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# Environmental, Occupational and Population Health

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Editor: Carrie Redlich, MD, MPH

## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

Dear Members of the Environmental, Occupational and Population Health (EOPH) Assembly:

It's hard to believe that the 2014 Annual ATS International Conference in San Diego is almost upon us, especially for those in more Northern regions who are still in their winter clothes with snow shovels on hand. All the more reason to book a flight to San Diego if you haven't already.

I want to thank my predecessor, **Dr. Paul Henneberger** for his efforts and dedication as Assembly Chair, as well as the other members of the **EOPH Executive Committee** for their tireless work on behalf of the EOPH Assembly:

**Dr. Greg Diette (Chair of the Program Committee)** and **Christopher Carlsten (Chair Elect)** developed a great EOPH Program for the upcoming 2014 ATS Conference (see below).

**Dr. Vinicius Antao (Chair of the Planning Committee)** oversaw the development and review of proposals for Assembly Projects.

**Dr. Craig Glazer** oversaw the EOPH Web Committee.

**Dr. Kerri Johansson** took over leadership of the Early Faculty and Fellows Working Group from Dr. Christopher Carlsten.

**Dr. Kent Pinkerton** chaired the Nominating Committee.

**Dr. Eleanor Summerhill** chaired the Section on Terrorism and Inhalational Disasters

And the outstanding **ATS staff**, especially **Miriam Rodriguez**.

It was an active year for our Assembly and ATS. First our Assembly's **name** "officially" changed from the Environmental and Occupational Health (EOH) Assembly to the **Environmental, Occupational and Population Health (EOPH) Assembly** to better reflect our Assembly's focus on environmental and occupational factors that impact the health of populations (as well as individuals). After approval by EOH Assembly members last year,

(Continued on Page 2)



Carrie Redlich, MD, MPH

## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR (Continued)

the name change was approved by the other ATS Assembly Chairs (September 2013) and then by the ATS Board of Directors (February 2014).

An ad hoc ATS Committee was formed to review and comment on the proposed **OSHA rule on Occupational Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica** on behalf of the ATS. **Drs. Robert Cohen (Chair), Cecile Rose, Tee Guidotti, David Christiani, and William Beckett** worked tirelessly to review the rule (> 750 pages long) and draft comments in strong support of lowering the OSHA standard for silica. Several other organizations including ACOEM, ACCP and AOEC signed on in support of the ATS comments, which Dr. Cohen recently presented at a Public Hearing in Washington (March 2014). Thank you to everyone on the ATS Silica Committee!

Dr. Patricia Finn, President of the ATS, has made promoting health equality an ATS priority. The EOPH Assembly has highlighted the importance of equality in environmental and occupational lung health, which can be accomplished through 1) better surveillance of exposed communities, 2) better indoor and outdoor air quality, and 3) reduced hazardous work conditions.

In addition to our EOPH Assembly committees and activities, EOPH members serve on a number of the ATS-wide committees, including Environmental Health Policy, International Health, Documents & Development, and Health Policy. (Committees and members are listed on the ATS website). EOPH Assembly members (junior and senior members) are strongly encouraged to get involved in EOPH Assembly and ATS activities. You can contact the Chair of any EOPH Assembly or ATS Committee directly, or me. You can participate even if you are unable to attend the upcoming ATS Annual Meeting.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions. I look forward to seeing you at the International Conference in San Diego, May 16-21, 2014 !

