Wendy Demark-Wahnefried, PhD, RD

Professor and Webb Endowed Chair of Nutrition Sciences, University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Associate Director for Cancer Prevention and Control, UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center.



Dr. Demark-Wahnefried is a nutrition scientist with training in biochemistry, genetics, and behavioral science.

For the past two decades, her research career has spanned basic science studies focused on determining mechanisms of action of food-related components on neoplastic progression, to clinical research that involves nutrition-related concerns of cancer patients, as well as determining effective lifestyle interventions that improve the overall health of cancer survivors and populations at high risk for cancer (relatives of cancer survivors, rural African-

Americans residing in high incidence counties, etc).

Her laboratory has conducted some of the largest studies exploring metabolic and body composition changes, as well as energy balance, in response to cancer treatment. An area of research in which Dr. Demark-Wahnefried has experienced particular success is in the delivery of home-based lifestyle interventions among cancer survivors. She has led and continues to lead a number of NIH-funded trials aimed at improving the diet and exercise behavioral of cancer survivors. This work has given rise to over 150 publications, and recognition as a Komen Professor of Survivorship.

In addition to her research, Dr. Demark-Wahnefried also serves on several committees, including the American Cancer Society's Guidelines Panel for Nutrition and Physical Activity among Cancer Survivors, the World Cancer Research Fund, the American College of Sports Medicine Guidelines Panel for Physical Activity in Cancer Survivors, the American Society of Clinical Oncology Committee on Cancer Survivorship and the National Cancer Policy Forum of the Institute of Medicine (IOM). In October 2011, she chaired the IOM workshop on "The Role of Obesity on Cancer Recurrence and Survival."