

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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NAME: Ward, Kevin C

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): kward1

POSITION TITLE: Director, Georgia Center for Cancer Statistics; Research Assistant Prof, Emory Univ.

EDUCATION/TRAINING *(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)*

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta GA	BIE	12/1993	Industrial Engineering
Emory University, Atlanta GA	MPH	05/1998	Epidemiology
Emory University, Atlanta GA	PhD	05/2008	Epidemiology

A. Personal Statement

I am Faculty in the Department of Epidemiology at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University. I am also the Director of the Georgia Center for Cancer Statistics and the current PI of the National Cancer Institute's Georgia Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results (SEER) Registry. In partnership with the Georgia Department of Public Health, my Center operates the population-based Georgia Cancer Registry (GCR) and has done so since 1995. I have worked with this Center for over 25 years and have extensive experience with surveillance systems, registry development, cancer prevention and control activities, population science, registry operations, electronic capture of cancer case data, linkage of registry data to external sources, and uses of the registry for research purposes. I collaborate with students and researchers across the nation to analyze existing registry datasets (like SEER-Medicare or SEER-MHOS) and to utilize the population-based Georgia Cancer Registry as a linkage source or sampling frame for countless research studies. Data from my Center furthers our understanding of cancer in Georgia and is used to develop strategies and policies for cancer prevention and control in our state.

Ongoing and recently completed projects that I would like to highlight include:

HHSN26121201800003I

Ward (PI)

05/01/2018-04/30/2028

Georgia Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Registry

5U19CA214253-04

Haiman (PI), Role:co-investigator

07/01/2018-06/30/2023

Research on Prostate Cancer in Men of African Ancestry: Defining the Roles of Genetics, Immunity and Stress

1R01CA259192-01

McCullough (PI), Role:co-investigator

03/01/2021-02/28/2026

Improving our understanding of breast cancer mortality disparities through recurrence: a multi-level approach among women in Georgia

Relevant Citations:

1. Collin LJ, Ross-Driscoll K, Nash R, Miller-Kleinhenz JM, Moubadder L, Osborn C, Subhedar PD, Gabram-Mendola SGA, Switchenko JM, **Ward KC**, McCullough LE. Time to Surgical Treatment and Facility Characteristics as Potential Drivers of Racial Disparities in Breast Cancer Mortality. *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2022 Aug;29(8):4728-4738. doi: 10.1245/s10434-022-11720-z. Epub 2022 Apr 18. PubMed PMID: 35435562.
2. Yabroff KR, Wu XC, Negoita S, Stevens J, Coyle L, Zhao J, Mumphrey BJ, Jemal A, **Ward KC**. Association of the COVID-19 Pandemic With Patterns of Statewide Cancer Services. *J Natl Cancer Inst*. 2022 Jun 13;114(6):907-909. doi: 10.1093/jnci/djab122. PubMed PMID: 34181001; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC9194624.
3. Kurian AW, Abrahamse P, Bondarenko I, Hamilton AS, Deapen D, Gomez SL, Morrow M, Berek JS, Hofer TP, Katz SJ, **Ward KC**. Association of Genetic Testing Results With Mortality Among Women With Breast Cancer or Ovarian Cancer. *J Natl Cancer Inst*. 2022 Feb 7;114(2):245-253. doi: 10.1093/jnci/djab151. PubMed PMID: 34373918; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC8826508.

B. Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors

2022-Present	Member, Georgia Prostate Cancer Roundtable Steering Committee
2021-Present	Treasurer, North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR)
2021-Present	Chair, NAACCR Personnel and Finance Committee
2019-Present	Executive Board Member, North American Association of Central Cancer Registries
2015-Present	Member, Georgia Cancer Control Consortium Steering Committee
2014-2019	Member, Advisory Committee, International Agency for Research on Cancer Izmir Hub
2014-2018	North American Rep, Executive Board, International Association of Cancer Registries
2012-Present	Member, Informatics Tack Force, Winship Cancer Institute
2011-2013	Member, Georgia Cancer Coalition, Information Exchange, Scientific Advisory Committee
2009-Present	Chair, Data Evaluation and Certification Committee, NAACCR
2009-Present	Director, Georgia Center for Cancer Statistics, Emory University, RSPH
2009-Present	Member, Winship Cancer Institute (WCI) Cancer Control and Population Sciences
2008-Present	Research Assistant Professor, Emory University, RSPH
2008	President, Georgia Tumor Registrars Association
2007-2014	Member, Middle East Cancer Consortium Steering Committee
2002-2008	Deputy Director, Georgia Center for Cancer Statistics, Emory University, RSPH
1999-2002	Director, Data Processing, Analysis and Quality Assurance, GCCS, Emory University, RSPH
1997-1999	Information Analyst, Georgia Center for Cancer Statistics (GCCS), Emory University, RSPH