Sincerely,

Carrie A. Redlich, MD, MPH

Chair, Assembly on Environmental, Occupational and Population Health

## VOTE NOW FOR EOPH ASSEMBLY LEADERSHIP

Vote now online for the next EOPH Assembly Chair, Program Chair-Elect, and Nominating Committee Members

Please visit our website: <http://www.thoracic.org/vote/assembly-vote-main.php> - deadline for voting is **April 30th**

### Candidates

#### Assembly Chair

- Jack R. Harkema, DVM, PhD, DACVP
- George D. Thurston, Sc.D

#### Program Committee Chair-Elect

- Juan C. Celedon, MD, DrPH
- Tricia LeVan, PhD

#### Nominating Committee

- Alison K. Bauer, Ph.D
- Kristin J. Cummings, MD, MPH
- Rafael E. de la Hoz, MD, MPH, MSc

# PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT AND PROJECT UPDATES

Vinicius C. Antao, MD, MSc, PhD, Chair

2013 was a busy year for the EOPH Planning Committee. We have evaluated numerous project proposals and award nominations. I would like to thank the members listed below for their commitment and hard work:

Muge Akpinar-Elci, MD, MPH	Luke Naeher, PhD
Juan Celedon, MD, PhD	Germania Pinheiro, MD, MSc, PhD
Kevin Cromar, PhD	Christian Sandrock, MD, MPH
Kristin Cummings, MD, MPH	Torben Sigsgaard, MD, PhD
Rafael de la Hoz, MD, MPH, MSc	Frances Silverman, PhD
Howard Kipen, MD, MPH	Eleanor M. Summerhill, MD
Ware Kuschner, MD	George D. Thurston, Sc.D
Amar Mehta, DSc, MPH, PhD	David N. Weissman, MD
Maria Mirabelli, PhD	Carrie A. Redlich, MD, MPH (Assembly Chair)

Here's a summary of the status of projects supported by EOPH in 2013:

Project Name	Lead (s)	Status
Diagnosis and Management of Beryllium Sensitization and Chronic Beryllium Disease	J Balmes	ATS Final review
An official American Thoracic Society proceedings: work-related asthma and airway diseases. Presentations and discussion from the Fourth Jack Pepys Workshop on Asthma in the Workplace.	S Tarlo J-L Malo	Published <a href="#">Ann Am Thorac Soc 2013;10(4):S17–24</a>
An Official American Thoracic Society Systematic Review: Influence of Psychosocial Characteristics on Workplace Disability among Workers with Respiratory Impairment	CG Slatore P Harber MC Haggerty	Published <a href="#">Am J Resp Crit Care Med 2013; 188(9):1147–1160</a>
Official ATS Technical Standards: Spirometry in the Occupational Setting	S Tarlo C Redlich	Published <a href="#">Am J Resp Crit Care Med</a>
ATS Research Statement on Recent Advances on Tobacco Addiction and Smoking Cessation	AC White	Ongoing
Chemical Inhalational Disasters: Biology of Lung Injury, Development of Novel Therapeutics, and ICU and Public Health Preparedness	E Summerhill	Ongoing
5th edition of the Jack Pepys Workshop on Work-Related Asthma	S Tarlo	Ongoing
What Constitutes an Adverse Health Effect of Air Pollution	G Thurston H Kipen	Pre-submission planning phase
Respiratory Health Hazards in Agriculture	T Sigsgaard MB Schenker	Pre-submission planning phase

# PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT (Continued)

Vinicius C. Antao, MD, MSc, PhD, Chair

Prior to the ATS Annual Conference in May, the Planning Committee will be considering nominations for several Assembly Awards (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/eoh/awards/index.php>). These include the John M. Peters Award for outstanding contributions to environmental or occupational health through leadership in research, education, or public health and the Val Vallyathan Senior Faculty Award for applicants with outstanding contributions to basic and translational science in environmental or occupational respiratory diseases. The Planning Committee revised the Awards submission and evaluation process to make it more standardized and transparent.

2013 EOPH Award recipients were:

2013 EOPH Assembly Awards	
Award	Recipient
John Peters Award	David C. Christiani, MD, MPH, MS
Val Vallyathan Senior Award	Benoit Nemery de Bellevaux, MD, PhD, MSc
Val Vallyathan Junior Award	Patricia Robbe, MSc
David V. Bates Award	Joyanna Hansen, BS

If you are interested in serving on the EOPH Planning Committee, developing a new EOPH Assembly Project, or revising any of the older ATS EOPH Statements found at <http://www.thoracic.org/statements/>, please contact Vinicius Antao ([vantao@cdc.gov](mailto:vantao@cdc.gov)) or Paul Henneberger ([pkh0@cdc.gov](mailto:pkh0@cdc.gov)). Assembly project applications are usually due mid-July.

