



# Exploring Cancer

Examining the Role of Biology, Race, Class, and Socioeconomics 


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# Exploring Cancer

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A collaboration between



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# Exploring Cancer

Examining the Role of Biology, Race, Class, and Socioeconomics

**Fridays**  
11:00 - 11:50 AM EST/EDT

<p><b>August 25</b> Welcome to Cancer(s) and Health Disparities 101 - The Introduction</p>	<p><b>October 13</b> Breast Cancer Health Disparities</p>	<p><b>November 10</b> Precision Medicine and Immunotherapy</p>
<p><b>September 1</b> Radiation Oncology - What Is It, and What Is It Good For?</p>	<p><b>October 20</b> Pancreatic Cancer</p>	<p><b>November 17</b> Expanding Cancer Care Quality and Delivery In Sub-Saharan Africa: a collaborative approach</p>
<p><b>September 8</b> New Strategies In Treating GI Cancers</p>	<p><b>October 27</b> Careers In Cancer</p>	

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**Exploring Cancer**  
*Examining the Role of Biology, Race, Class, and Socioeconomics* **October 20, 2023**

**Pancreatic Cancer: Overview, Health Disparities, and Survivor Interview**



**Yolanda VanReil,**  
PhD, RN, MEDSURG-BC,  
OCN, CNE, ACUE, ANEF




**Karyn Green,**  
MS, MUP



**Sydney Taylor,**  
BA

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**Yolanda VanReil,**  
PhD, RN, MEDSURG-BC,  
OCN, CNE, ACUE, ANEF

Dr. Yolanda M. VanRiel is the Department Chair of Nursing at North Carolina Central University. She earned an Associate Degree in Nursing from Richmond Community College, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science in Nursing with a concentration in Nursing Education from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and a Doctorate of Philosophy in Nursing from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She also earned an Interdisciplinary Certificate in Healthcare Disparities from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Post-Master's Certificate in Nursing Administration from Queens University of Charlotte. A Fellow in the NLN Academy of Nursing Education, Dr. VanRiel is also a certified nurse educator, oncology nurse certified and board certified medical-surgical nurse. Her research areas are nursing education, provider-patient communication, health disparities, and oncology. She has numerous presentations, publications, and grants.

Dr. VanRiel is a leader in several organizations including the National League for Nursing (NLN) Board of Governors At-Large position (2020-2023), and the North Carolina League for Nursing (NCLN) Past President. She was a North Carolina Board of Nursing member representing the BSN and Higher Education (2015-2019) and served as Vice Chair of the NCBON (2018-2019).

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**Professional Highlights**

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**Professional Highlights**

- 5.** I received the Richmond Community College Outstanding Alumni Award

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- 1.** I am a Great 100 Nurses of NC recipient.

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Karyn Green is a current ABSN student at NC Central University. Nursing is her second career; previously, having worked in the environmental compliance field for almost 10 years between the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, and NC State University. She became interested in oncology nursing after her mother was diagnosed with breast cancer; she is happy to say her mother is a survivor who is thriving!

Karyn graduates in December and is excited to be starting her nursing career in adult inpatient oncology at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill in early February 2024.

**Karyn Green,  
MS, MUP**

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### Professional Highlights

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3. Karyn Green, MS, MUP is a veteran of the U.S. Navy

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### Professional Highlights

3. Karyn Green, MS, MUP is a veteran of the U.S. Navy
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**Professional Highlights**

3. Karyn Green, MS, MUP is a veteran of the U.S. Navy
2. She is a 2023 UNC Lineberger, NCCU, Sylvia Lauterborn, and Warren Trent Piver Oncology Nursing Fellow
1. She used to live with a guinea pig named Henry Marshmallow