C. Contributions to Science

Population-based cancer registries support the cancer surveillance infrastructure in the United States and offer an unparalleled source of data to describe the burden of cancer across various populations and to support population-based cancer research. Most of my work has been involved in the development and enhancement of the cancer surveillance system in the state of Georgia to support these activities. Data from the Georgia Cancer Registry have been extensively used under my direction to:

1. **Support population-based cancer research studies:** The Georgia Cancer Registry supports population-based research across all cancer types to determine patterns of care, characterize the uptake and implementation of new tests and treatments, examine the survivorship period, describe patient outcomes such as quality of life and survival, and explore underlying factors associated with observed disparities. Georgia provides an ideal setting for population-based research with the 8th largest population in the US and the 4th largest African American population. The state is also exceptionally diverse with respect to other major demographic characteristics (age, sex, urban/rural, socioeconomic status, and health insurance coverage).

- a. Hughes DT, Reyes-Gastelum D, **Ward KC**, Hamilton AS, Haymart MR. Barriers to the Use of Active Surveillance for Thyroid Cancer Results of a Physician Survey. *Ann Surg.* 2022 Jul 1;276(1):e40-e47. doi: 10.1097/SLA.0000000000004417. Epub 2020 Oct 16. PubMed PMID: 33074908; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC8549720.
- b. Collin LJ, Gaglioti AH, Beyer KM, Zhou Y, Moore MA, Nash R, Switchenko JM, Miller-Kleinhenz JM, **Ward KC**, McCullough LE. Neighborhood-Level Redlining and Lending Bias Are Associated with Breast Cancer Mortality in a Large and Diverse Metropolitan Area. *Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev.* 2021 Jan;30(1):53-60. doi: 10.1158/1055-9965.EPI-20-1038. Epub 2020 Oct 2. PubMed PMID: 33008873; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC7855192.
- c. Kurian AW, **Ward KC**, Abrahamse P, Hamilton AS, Deapen D, Morrow M, Jaggi R, Katz SJ. Association of Germline Genetic Testing Results With Locoregional and Systemic Therapy in Patients With Breast Cancer. *JAMA Oncol.* 2020 Feb 6;;:e196400. doi: 10.1001/jamaoncol.2019.6400. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID:32027353.
- d. Lipscomb J, Switchenko JM, Flowers CR, Gillespie TW, Wortley PM, Bayakly AR, Almon L, Fernando R, **Ward KC**. Biologic, clinical, and sociodemographic predictors of multi-agent systemic therapy for non-Hodgkin lymphoma in people living with HIV: a population-based investigation in the state of Georgia. *Leuk Lymphoma.* 2020 Apr;61(4):896-904. doi: 10.1080/10428194.2019.1702176. Epub 2019 Dec 18. PubMed PMID: 31852329; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC7082188.
- e. Lipscomb J, Escoffery C, Gillespie TW, Henley SJ, Smith RA, Chociemski T, Almon L, Jiang R, Sheng X, Goodman M, **Ward KC**. Improving Screening Uptake among Breast Cancer Survivors and Their First-Degree Relatives at Elevated Risk to Breast Cancer: Results and Implications of a Randomized Study in the State of Georgia. *Int J Environ Res Public Health.* 2020 Feb 4;17(3). doi: 10.3390/ijerph17030977. PubMed PMID:32033227.

2. **Support descriptive epidemiology studies:** The core function of a registry is to collect data necessary to portray the natural history of cancer in the population under investigation by person, place and time. These data provide the information required to support cancer control activities in the state and to describe patterns of cancer and cancer care in the population. I have worked extensively in Georgia to ensure our data are accurate, timely and complete and to make these data available to our constituencies. As a faculty member in the Department of Epidemiology, I also mentor numerous students in our MPH Program and residents in our cancer center in the use of these data for thesis and other publications.