## EARLY FACULTY AND FELLOWS WORKING GROUP

Kerri Johansson, MD, FRCPC

The Early Faculty and Fellows (EFF) working group continues with its goal of pairing mentors and mentees from within our assembly. Participating in the mentorship program provides opportunities for networking and collaboration among members with shared pathways and interests. Please contact me for more information and/or to get involved.

I look forward to seeing you at ATS.

# PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Gregory Diette, MD, Chair

Thanks to the hard work and great ideas of EOPH assembly members, we have a rich, jam-packed, state of the art program for the 2014 meeting in San Diego.

This year we have two post-graduate courses (both on Saturday), including one covering **Epigenetics of lung diseases** and the other, an **Update on Occupational and Environmental Lung Diseases**. Both sessions have terrific speakers with a great command of their respective fields. Since they are the same day, there will be some agonizing over which to attend ! **It is not too late to sign up for a Postgraduate Course**. A limited number of scholarships are available for junior and/or international members to attend the **Update on Occupational and Environmental Lung Diseases**. Contact Christopher Carlsten ([carlsten@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:carlsten@mail.ubc.ca)) if you are interested.

Symposia are well distributed across all the major conference days, from Sunday to Wednesday, which means you can attend them all. The topics reflect the diverse interests of the EOPH assembly and cover immune responses to the complex environment, tobacco, asthma disparities, gender differences in lung disease, and global respiratory health. As a group they are strongly linked to this year's ATS theme of health care disparities.

Finally, EOPH is sponsoring 4 mini-symposia, 5 poster discussion sessions, and 6 thematic poster sessions. My thanks to everyone who submitted abstracts for these sessions, and also the many EOPH members who graciously accepted our request to serve as moderators and facilitators.

Many thanks also to the entire EOPH program committee, who worked tirelessly to review submission and to sort them into coherent sessions. The program would truly have been impossible without their input.

## EOPH Program Committee

**Chair:** Gregory B. Diette, MD

**Chair-Elect:** Christopher Carlsten, MD, MPH

Isabella Annesi-Maesano, MD, PhD, DSc	George L. Delclos, MD, MPH	David B. Peden, MD
Mehrdad Arjomandi, MD	Mridu Gulati, MD	Edward L. Petsonk, MD
Per Bakke, MD, PhD	Nadia N. Hansel, MD, MPH	Germania A. Pinheiro, MD, MSc, PhD
John R. Balmes, MD	Philip I. Harber, MD, MPH	Kent E. Pinkerton, PhD
Alison K. Bauer, PhD	Steven R. Kleeberger, PhD	David Q. Rich, PhD
Hasan Bayram, MD, PhD	Augusto A. Litonjua, MD	Christian E. Sandrock, MD, MPH
Daniel L. Costa, DSc	Meredith C. McCormack, MD, MHS	Takashi Sato, MD, PhD
Rafael E. De La Hoz, MD, MPH, MSc	Karin A. Pacheco, MD, MSPH	Akshay Sood, MD, MPH

Right now is the perfect time to be sketching out ideas for the 2015 program. Bring your ideas to this year's Program Committee Meeting. If you don't already know, the program ideas come from all interested members ( a real grass-roots process) so come prepared and get the sessions planned that you are most excited about.

Hope to see you soon in San Diego.

