



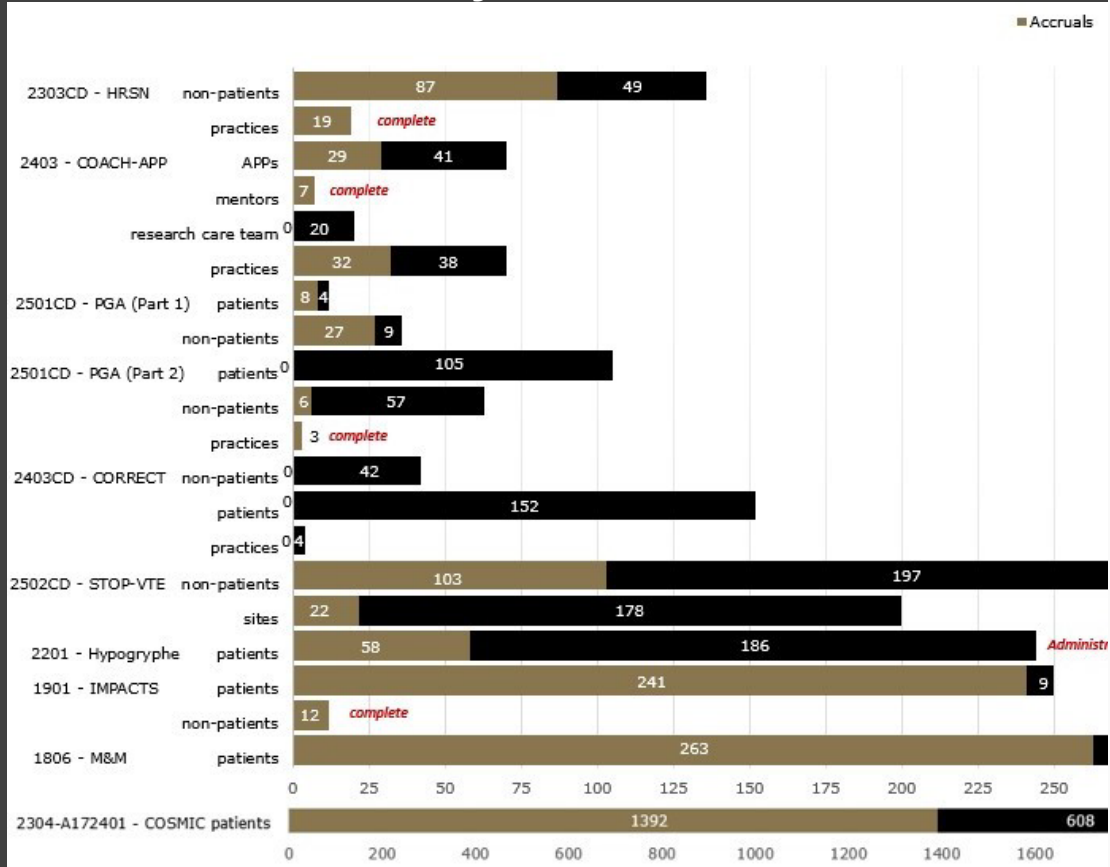
# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Quarterly Newsletter

May 2026



# Study Accruals

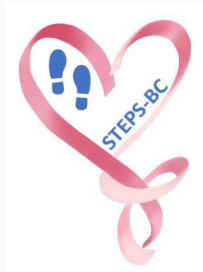


\* Data through 05/22/2026

## Study Highlight: WF-2401

### Supportive Tailored Exercise Program for Survivors of Breast Cancer (STEPS-BC)

Activating on Wednesday, May 27, 2026



### **Why STEPS-BC?**

STEPS-BC seeks to **reduce chemotherapy-induced fatigue, LV ejection fraction decline, and exercise intolerance** in breast cancer survivors. It is also the **1st home-based** nation-wide primary prevention clinical trial that initiates **activity and social interaction** prior to beginning cancer treatment.

**Study Population:** 120 Stage I-III breast cancer patients (18-85 years old) scheduled to receive neoadjuvant or adjuvant cytotoxic chemotherapy.

**Study Duration:** 24 weeks

**Randomization:** 1:1 home-based physical activity intervention (PAI) + healthy living intervention (HLI) vs HLI alone

**Stratification:** chemotherapy timing (neoadjuvant vs adjuvant) and baseline exercise level (above/below 150 minutes/week)

### **Brief Eligibility Criteria:**

- Stage I-III breast cancer (including inflammatory and newly diagnosed, or locally recurrent but not metastatic breast cancer being treated with curative intent). All molecular subtypes (ER, PR, HER2, etc.) are acceptable.
- Age 18 to 85 years at enrollment.
- Scheduled to receive neoadjuvant or adjuvant cytotoxic chemotherapy. Patients must be enrolled  $\leq 3$  weeks from start of cytotoxic chemotherapy.
- ECOG performance status 0 – 2 (see Appendix A)

- Able to walk at least 2 blocks without chest pain, shortness of breath or fainting per patient self-report. (Screener for Patient-reported Eligibility Criteria (SPEC) form)
- Not engaged in  $\geq 300$  minutes of moderate-to vigorous physical activity per week (SPEC form)

Please contact us as [NCORP@wfusm.edu](mailto:NCORP@wfusm.edu) to request a study start-up packet!