- a. Akinyemiju TF, Wilson LE, Diaz N, Gupta A, Huang B, Pisu M, Deveaux A, Liang M, Previs RA, Moss HA, Joshi A, **Ward KC**, Schymura MJ, Berchuck A, Potosky AL. Associations of Healthcare Affordability, Availability, and Accessibility with Quality Treatment Metrics in Patients with Ovarian Cancer. *Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev.* 2022 Jul 1;31(7):1383-1393. doi: 10.1158/1055-9965.EPI-21-1227. PubMed PMID: 35477150; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC9250633.
- b. Kurian AW, Abrahamse P, Hamilton AS, Caswell-Jin JL, Gomez SL, Hofer TJ, **Ward KC**, Katz SJ. Chemotherapy Regimens Received by Women With BRCA1/2 Pathogenic Variants for Early Stage Breast Cancer Treatment. *JNCI Cancer Spectr.* 2022 Jul 1;6(4). doi: 10.1093/jncics/pkac045. PubMed PMID: 35723570; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC9305849.
- c. Kurian AW, Abrahamse P, Bondarenko I, Hamilton AS, Deapen D, Gomez SL, Morrow M, Berek JS, Hofer TP, Katz SJ, **Ward KC**. Association of Genetic Testing Results With Mortality Among Women With Breast Cancer or Ovarian Cancer. *J Natl Cancer Inst.* 2022 Feb 7;114(2):245-253. doi: 10.1093/jnci/djab151. PubMed PMID: 34373918; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC8826508.
- d. Lipscomb J, Switchenko JM, Flowers CR, Gillespie TW, Wortley PM, Bayakly AR, Almon L, Fernando R, **Ward KC**. Biologic, clinical, and sociodemographic predictors of multi-agent systemic therapy for non-Hodgkin lymphoma in people living with HIV: a population-based investigation in the state of Georgia. *Leuk Lymphoma.* 2019 Dec 18;;:1-9. doi: 10.1080/10428194.2019.1702176. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID:31852329; NIHMSID:NIHMS1547722.
- e. Stewart SL, Harewood R, Matz M, Rim SH, Sabatino SA, **Ward KC**, Weir HK. Disparities in ovarian cancer survival in the United States (2001-2009): Findings from the CONCORD-2 study. *Cancer.* 2017 Dec 15;123 Suppl 24:5138-5159. doi: 10.1002/cncr.31027. PubMed PMID:29205312; PubMed Central PMCID:PMC5785937

3. **Support studies aimed to enhance the quality of registry data:** In collaboration with registry, NCI and other colleagues, I have contributed to major strategic and data initiatives to evaluate and enhance the quality of population-based cancer registry data and to further the use of population-based registries and their data. I am also currently involved in many activities at the national level aimed to augment registry data from non-traditional data sources. I spent many years helping to develop registries internationally in collaboration with the National Cancer Institute and the International Agency for Research on Cancer.
- a. Foran DJ, Durbin EB, Chen W, Sadimin E, Sharma A, Banerjee I, Kurc T, Li N, Stroup AM, Harris G, Gu A, Schymura M, Gupta R, Bremer E, Balsamo J, DiPrima T, Wang F, Abousamra S, Samaras D, Hands I, **Ward K**, Saltz JH. An Expandable Informatics Framework for Enhancing Central Cancer Registries with Digital Pathology Specimens, Computational Imaging Tools, and Advanced Mining Capabilities. *J Pathol Inform.* 2022;13:5. doi: 10.4103/jpi.jpi_31_21. eCollection 2022. PubMed PMID: 35136672; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC8794027.
 - b. Woolpert KM, **Ward KC**, England CV, Lash TL. Validation of LexisNexis Accurint in the Georgia Cancer Registry's Cancer Recurrence and Information Surveillance Program. *Epidemiology.* 2021 May 1;32(3):434-438. doi: 10.1097/EDE.0000000000001327. PubMed PMID: 33591053; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC8012233.
 - c. Howlader N, **Ward KC**, Warren JL, Campbell DS, Coyle L, Mariotto AB. Assessment of Oncology Practice Billing Claims for Supplementing Chemotherapy: A Pilot Study in the Georgia SEER Cancer Registry. *J Natl Cancer Inst Monogr.* 2020 May 1;2020(55):82-88. doi: 10.1093/jncimonographs/lgaa006. PubMed PMID:32412070; PubMed Central PMCID:PMC7225663
 - d. Penberthy L, Rivera DR, **Ward K**. The Contribution of Cancer Surveillance Toward Real World Evidence in Oncology. *Semin Radiat Oncol.* 2019 Oct;29(4):318-322. doi: 10.1016/j.semradonc.2019.05.004. PubMed PMID: 31472732.
 - e. Piñeros M, Parkin DM, **Ward K**, Chokunonga E, Ervik M, Farrugia H, Gospodarowicz M, O'Sullivan B, Soerjomataram I, Swaminathan R, Znaor A, Bray F, Brierley J. Essential TNM: a registry tool to reduce gaps in cancer staging information. *Lancet Oncol.* 2019 Feb;20(2):e103-e111. doi: 10.1016/S1470-2045(18)30897-0. Review. PubMed PMID: 30712797.

Complete List of Published Work in MyBibliography:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/myncbi/18y8r6aFdefkr/bibliography/public/>