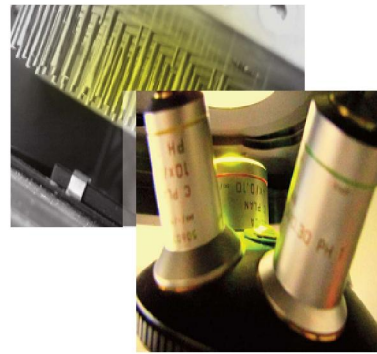




The University of the West Indies. Cave Hill Campus.

chronic disease research centre



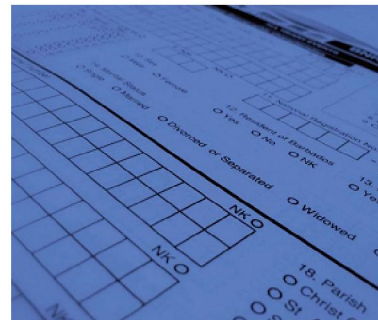
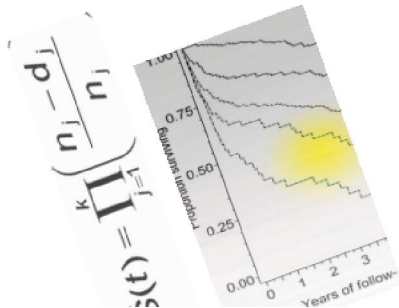
Population Research

Laboratory Research

“ Researching for a healthier Barbados ”

Disease Surveillance

Biostatistics



Chronic Disease Research Centre The University of the West Indies

November 1992 - May 2010

Background

The Chronic Disease Research Centre (CDRC) was founded in 1992 as a department of The University of the West Indies (UWI), at the Cave Hill Campus in Barbados. It is now established as a world-class research centre focused on the surveillance, pathogenesis and prevention of chronic non-communicable diseases, with the capacity to undertake essential national health research and influence health policy and practice in Barbados and the wider Caribbean. Over the past 5 years the CDRC has raised US \$ 8.1M in extramural grants and published over 100 papers in the peer-reviewed scientific literature. A Scientific Report (2006-2010) published recently provides in detail the research and academic outputs of the centre for this period.

National and Regional Functions

The CDRC functions as the research arm of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWI, in Barbados. In 2006, the CDRC was invited to perform the same function for the Chronic Non-Communicable Disease Commission of Barbados, which is an intersectoral body established for the purpose of advising the Minister of Health on all matters at the national level related to chronic disease and serving as the focal point for the national development of plans and programs targeted at chronic diseases. The CDRC operates the national disease surveillance programs for Stroke, Heart Attack, and Cancer on behalf of the Ministry of Health, Government of Barbados. It exercises a regional mandate as a member of the trans-national Tropical Medical Research Institute of UWI, based out of the Mona Campus, Jamaica. The Edmund Cohen Vascular Research Laboratory of the CDRC co-ordinates Caribbean-wide diagnostic training workshops and collaborates with external agencies to raise quality standards of laboratories in the region.

Current Research Aims

The dearth of data on the incidence of and mortality from CNCs in the Caribbean region led the CDRC to develop four national disease registries since 2007: The Barbados Lupus Registry (BLR), The Barbados National Registry for Chronic Non-communicable Disease (BNR), which has three components: BNR-Stroke, BNR-Heart, and BNR-Cancer. These surveillance systems, the first in the English speaking Caribbean, will assist estimation of disease impact, permit the evaluation of interventions and/or preventative measures, and will allow planning of resources, targeting at-risk groups and provision of information to guide policy.

A research agenda has been 'layered' onto the disease registries, enabling the CDRC to focus on translating registry data into practical information for public health policy-makers. The model project is the Barbados National Cancer Study (BNCS), which focuses on the etiology and genetic determinants of breast and prostate cancers in Barbados. We are also embarking on an ambitious 'Health of the Nation' cross-sectional survey, which will include estimation, for the first time, of sodium intake and lipid distribution in the Barbadian population, as well as prevalence of selected chronic diseases. Another study will investigate quality of life and cost of health care for cardiovascular disease, and provide reference levels for diagnostic biochemical markers of acute myocardial infarction.