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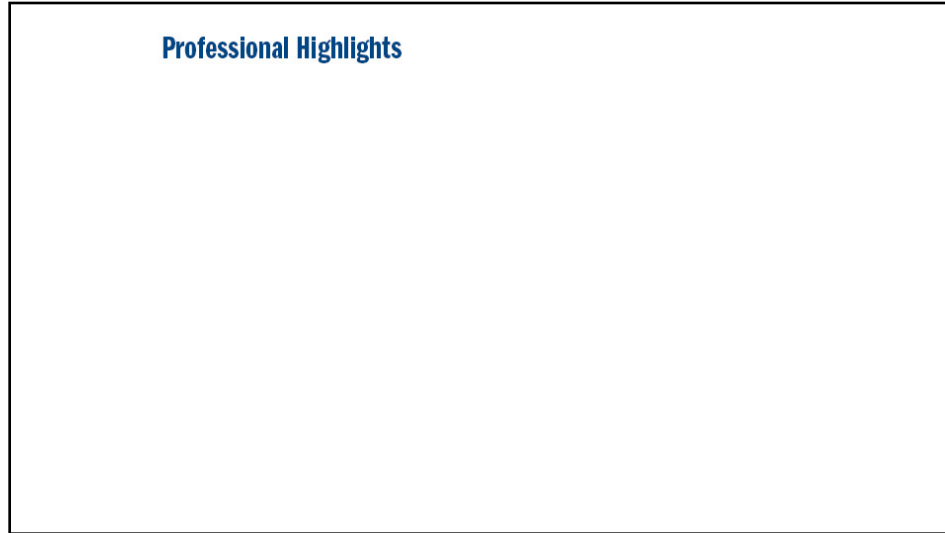


**Sydney Taylor, BA**

Sydney Taylor is a current senior nursing student at North Carolina Central University in their Traditional BSN program. She is also an alumna of UNC Chapel Hill's class of 2020. Prior to enrolling in nursing school, she worked as a College Advisor in Edgecombe County through Carolina College Advising Corps. This wonderful career opportunity allowed her to counsel and assist senior high school students throughout their college application process. Nursing is an area that she has been passionate about since she was in high school, but she knew she wanted to work in healthcare since she was a child. Growing up, she spent frequent time in and out of healthcare settings due to her chronic illness. This illness, though challenging at times, fueled my desire to pursue a career in healthcare so that she could reciprocate the care she received growing up and make a positive impact on people's lives the way that her healthcare team did for her.

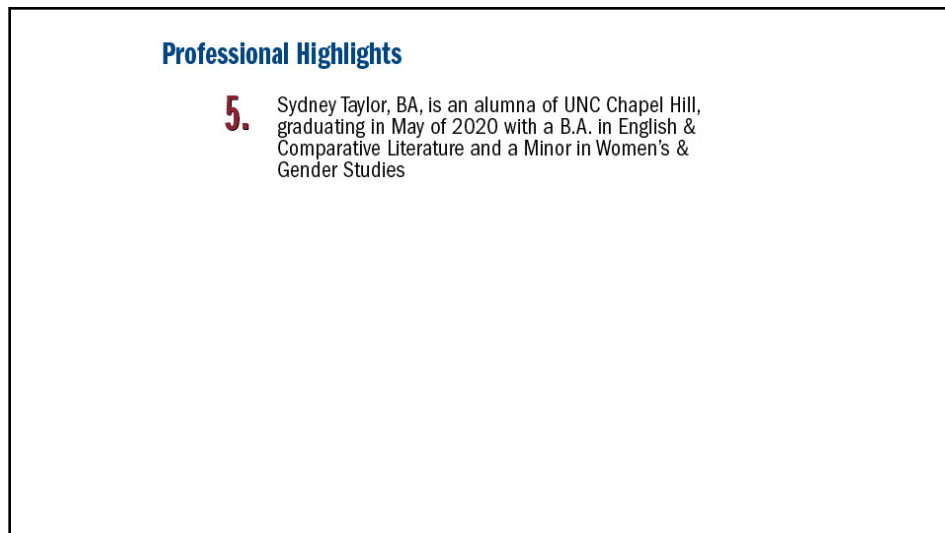
Sydney is elated to be where she is today and am eagerly anticipating my graduation in May 2024.

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**Professional Highlights**

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**Professional Highlights**

- 5.** Sydney Taylor, BA, is an alumna of UNC Chapel Hill, graduating in May of 2020 with a B.A. in English & Comparative Literature and a Minor in Women's & Gender Studies

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- 2.** She is a proud big sister of one human sister and two fur-brothers (1 dachshund and 1 lab-pit mix).
- 1.** She loves all things Disney and in her spare time she enjoys traveling and trying new recipes.

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Pancreatic Cancer: Overview, Health Disparities, and Survivor Interview



Dr. Yolanda VanRiel, Karyn Green, and Sydney Taylor  
North Carolina Central University  
October 20, 2023



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Exploring Cancer What are some words you associate with Pancreatic Cancer?

