Fight Colorectal Cancer (Fight CRC) is a leading patient-empowerment and advocacy organization in the United States, providing balanced and objective information on colon and rectal cancer research, treatment, and policy.

We are relentless champions of hope, focused on funding promising, high impact research endeavors while equipping advocates to influence legislation and policy for the collective good.

Learn more at FightColorectalCancer.org
Agenda

• Welcome and Background
  Andrea (Andi) Dwyer and Jose Perea

• Working Subgroups:
  Public Health Initiatives
  Symptom Research
  Etiology Components

• EAO Meeting Virtual Summary

• Going Global EAO CRC International Consortium

• Every other month Topic Discussion
  Primary Discussion
  Discussants: Questions and Answer (Submit Ahead of Time)

• 2021 International Meeting in Spain
February 2019 Meeting

• A dedicated interactive working meeting to discuss necessary steps to explore the research opportunities related to the etiology of sporadic colorectal cancer in those under 50 year old.

• 45 experts and 4 patient advocates in Denver, CO attended for a discussion on the current state of science and future research direction for EAO CRC

• Participants spent the majority of the day in multi-disciplinary group activities, reviewing findings between each to share among the group at large.

• Major risk factors identified included:
  • Diet in childhood
  • Antibiotic use in childhood
  • The microbiome
  • Obesity/weight in childhood
  • Gene-environment interactions

Activity 1: Prioritize Risk Factor Combinations
Activity 2: Identify existing studies data repositories
Activity 3: Match prioritized risk factor combinations with existing studies and data repositories
Activity 4: Determine new studies needed
Fight CRC’s EAO Working Group Activities To Date

• Grown to over 65 global experts, representing over 5+ countries.

• Fight CRC published in *Gastroenterology* for working group meeting summary (2019), and March Colorectal Cancer Commentary (2020).

• Working Group members are leading cutting edge research in their respective fields.

• Patient education approach: Education to empower people under age 50 to talk to their doctors about their symptoms, patient provider educational materials sent to GI’s across the nation; increase dissemination of polyp info – and encourage young adults to learn fam history of polyps

• Madrid Symposium 2020: A collaboration between Spanish researchers and Fight CRC. Taking a global approach to understand the causes of the striking increase in young cases.
Early Age Onset Working Group

Map

Impact

NCI Provocative Research Questions
RFA
NCI Matching Current Research for Investigators
DoD Funding and Exposure
NCI Research Meeting
International Cohorts

Results

Feb 1 Denver Meeting
Etiology Research

Priority of Activities

1) Gastro Journal Publications
2) WG Formation

1) Gastro Commentary
2) Formation of 3 distinct subgroups

Etiology

Clinical Public Health

Practice Based Research

Developing Repository and Common Metrics (Chan, Hampell)
NCERT and Siteman Cancer Center (Schroy Smith)
Prevention/Symptomatology (Gupta, Seigel, Demb)

Madrid Symposium (Perea)
Fight CRC EAOCRC
Symptomatology Research Group
Background

• 70% of EAOCRC cases are likely detected as a result of signs or symptoms that might signal EAOCRC presence.

• In some EAOCRC cases, long delays occur between initial presentation of one (or more) of these signs/symptoms and EAOCRC diagnosis.
  • Average time to diagnosis about 6 months

• Delays may be attributable to:
  • Variations in practice patterns for referral to rule out CRC
  • Lack of awareness or strength of evidence linking signs/symptoms to YCRC
  • Lack of clear guidelines where signs/symptoms merit CRC work-up
Three Key Questions

1) Among adults diagnosed with early age onset colorectal cancer (EAOCRC), what are the most common presenting signs/symptoms at diagnosis?

2) Among adults ages 18-49, what is the strength of association between signs/symptoms and risk for EAOCRC?

3) Among individuals diagnosed with EAOCRC with signs/symptoms present at diagnosis, what is the average time to diagnosis from symptomatic presentation, and its relative impact (if any) on EAOCRC outcomes, such as stage at diagnosis?
Current Work

• Conducting systematic review/meta-analysis to examine three questions
  • Developed 3 teams to address questions in parallel
  • Currently preparing for the literature review
Etiology Components

- 80% EAOCRC are “sporadic” (environmental influence).

- Multiple prospective studies are focusing on sporadic EAOCRC, and one of the main topics are environmental exposures:

  Lifestyles and habits -> questionnaires.
Etiology Components.

- Heather Hampel, Ohio.
- Caitlin Murphy, Texas.
- José Perea, Madrid (Spain).
- Andi Dwyer (FCRC).
- Reese Garcia (FCRC).
Etiology Components. Different features:

Demographic.
Personal medical history.
Medication/Supp. intake.
Various habits (smoking, alcohol, etc).
Physical activity.
Dietary intake.
Reproductive history.
CRC history.
Family history.
Etiology Components.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Differentiate some features according to the geographical locations.

- Sharing with the working group.

- Subsequent validation in FCRC members (feasibility).
Recap and Highlights from 2020 EAO International Symposium

• 427 attendees and panelists in attendance
• 17 countries represented

• Presentations covered topics:
  • Worldwide trends of EAO CRC
  • Hereditary and Familial EAO
  • Molecular approaches
  • The patient’s perspective
  • EAO CRC and COVID 19
  • Genetic and environmental risk factors for EAO
  • Next steps for the EAO WG

• Formal report to follow!
EAO WG Webinar and Learning Opportunities

Fight CRC is working with the International EAO CRC group to build infrastructure to:

• Create a worldwide network
• Engage clinicians, basic researchers, patients, families
• Knowledge sharing:
  • Webinars
    • Approximately every 2 months for 1.5 hours
    • Primary discussion
    • Discussions (Q&A sent ahead of time)
  • Profiles
    • Comments on recently published articles
    • Present currently ongoing studies
  • Creating research collaborations
EAO WG Webinar and Learning Opportunity Topic Ideas

Hosted on the first Tuesday every other month from 12-2p ET.

1) Clinical-diagnosis
2) Risk factors
3) Surgery-impact in young patients
4) Genetics (germline-susceptibility)
5) New approaches (miRNA, liquid biopsy)
6) Surveillance
7) Important ongoing works/ projects and/or works published in journals
8) Environmental interactions
EAO CRC WORKING GROUP / CONSORTIUM TIMELINE

0-3 Months
• Building Infrastructure
• Capturing profiles of new and existing EAO WG members
• Informational sharing: Webinar opportunities
• Provide overview on sub-group committees

3-6 Months
• Go live with the portal
• Provide networking opportunities
• Posting of funding opportunities
• Continue with informational sharing

6-12 Months
• Continuation of ongoing activities
• Begin planning 3rd annual international symposium
2021 EAO CRC International Symposium

- Planned for June 2021 in Madrid, Spain
- 2 day in-person and streaming event
- Abstract sessions (poster and oral presentations)
- Alternating symposium between continents in future editions?
Get involved!

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GMS728M