# ATS 2014 - San Diego

## Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Environmental, Occupational and Population Health

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Postgraduate Courses			
Saturday, May 17, 2014			
PG15	UPDATE ON OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL LUNG DISEASES	8:00 AM	3:45 PM
PG16	EPIGENETICS OF LUNG DISEASES	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
Scientific Symposium			
Sunday, May 18, 2014			
A8	RESPIRATORY IMMUNE RESPONSES IN A COMPLEX ENVIRONMENT	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
Monday, May 19, 2014			
B8	COMPARATIVE EFFECTIVENESS TRIALS IN SLEEP MEDICINE: RESULTS FROM RECENT STUDIES AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
B89	ADVANCES IN UNDERSTANDING AND REDUCING ASTHMA DISPARITIES	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
Tuesday, May 20, 2014			
C10	WOMEN AND LUNG DISEASE: GENDER DIFFERENCES AND GLOBAL HEALTH DISPARITIES	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
Wednesday, May 21, 2014			
D6	OCCUPATIONAL AND DOMESTIC HAZARDS: DECIPHERING KEY CHALLENGES IN GLOBAL RESPIRATORY HEALTH	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
Jointly-Developed Symposium			
Sunday, May 18, 2014			
A90	HEALTH INEQUITY IN TOBACCO USE AND DEPENDENCE	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
Sunrise Seminars			
Monday, May 19, 2014			
SS111	REAL-WORLD SPIROMETRY: AVOIDING TECHNICAL PITFALLS AND CHOOSING AN INTERPRETATION ALGORITHM	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
Tuesday, May 20, 2014			
SS211	BIOLOGICAL SAMPLING MICRO AND NANO PARTICULATE MATTER IN OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
Meet the Professor Seminars			
Monday, May 19, 2014			
MP507	HOW HIGH CAN THEY GO? ADVISING PATIENTS PLANNING HIGH ALTITUDE TRAVEL	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
Tuesday, May 20, 2014			
MP608	FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL: SAND STORMS, CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESPIRATORY EFFECTS	12:00 PM	1:00 PM



Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
Mini-Symposium			
Sunday, May 18, 2014			
A97	COPD SUSCEPTIBILITY: TRAFFIC, TEMPERATURE, AND TOBACCO. WHAT TO TARGET?	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
Monday, May 19, 2014			
B15	AIR POLLUTION IN WOMEN, CHILDREN AND ELDERLY: RISK SUSCEPTIBILITY AND REDUCTION	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
Tuesday, May 20, 2014			
C96	IMAGING AND FUNCTIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EXPOSURE-RELATED LUNG DISEASE	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
Wednesday, May 21, 2014			
D15	DIET, OBESITY, AND LUNG DISEASE	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
Poster Discussion Sessions			
Sunday, May 18, 2014			
A104	ASTHMA EPIDEMIOLOGY	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
Monday, May 19, 2014			
B106	NANOPARTICLES AND (EPI)GENETICS	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
Tuesday, May 20, 2014			
C26	TOBACCO: HOW IT HARMS US AND MORE REASONS TO QUIT	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
C104	OCCUPATIONAL ASTHMA AND OTHER EFFECTS OF DUST	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
Wednesday, May 21, 2014			
D107	WORLD TRADE CENTER, MILITARY, AND OTHER EXPOSURES: LUNG LESSONS FROM ADVERSITY; PARALLEL SESSION - EOH CASE REPORTS	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
Thematic Poster Sessions			
Sunday, May 18, 2014			
A48	AIR POLLUTION: MECHANISMS AND GLOBAL IMPACT	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
A49	AIR POLLUTION: CARDIOVASCULAR AND PULMONARY EFFECTS	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
Monday, May 19, 2014			
B49	PULMONARY TOXICOLOGY	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B50	OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES AND EFFECTS: INTERDISCIPLINARY SESSION	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
Tuesday, May 20, 2014			
C46	OBESITY INFLUENCES ON THE LUNG	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
C47	ASTHMA AND COPD: ETIOLOGY, MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY	8:15 AM	4:30 PM

## EARLY FACULTY AND FELLOWS WORKING GROUP

Kerri Johansson, MD, FRCPC

The Early Faculty and Fellows (EFF) working group continues with its goal of pairing mentors and mentees from within our assembly. The mentorship program provides opportunities for networking and collaboration among members with shared pathways and interests. Please contact me for more information and/or to get involved. I look forward to seeing you at ATS.