Nobody has responded yet.  
Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

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## Pancreatic Cancer Overview



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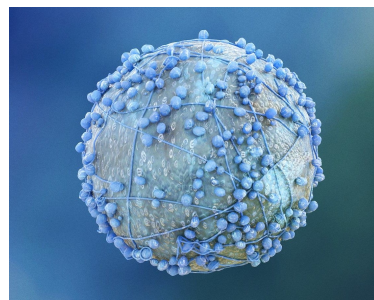
## Pancreatic Cancer Types

### Exocrine (most common)

- Adenocarcinoma (>90%)
- Squamous cell carcinoma (<1%)
- Adenosquamous carcinoma (1-4%)
- Colloid carcinoma (1-3%)

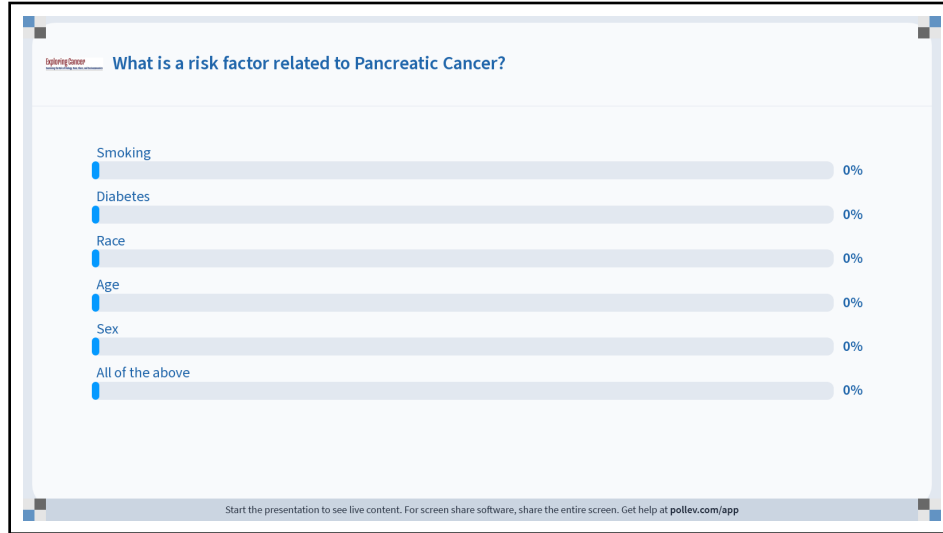
### Neuroendocrine (<5%)

- Gastrinoma
- Insulinoma
- Glucagonoma
- VIPomas and Somatostatinomas



Molina, L. (2018). Pancreatic Cell Stock Photo.  
<http://www.gettyimages.com/detail/pancreatic-cancer-cell/515770548-71189271>

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### Risk Factors

**Non-modifiable**

- Sex: Male
- Race: African American
- Age: 65 to 74 years
- Chronic pancreatitis (genetic)
- Family history of DNA changes that increase the risk



FatCamera. [2020]. Elderly African American Man and Woman Visit Their Female Doctor stock photo. <https://www.gettyimages.com/photos/elderly-african-american-man-and-woman-visit-their-female-doctor-stock-photo-gm1208034915-349031482?phrase=african+american+couple+waiting+for+doctor>

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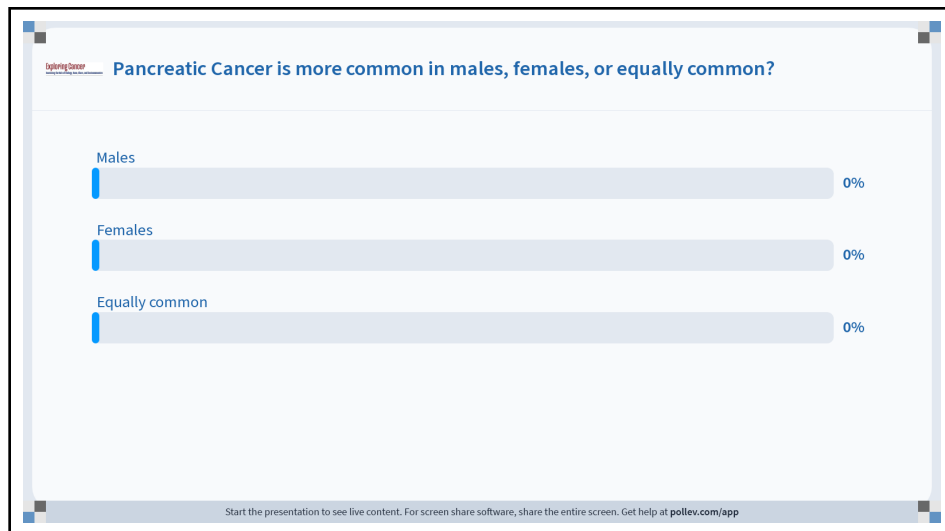
### Risk Factors

