Long MD, MPH. Increased clinical outcomes at one year follow-up found in a diabetic patient-centered medical home pilot program

Brian Forrest MD; Stephanie Brinson, FNP-C; Susan Harris Bavisotto; JaNae Joyner, PhD. Time to Talk CARDIO communication tool use improves cardiovascular disease management behaviors and satisfaction

Carlos M. Ferrario, MD; Michael A. Moore, MD; Debra Simmons, RN, MS; Chris Colby, PhD; Alex Exuzides, PhD; and Sumeet Panjabi, PhD. Improving Global Vascular Risk Management (GVRM) Using the COSEHC Cardiovascular Risk Assessment Tool.

JaNae Joyner, PhD; Brian Forrest, MD; Kristina Yu-Isenberg, PhD, MPH, RPh; Debra Simmons MS; Daniel Lackland, DrPH. Cardiovascular Care Disparities in a South Carolina Primary Care Site Participating in the COSEHC Customized Model of Intervention and Care (COSMIC) Project

## FEATURED CV CENTER: WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY, DAYTON, OHIO

The mission of the **Wright State University Center for Global Health Systems, Management, and Policy (CGHSMP)** is to study and advance best practices in global health care delivery, facilitate dialogue in health public policy, and promote prevention, population-based skills, health care management, health economics, and leadership among health professionals and organizations. The faculty includes 10 core members and over 40 part-time and adjunct members.

The largest educational program at CGHSMP is the **Master of Public Health (MPH)** degree program, with currently over 110 students enrolled in four concentrations: Public Health Management, Health Promotion and Education, Global Health, and Emergency Preparedness. A growing number of students have an interest in the area of cardiovascular disease prevention, including population-based approaches to reverse the trend towards obesity.

The next largest program is the **Boonshoft Physician Leadership Development Program (BPLDP)**, which offers medical students an integrated dual degree curriculum toward a Master of Public Health (MPH) or Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree. There are currently over 30 students enrolled in this five-year program.

The smallest, but fastest growing program is the **Certificate in Health Care Management (HCM)**. This one year program provides a four-course curriculum designed for mid-career professionals. There are currently 20 students pursuing this program.

- CGHSMP faculty made presentations at national, regional, and local meetings. MPH students presented at regional meetings (one oral and two posters) with one poster awarded 2nd place. One culminating experience project was presented at the American Public Health Association annual meeting.
- In addition to teaching and research, faculty members serve the public health community, through various partnerships with regional health departments and membership on numerous local community boards and committees. The annual conference focused on improving healthy lifestyles in the Miami Valley by using scientific evidence.
- The MPH program was recognized by the national public health honorary Delta Omega, and WSU chapter of Delta Omega was officially established in April of 2010.
- Despite significant financial constraints at the state and university level, CGHSMP was able to expand faculty positions and capabilities in 2010 and plans to continue doing so in 2011. An additional graduate assistant position will be added in 2011.
- CGHSMP matriculated its first cohort of United States Air Force MPH students participating in the Air Force Residency in Aerospace Medicine (RAM) Program. The RAM program has relocated to Dayton under the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) program, and CGHSMP is working towards integrating its MPH with the RAM program for future years.
- CGHSMP is co-located with the Center for Healthy Communities, striving towards synergy in teaching, research, and community health service endeavors.



**James Ebert, MD, MBA, MPH**  
Center Director, Wright State University

**FEATURED CV CENTER:  
THE BLAND CLINIC, GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA****Gerald K. Hill, MD; the staff of the Bland Clinic; and Veita J. Bland, MD**

“Taking your healthcare to the next level” is the motto of the Bland Clinic. The Bland Clinic became a COSEHC CV Center of Excellence™ in October 2010. Dr. Bland says, “Being chosen as a Center of Cardiovascular Excellence has been a great honor for this practice”.

Founded in 1983, the Bland Clinic has a history of over 27 years of providing care in the greater Greensboro, NC area. Because of North Carolina’s location in the Stroke Belt, the physicians at the Bland Clinic saw from the beginning many patients with morbidities and mortality caused by hypertension. As a result, doctors at the clinic have always had to treat their patients aggressively.