## WEB DIRECTOR UPDATE

Dr. Craig Glazer, Web Director

The EOPH Web Director maintains and enhances the environmental and occupational health content of the ATS website ([www.thoracic.org](http://www.thoracic.org)). Our focus is to facilitate interactions/ communications among assembly members and provide information which could benefit the entire ATS community. Last year, we had a successful webinar: "An Introduction to Climate Change and Health: How Will a Warming World Affect Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Physicians?" We would like to follow this up with future webinars highlighting other EOPH statements. We also want to develop web-based lectures for Pulmonary / Critical Care Training Programs seeking to access our EOPH Assembly's expertise. The webinar format can also be used for journal clubs, case discussions, blogs and links to others resources. If you have ideas for future webinars, or other projects or activities, please email us at [eoph@thoracic.org](mailto:eoph@thoracic.org).

**We are seeking EOPH assembly members to join an EOPH Web Committee.** Technology influences the way we communicate. Learn how to use these tools in environmental and occupational respiratory health! No experience is necessary. The EOPH web committee will oversee the content of the EOPH Assembly's website, as well as generate ideas on how to better connect assembly members through the use of social media, for example, or to better address our mission through multimedia content. This is a **great opportunity** for members to get involved in the activities of the EOPH Assembly and also learn more about Web / Internet media. If interested please contact [eoph@thoracic.org](mailto:eoph@thoracic.org).

## SECTION ON TERRORISM AND INHALATIONAL DISASTERS (TID)

Eleanor M. Summerhill, MD, Section Chair

At the 2013 ATS International conference, the Terrorism and Inhalational Disasters (TID) Section sponsored the ATS/NIH CounterACT Workshop on Chemical Inhalational Disasters: Biology of Lung Injury, Development of Novel Therapeutics, and ICU Preparedness. Committee members are presently writing the Workshop Report, which will be submitted to PATS. The Section would like to welcome all EOPH members with interests in inhalational lung injury and disaster medicine to the Section Meeting on Sunday, May 18th from 11:30am-1:00pm at the Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego in Cortez Hill A (Third Floor) to help develop future projects and initiatives. We look forward to seeing you at the 2014 International Meeting in San Diego!



***Assembly on  
Environmental, Occupational and Population Health  
Membership Meeting***

***Monday, May 19th  
5:00pm-7:00pm***

***Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego***

***Grand Hall D  
Lobby Level***

***ATS Section on  
Terrorism and Inhalational Disasters  
Membership Meeting***

***Sunday, May 18th  
11:30am-1:00pm***

***Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego***

***Cortez Hill A  
Third Floor***

**Please join us in honoring William W. Busse, MD, during ATS 2014 in San Diego on Saturday, May 17, at 7 p.m., at the Sixth Annual American Thoracic Society Foundation Research Program Benefit.**



His impassioned advocacy and generosity towards the ATS Foundation Research Program has given promising young investigators in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine a "lifeline" at a crucial moment in their careers. Because Dr. Busse's clinical and research interests are central to both the ATS and the AAAAI, the Foundation invites friends and colleagues in both organizations to celebrate his remarkable dedication to helping patients.

There are several ways you may pay tribute to Dr. Busse:

- If you are planning to attend ATS 2014, please register for the Benefit at <http://www.thoracic.org/go/benefit>.
- If you are unable to attend the Benefit but wish to place an ad or make a donation to the Research Program in honor of Dr. Busse, please visit <http://www.thoracic.org/go/benefitcontributions>.

For more information, contact ErinMarie Nebel at [EMNebel@thoracic.org](mailto:EMNebel@thoracic.org) or at 212-315-6464.

**Every dollar contributed will go directly to support research awards for early career scientists.**

## Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2015!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2015. All interested applicants should begin developing their ideas for Assembly/Committee Project Applications. Applications will be available on the ATS website at [www.thoracic.org](http://www.thoracic.org).