**Modifiable**

- Diabetes
- Tobacco use
- Obesity
- Chronic pancreatitis
- Exposure to chemicals
- Alcohol use

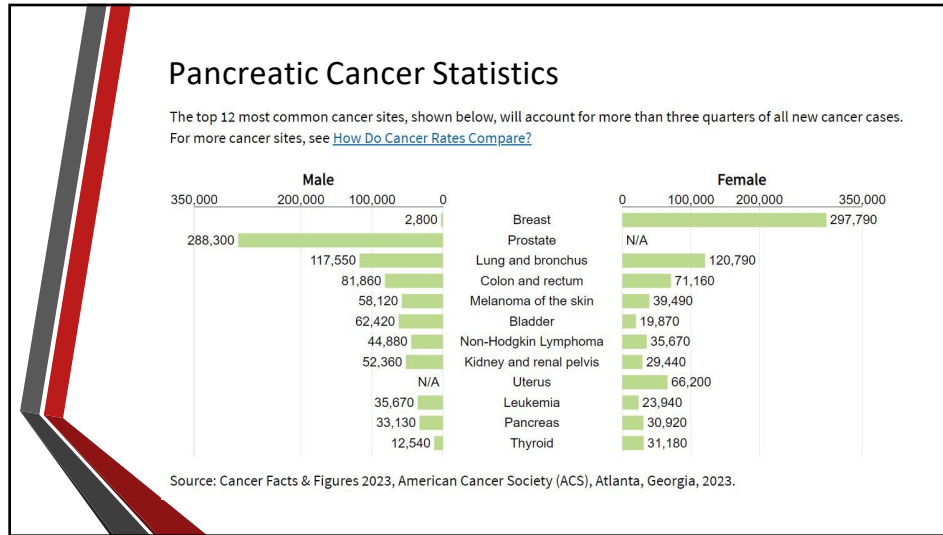


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### Statistics and Health Disparities

**Current Statistics (SEER Data)**

- Estimated new cases 64,050
- Estimated deaths 50,550
- 5-Year relative survival rate is 12.5%
  - 44% localized progression
  - 16% regional progression
  - 3% distant progression
  - 10% unknown progression




**Health Disparities (Samaan et al., 2023)**

- Higher incidence and mortality rate among Black compared to White persons
- Disproportionate burden of disease in young women of color
- Incidence is increasing at a faster rate in young women (<55 years) than young men
- Among young women (<55 years), Hispanic and Black women experienced a disproportionately greater increase in incidence

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## Early Detection & Screening

- Endoscopic Ultrasound
- MRI
- Genetic testing
  - Genetic testing looks for gene changes that lead to inherited conditions which further increase the risk for acquiring pancreatic cancer. The tests look for these inherited conditions, not pancreatic cancer itself.



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Exploring Cancer True or False, there is no cure for Pancreatic Cancer?

True	0%
False	0%

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## Treatments

- Surgery
- Radiation therapy
- Chemotherapy
- Chemoradiation therapy
- Targeted therapy
- Immunotherapy




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## Well-known People Associated With Pancreatic Cancer

1. Alex Trebek	9. Dizzy Gillespie
2. Steve Jobs	10. Sally Ride
3. Ruth Bader Ginsberg	11. Patrick Swayze
4. Aretha Franklin	12. Michael Landon
5. John Hurt	13. Joan Crawford
6. Luciano Pavarotti	14. Gene Upshaw
7. Sharon Jones	15. Benjamin Orr
8. Alan Rickman	16. Charlotte Rae

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**Pancreatic Cancer Survivor Interview**

[Please click here to access the video](#)

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# Exploring Cancer

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Exploring Cancer is a webinar series taught by cancer biologists, physicians, public health experts, and other cancer specialists from NCCU, UNC-Chapel Hill, and NC A&T.

## UNC Lineberger Cancer Network



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# Exploring Cancer

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**Upcoming Live Webinar**

**Careers in Cancer**

**October 27  
11:00 AM**



**Veronica Carlisle,**  
MPH, CHES

**Jessica Veale,**  
MHS, PA-C

**Michelle Johnson,**  
MHS, PA (ASCP)CM

**Valarie Worthy,**  
RN, MSN

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## Exploring Cancer

Examining the Role of Biology, Race, Class, and Socioeconomics

### **Thank you for participating!**

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