The CDRC surveillance and research programmes will contribute to the national evidence base for chronic disease prevention and treatment, which is vital to deploy cost-efficient strategies for planning, prevention and intervention.

Programs and international collaborations:

Project	Collaborating Institution	Funding	Dates
The Barbados Salt Study	Ministry of Health Government of Barbados	Government of Barbados	2009-present
Laboratory Strengthening for HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean	Caribbean MedLabs Foundation Trinidad and Tobago	Global Fund Round 9	2009-present
The Health of the Nation	Ministry of Health Government of Barbados	Government of Barbados	2008-present
Wound Healing Study (WHY study) in Diabetes	Nottingham University, UK Durham University, UK	Barbados diabetes Foundation (BDF)	2008-present
The Barbados National Registry for Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases (BNR)	Ministry of Health Government of Barbados	Government of Barbados	2007-present
Barbados National Cancer Study (BNCS)	Stonybrook University, NY National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), MD Translational Genomics, AZ	National Cancer Institute (NCI), USA	2007-present
Health Disparities in SLE Nephritis	University of Alabama, AL Harvard Medical School, MA National Institute of Environmental Health Science, MD	Alliance for Lupus Research, USA	2007-2009
Hyperglycemia and Pregnancy Outcome (HAPO)	Multi-Center (16 Centers Worldwide)	National Institutes of Health (NIH), USA	1999-2006
Barbados Register of Strokes (BROS)	King's College London	The Wellcome Trust, UK	2001-2005
The Barbados Eye Studies (BES)	Stonybrook University, NY Johns Hopkins, MD	National Eye Institute (NEI), USA	1987-2002
Wellcome Diabetic Foot Study	Imperial College London	The Wellcome Trust UK	1999-2001
Health and Wellbeing in the Elderly (SABE)	Multi-Center (7 Centers Latin America & Caribbean)	Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO)	1996-2000

Regional Capacity Building

The CDRC has developed a state of the art research infrastructure equipped with a “GCP” (Good Clinical Practice)-compliant IT database environment. In the next phase of development we will offer this research infrastructure to other Caribbean small-island states, which have a chronically under-funded infrastructure. Known as the “Research Clinic”, the database environment will be accessed via a secure web portal equipped with a suite of open-source tools for managing research studies. All studies utilizing the CDRC research infrastructure will achieve GCP operating standards with respect to quality assurance, data management and data security.

Contribution to UN Resolution on CNCDS

Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases (CNCDS) are widely recognised as a threat to the development of the Caribbean region, with half or greater shares of national health budgets devoted to treatment of these preventable diseases. The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Heads of Government asserted in their Nassau Declaration of 2001 that *“The health of the region is the wealth of the region”*. CARICOM has since led international efforts to recognise the impact of CNCDS on national development, culminating in endorsement of their initiative by the United Nations General Assembly on May 14 2010. A United Nations Conference with participation by Heads of State and Governments focused on systematic efforts to curb CNCDS across the 192 member countries of the UN is scheduled for September 2011. The UN

Endorsement arose from work carried out by the Caribbean Commission on Health and Development in 2005 headed by Sir George Alleyne, a former director of the Pan-American Health Organisation (PAHO) and current Chancellor of The University of the West Indies (UWI). The CDRC contributed significantly to the findings of the Commission, providing incidence and prevalence data on hypertension, stroke, and diabetic foot amputation in Caribbean populations. A subsequent CARICOM Summit in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, September 2007, further underlined the determination of the Caribbean region to slow the chronic disease pandemic with the “Declaration of Port-of-Spain: Uniting to stop the epidemic of chronic diseases”. The expertise of the CDRC was again recognised and utilised at the Civil society-led conference titled “Healthy Caribbean 2008 – A Wellness Revolution” that arose directly from the Summit, when the CDRC produced a Technical Report of the conference, available at www.healthycaribbean.org.

