Study Researchers

- **Gary Marsh, PhD** (Professor)
  - Principal Investigator: Develop & implement epidemiologic study design, direct statistical analyses, coordinate other project components

- **Ada Youk, PhD** (Assistant Professor)
  - Principal Scientist: Coordinate and conduct all statistical analyses

- **Jeanine Buchanich, MPH** (Sr. Research Specialist)
  - Project Manager: Supervision of project staff, data collection & management, direct day to day operation
Study Personnel

- **Zb Bornemann** (Research Specialist)
  - Case-control data collection & management
- **Charles Alcorn** (Sr. Systems Analyst)
  - Coordination of computer systems development
- **Michael Lann** (Systems Analyst)
  - Development of computer systems, data management
- **Annette Krag-Jensen** (Systems Analyst)
  - Data management, computer systems
- **Michael Cunningham** (Masters RA)
  - Data management, statistical analysis
Outline

• Overview of study design
• Cohort study progress
• Case-control study progress
• Projected project timeline
• Outstanding issues
2-Part Study Design

Part 1: Historical cohort study

Part 2: Nested case-control study

Includes workers from 8 CT sites:

N. Haven, E. Hartford, Middletown, Rocky Hill, Cheshire, Southington – Aircraft Rd, Southington – Newell St, Manchester Foundry
Part 1: Historical Cohort Study

- All persons ever employed 1952-01 at one or more of 8 CT sites
  - Includes work at plants in Maine, Florida & Georgia
- Mortality (1952+ or 1976+ for brain cancer)
- Cancer Incidence (1952+ or 1976+ for brain cancer)
Part 2: Nested Case-Control Study

• All cases of malignant & benign brain cancer matched to multiple control subjects on event age, race, sex and year of birth

• Living subjects or knowledgeable informants contacted and interviewed to obtain data on possible risk factors for brain cancer

• Consent for 3 different sub-studies: interview, medical records review and genetic
Cohort Enumeration Progress

- 292,000 subjects’ records processed
- Approximately 223,000 unique subjects
- Over 845,000 work history entries
- Approximately 130,000 dept/job pairs
- Cohort data processing concluding this month
Mortality Tracing Progress

- SSA & NDI applications submitted and approved
- State applications being submitted and approved
- Phase 1 trace (~78K subjects) completed in June 2005
- 14,000 deaths identified (all causes)
- Phase 2 trace will be conducted in late fall 2005
Incidence Tracing Progress

- 3/4 of PW subjects have been traced through CTDPH
- Final CTDPH match for remaining subjects planned for Nov/Dec 2005
- Other state applications in progress
  - 12 states covering 95% of deaths
Case-Control Study
Results of All Mailings
Oct. 11, 2005

Cases from CTDPH

Addresses needing confirmation 38%

Consent forms returned w/o phone call 8%

Assumed Delivered 62%

Called to assess participation 66%

Need follow-up phone call 26%

Requested/sent new forms 14%

Said they would return orig forms 30%

Still deciding 24%

Wrong number/no answer 25%

New forms returned 11%

Forms have arrived 50%

Forms have not arrived 50%

Total Consent Forms Returned
16%
10% Overall

Consented to Interview 94%

Consented to Cancer Study 95%

Consented to Genotyping 100%

Refused
7.5%
5% Overall

University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health
Department of Biostatistics
Case-Control Study Highlights – I

- Mailings to cases Jan, July & Sept 2005
- Total from first 2 mailings: 16% consented; 5% refused; 41% haven’t responded; 38% need to be contacted
  - Contact rate has increased with little corresponding increase in participation
- Follow-up calls ongoing
  - 2/3 of those called never send forms back
Case-Control Study Highlights - II

- Extensive efforts underway to locate unknown addresses
- Modified tissue specimen request/consent form to accommodate legal needs
  - Re-sending revised consent form to all non-respondents
- Interviews, medical records & tissue acquisition ongoing
## Timeline of Study

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*R = study results presented*
Outstanding Issues

- Status of supplemental funding
  - Revised supplemental proposal submitted Oct 3, under review by P&W

- Case-control study response rates
  - Difficulties locating next-of-kin
  - Difficulties obtaining response (positive or negative)
  - Concerns of participants