Recognizing the growing demand in hypertension and cardiovascular care, Dr. Bland sought additional training, and became an ASH certified Clinical hypertension specialist. This journey has taken the practice in a direction to educate all of its hypertension patients with booklets and to make sure that all patients have blood pressure cuffs in their homes. The patients are asked to bring their machines in to be calibrated with the office equipment and to ensure that the patients are properly trained in taking blood pressure readings. This special emphasis on patient education and engagement has been very successful, as shown by patients’ positive reception and the high percentage of patients with controlled blood pressure values. This process has empowered patients with correct information, the skill to take blood pressure readings correctly, and the confidence to participate in self-management.

Dr. Hill, who specializes in geriatrics, has also seen this make tremendous differences in his patients, which has led to a marked decrease in morbidity in the elderly.

The practice is also actively involved in educating the community, through its monthly e-news letter, weekly news paper columns and weekly radio program. This is an office that takes not only its patients’ health care but the community awareness of health to the next level.

**COSEHC FELLOW 2011****ANDREA D. BOAN, MS, PhD Candidate**

Ms. Boan received the Masters of Science in Clinical Research (MSCR) and is a PhD candidate in Biomedical Science and Epidemiology at Medical University of South Carolina, currently being mentored by Dr. Daniel T. Lackland. Ms. Boan is also the teaching assistant for Clinical Epidemiology, Ethical Issues in Clinical Research, and Critical Review of the Literature. She works closely with graduate students, medical students, faculty and undergraduates in the Summer Undergraduate Research



Program. A previous COSEHC Young Investigator recipient, Ms. Boan also received the MUSC President Scholars Award; the SPTCR T32 Training Grant for PhD Training; and MUSC Student Leadership Society Award. Ms. Boan has presented her research at the American Society of Hypertension, Diabetes Symposium, and has been selected as the COSEHC 2011 Fellow for her Post-Doctoral Proposal:

**“An Assessment of the Hospitalization Rates, Associated Comorbid Conditions, and Blood Pressure Treatment Regimen in Secondary Stroke Prevention”**

**Overall Hypothesis:** Patterns of recurrent stroke are influenced by hypertension, diabetes, and hyperlipidemia, treatment practices and population demographics.

**Specific Aims:**

**Aim 1:** To determine the association of hemodynamic parameters and stroke severity on stroke outcomes from a follow up stroke cohort. Comparing stroke and recurrent stroke trends by: blood pressure, glucose, Hemoglobin A1C, lipid panel profiles, NIH Stroke Severity Score, and Modified Rankin at admission and post treatment.

**Aim 2:** To examine antihypertensive therapy among stroke patients to assess differences in treatment regimen, types of medications prescribed, and changes in medications post stroke hospitalization, comparing single stroke, recurrent stroke, and total stroke.

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**THE CONSORTIUM FOR  
SOUTHEASTERN HYPERTENSION  
CONTROL**

COSEHC  
PO BOX 5097  
WINSTON SALEM NC 27113-5097

Phone: (336) 716-8238  
Fax: (336) 716-6644

Debra Simmons, Executive Director  
Email: [dwirth@wfubmc.edu](mailto:dwirth@wfubmc.edu)



The Consortium for Southeastern Hypertension Control is a nonprofit (501c3) organization created in 1992 to improve the disproportionate hypertension-related morbidity and mortality throughout the region. From the initial six charter members, COSEHC has grown to include a wide variety of members, connecting academic physicians, primary care clinicians, public health officials, allied health personnel and health care consumers. The Consortium promotes scientifically based research and educational activities and offers an ideal translational research network through its Cardiovascular



Susie Pollock, COSEHC Program Coordinator, is now collecting all items for the next newsletter, which will be issued in June, 2011.

If you have something of interest for the newsletter, especially a feature on your Cardiovascular Center of Excellence, please email the information to: [<spollock@wfubmc.edu>](mailto:spollock@wfubmc.edu)