Staff

ATS staff
Administrative, Technical and Support Staff

BNCS
Barbados National Cancer Study

CSQS
Cancer Survival and Quality of Life Survey

BNR
Barbados National Registry

CCAS
Caribbean Cytometry & Analytical Society

ECOVAR
Edmund Cohen Vascular Research Laboratory

HotN
Health of the Nation Study

Academic Staff	start date	Project Staff (continued)	start date
Prof. Anselm Hennis Director CDRC	1997	Leslie Craig Project Assistant, HotN	2010
Prof. Clive Landis Head ECOVAR Laboratory	2004	Lauren Maul Data Abstractor, HotN	2010
Prof. Ian Hambleton Head Research Clinic	2006	Kim Bayley Hypertension Nurse	2002
Ms. Angela Rose Director BNR (PhD student)	2007	Amy Browne, Research Nurse, ECOVAR Lab	2010
Dr. Kim Quimby, Lecturer ECOVAR Lab (PhD student)	2007	Namrata Chatrani Exec Secretary, CCAS	2008
Christina Howitt, Lecturer/ Clinical Research Mngr, BNR (PhD student)	2009	Celia Greaves, Project Manager, BNCS & CSQS	2002
ATS Staff	start date	Dr. Nastassia Rambarran Physician, BNCS & CSQS	2006
Sherry-Anne Hutson Administrative Assistant	2007	Dr. Lynda Williams Co-Investigator, CSQS	2008
Alan Barrow, IT, joint appointment with FMS	2009	Pissamai Maul, Research Nurse, Asthma and BNCS	2002
Stephanie McConney Clerk/Stenographer	2001	Wendy Browne, Research Nurse, BNCS	2003
Wayne Brathwaite Security Guard	2008	Helen Hackett, Recruitment Coordinator, BNCS	2006
Myrna Bowen, Office Attendant	2006	Shirley Reeves, Recruitment Nurse, BNCS	2003
Project Staff	start date	Rachel Harris Nutritionist, BNCS	2003
Gina Pitts, Stroke/Heart Registrar, BNR	2009	Ronald Worrell, Lab Tech, BNCS, MPhil./PhD student	2003
Rhea Harewood Cancer Registrar, BNR	2008	Andre Greenidge, M.Phil./ Ph.D. student, ECOVAR	2005
Tracey Blackman Data Manager, BNR	2008	Songee Branch, M.Phil./ Ph.D. student, ECOVAR	2010
Joy Vanterpool Data Abstractor, BNR	2008	Dr. Cindy Flower Lupus Disease Registry	2006
Jacqueline Campbell Data Abstractor, BNR	2009	Dr. David Corbin, Clinical Director BNR Stroke	2007
Karen Greene, Stenographer Clerk, BNR	2009	Dr. Rudolph Delice, Clin Director BNR Heart	2007
Talita Thorpe Data Entry Clerk, BNR	2008	Dr. Lyndon Waterman Laboratory Director BNCS	2002

Training

The CDRC provides supervision for postgraduate and undergraduate clinical trainees on a variety of research projects. The CDRC offers Ph.D. courses in Epidemiology and Immunology. There are currently five Ph.D. students enrolled at the CDRC:

- Ms. Angela Rose – Epidemiology (registered 2.2008)
- Dr. Kim Quimby – Immunology (registered 8.2008)
- Mr. Andre Greenidge – Immunology (registered 8.2009)
- Mrs. Songee Branch – Immunology (registration deferred 8.2010)
- Mrs. Christina Howitt – Epidemiology (registration pending)

Governance

Oversight is provided by an Advisory Committee comprising leaders in Government, University, Industry, and Civil Society:

- Professor Trevor Hassell (Chair)
Chairman, Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases Commission, Barbados
- Dr. Patricia Downes-Grant
Vice-President, Sagicor Corporate Centre
- Mr. Ronald Fitt
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health
- Professor Henry Fraser
Dean Faculty of Medical Sciences, The University of the West Indies
- The Most Rev. & Dr. The Honourable John Holder
Archbishop of the West Indies
- Professor Wayne Hunte
Pro Vice-Chancellor of Research, The University of the West Indies
- Sir Kyffin Simpson
Chairman, Interamericana Trading Corporation
- Dr. Bernadette Theodore-Ghandi
Caribbean Program Coordinator, Pan-American Health Organisation
- Dr. DeLisle Worrell
Governor, Central Bank of Barbados

Benefactors

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The Chronic Disease Research Centre

Researching for a healthier Barbados

Home of:

The Barbados National Registry for Chronic Non-Communicable Disease



The Edmund Cohen Vascular Research Laboratory



The Barbados National Cancer Study



The Research Clinic



and the Caribbean Cytometry and Analytical Society