Please consider submitting an application for an Assembly/Committee project. If you have a suggestion for a project application and you need assistance, please contact your Assembly Planning Committee Chair Paul K. Henneberger, ScD at [pkh0@cdc.gov](mailto:pkh0@cdc.gov).

Please contact Miriam Rodriguez with any questions at tel: 212/315-8639 or email: [mrodriguez@thoracic.org](mailto:mrodriguez@thoracic.org).

### *Help Us Help You!*

Have you moved, changed your title, added new skills, credentials or other information? ATS members can now update their contact information, assembly affiliations, and demographic profile quickly and easily online with the Member Profile Update form.

Keeping your profile current ensures accuracy during the ATS International Conference registration process and also helps the ATS provide you with valuable member benefits. To streamline the process, the ATS has updated and combined demographic categories, which makes it easier for you to send us pertinent information to serve you better.

The Member Profile Update form is safe and secure, and your updates will be reflected immediately in our database. Please take a minute to login and update your member record today at <http://www.thoracic.org/login/ats-member-login.php?rl=https://thoracic.secure.force.com/MPU>

At this same web link members can now also print their own, personalized membership certificate!

# LUNG DISEASE WEEK AT THE ATS

*January~December, 2014*

In 2014, the ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) continues its successful program "Lung Disease Week at the ATS," which represents a society-wide initiative to recognize the many rare lung disorders for which ATS PAR member organizations provide support and guidance to patients and their families. For a series of one-week periods throughout 2014 ATS PAR will bring patient issues to the front and center of the Society's agenda. Working with its PAR partners, the ATS will develop, aggregate and host links to disease-specific content on its Web site. Material will include patient stories, testimonials, interviews, videos, photos, support group information, details on ongoing legislative efforts and clinical trial updates. The ATS will foster interaction between patients, clinicians and researchers by hosting online question-and-answer sessions, Webinars and/or podcasts featuring lung disease experts. See the full calendar of lung disease weeks below.

2014 Date	Disease Week	PAR Member	ATS Board Member
Feb 9-15	Sarcoidosis	<b>Andrea Wilson</b> (Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research)	Carrie Redlich, MD
Mar 2-8	Cystic Fibrosis	<b>Beth Sufian</b> (Cystic Fibrosis Foundation)	Samya Nasr, MD
Apr 6-12	ARDS	<b>Eileen Rubin</b> (ARDS Foundation)	Shannon Carson, MD
Apr 20-26	Sleep Disorders	<b>Ed Grandi</b> (American Sleep Apnea Association)	Atul Malhotra, MD
Jun1-7	LAM	<b>Mary Harbaugh</b> (The LAM Foundation)	Charlie Strange, MD
Jun 22-28	Scleroderma	<b>Kerri Connolly</b> (Scleroderma Foundation)	Nick Hill, MD (ATS Past President)
July 6-12	Pulmonary Hypertension	<b>Debbie Castro</b> (Pulmonary Hypertension Association) <i>*Also local onsite event</i>	Jason Yuan, MD
Aug 3-9	chILD	<b>Greg Porta</b> (chILD Foundation) <i>*Also local onsite event</i>	Robin Deterding, MD
Aug 24-30	Rare Lung Diseases	<b>Jack Kelly</b> (Lymphangiomatosis & Gorham's Disease Alliance)	Jess Mandel, MD

Sep 7-13	Lung Transplant	<b>Jeff Goldstein</b> (Lung Transplant Foundation) <i>*Also local onsite event</i>	Various
Sep 21-27	Pulmonary Fibrosis	<b>Teresa Barnes</b> (Coalition for Pulmonary Fibrosis)	Jesse Roman, MD
Oct 5-11	Asthma	<b>Charlotte Collins</b> (Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America)	Greg Downey, MD
Nov Dec 7-13	Lung Cancer	<b>Regina Vidaver</b> (Free to Breathe, <i>formerly NLCP</i> )	Linda Nici, MD