

# PhD Faculty Research Interests

<b>Cindy Anderson*</b>	studying hypertension in pregnancy and epigenomic markers of heritable and future development of hypertension after preeclampsia.
<b>Susie Breitenstein*</b>	developing and testing interventions to improve social and emotional outcomes for families of young children; studying use of community health workers in care delivery.
<b>Mei-Wei Chang*</b>	testing theory-based, culturally sensitive interventions for obesity prevention among low-income overweight and obese young mothers (both pregnant and non-pregnant).
<b>Christine Dyar</b>	understanding and reducing health disparities affecting sexual and gender minority populations.
<b>Eileen Faulds</b>	examining diabetes technology self-management with wearable device data (i.e., insulin pump, glucose monitoring, automated insulin delivery); developing mHealth self-management interventions
<b>Jodi Ford*</b>	investigating the effects of the social environment on chronic physiologic stress and ultimately, physical and mental health over the transition from adolescence to young adulthood.
<b>Chris Fortney</b>	studying palliative and end-of-life care in the neonatal population by looking at infant symptoms from multiple perspectives and examining associations with decision-making, coping, and distress.
<b>Shannon Gillespie</b>	developing and clinically validating biologically-informed screening tools for the prediction and targeted prevention of complications of pregnancy.
<b>Margaret Graham*</b>	increasing interprofessional team health care delivery for better outcomes among minority and underserved people.
<b>Mary Beth Happ*</b>	developing and testing interventions to help seriously ill patients and their families communicate needs, symptoms, and other important messages.
<b>Tondi Harrison*</b>	developing and testing interventions to moderate the adverse effects of early hospitalization on neonates and young infants.
<b>Kayla Herbell</b>	studying psychosocial and mental health support needs of families of youth with serious mental illness or behavioral issues; developing family-centered interventions for positive family outcomes.
<b>Jie Hu*</b>	developing and testing family-based and culturally tailored diabetes self-management interventions to improve health outcomes in minority populations.
<b>Jin Jun</b>	studying health, wellbeing, and resilience of healthcare providers by addressing individual and system-level factors to create high-performing healthcare organizations.
<b>Jodi McDaniel*</b>	determining effects of omega-3 fatty acids on inflammation as it relates to chronic wound healing and cognitive function.
<b>Bern Melnyk*</b>	developing and testing programs to improve coping/mental health outcomes and/or healthy lifestyle behaviors in children, teens, college-age youth, adults and clinicians; implementation science for EBP.
<b>Lisa Militello</b>	exploring the role of digital health behavior change interventions to promote healthy lifestyle behaviors in children and families, particularly with regard to social determinants of health.
<b>Ethan Morgan</b>	studying sexual and gender minority populations, particularly in terms of HIV/STIs and other infectious diseases, inflammation, chronic disease, and substance use.

*\*May serve as advisors to PhD students. September 2021; RHP*



<b>Dianne Morrison-Beedy*</b>	HIV/STI/pregnancy; women's and adolescent health; behavioral change and motivationally-based interventions, developing and testing interventions to reduce sexual risk
<b>Karen Moss</b>	pain and advanced care planning and decision-making for older adults with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and their family caregivers with a specific focus on African Americans
<b>Marliese Nist</b>	developing interventions to reduce stress exposure and response and improve neurodevelopmental outcomes for preterm infants.
<b>Timiya Nolan</b>	developing and testing age- and culturally- targeted interventions to improve quality of life and health among young African American breast cancer survivors.
<b>Tara O'Brien</b>	developing and testing mHealth interventions to improve physical activity adherence in older adults with chronic disease.
<b>Donal O'Mathuna*</b>	conducting research on ethical issues in disasters and humanitarian crises, particularly related to research ethics and integrity, and healthcare provision. Conducting Cochrane systematic reviews.
<b>Rita Pickler*</b>	studying the care of preterm infants and their families, transitional needs for children with acute and complex illnesses, developmental outcomes for children at high risk, high risk perinatal outcomes.
<b>Karen Rose*</b>	focusing on supporting family caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias using technology.
<b>Laureen Smith*</b>	designing and testing interventions to help underserved rural Appalachian adolescents improve and sustain healthy behaviors to prevent obesity as well as mitigate obesity and extreme obesity.
<b>Janna Stephens*</b>	improving the health of young adults and reducing their risk for developing cardiovascular disease.
<b>Judy Tate*</b>	improving cognitive function and self-care among older adults after hospitalization, family caregivers of ICU patients and survivors, symptom management in the ICU, patient provider communication.
<b>Susan Thrane</b>	studying integrative interventions for symptom management for children, adolescents, and adults with life-limiting or life-threatening illness receiving palliative or hospice care.
<b>Heather Tubbs Cooley*</b>	evaluating outcomes of nursing services and care delivery in neonatal and pediatric care; understanding system factors influencing nursing care quality; patient safety; health informatics.
<b>Sharon Tucker*</b>	studying behavioral/environmental interventions for improving physical and mental health among adults and families, and implementation models and strategies to improve the uptake of evidence.
<b>Diane Von Ah*</b>	advancing science in the area of cancer survivorship including symptom management and quality of life.
<b>Karen Patricia Williams*</b>	translating evidenced-based interventions in community-based and family-focused cancer prevention.
<b>Celia E. Wills*</b>	testing interventions to improve decision-making and health self-care management in adults with chronic conditions; testing virtual simulation training to improve caregiver decision-making in the home.
<b>Loren Wold*</b>	studying the effects of environmental triggers on the heart, from the organ to the tissue and cell.
<b>Kathy Wright</b>	developing and testing interventions to improve brain health and blood pressure in African American older adults with hypertension.

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