**The Introductory Webinar will be held on Friday, June 12, 2026 at 3:30 PM ET. Use the link below to add the webinar to your calendar.**

[Click here to add the STEPS-BC Intro Webinar to your Calendar](#)

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## **Site Highlight: Cancer Research of Wisconsin and Northern Michigan (CROWN) Consortium NCORP**



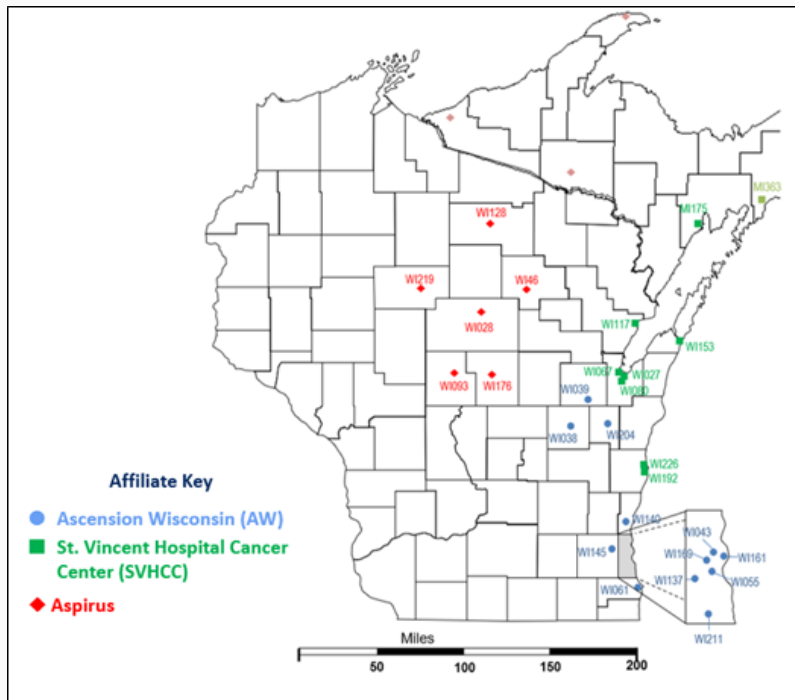
**NCORP PI:** Dr. Anthony Jaslowski, MD

**NCORP Administrator:** Courtney Oliver, MSc, CCRP, ACRP-CP



The Cancer Research of Wisconsin and Northern Michigan (CROWN) Consortium NCORP is a multi-institution community oncology research program dedicated to expanding access to National Cancer Institute (NCI)-supported clinical trials across Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Anchored by HSHS St. Vincent Hospital Cancer Centers, Ascension Wisconsin, and Aspirus Inc., the consortium builds on more than 40 years of community oncology research, bringing together a diverse network of hospitals and clinics to deliver high-quality cancer research in both urban and geographically dispersed communities.

A defining strength of the CROWN Consortium is its collaborative infrastructure, which promotes shared strategy, communication, and resource development across three independently operated research programs. While each institution maintains its own research operations and regulatory oversight, consortium leadership works collaboratively to identify opportunities for alignment, shared learning, and operational efficiency. Through this coordinated approach, clinical research coordinators, investigators, and leadership work closely to support study activation, patient enrollment, and ongoing program development, while fostering open communication and shared problem-solving across the network.



CROWN maintains a robust and balanced research portfolio across treatment trials, cancer control studies, and cancer care delivery research (CCDR), with more than 100 active studies across the consortium. This breadth of activity supports sustained engagement across disease sites and research areas while ensuring that patients have access to a wide range of clinical trial opportunities within their local communities.

Advance practice providers (APPs) play an integral role in the consortium’s research efforts and are a key contributor to patient enrollment and study awareness. Their engagement helps embed clinical research into routine care delivery, expand provider participation, and enhance patient access to trials across diverse clinical settings.

CROWN is actively engaged across all NCI-supported research bases, with investigators and research staff contributing as study champions, content experts, and committee members. This level of involvement strengthens collaboration with national research partners ensuring that the consortium both contributes to and benefits from the broader NCORP research enterprise.

Through its collaborative model, strong administrative infrastructure, and commitment to integrating research into community oncology settings, the CROWN Consortium

continues to advance the NCORP mission—bringing innovative cancer clinical trials and care delivery research directly to the patients and communities it serves.

**Top Accruing CC Sites\***

**Patient Accruals**

Rank	Affiliates	Accruals
1	IL010 - Advocate Lutheran General Hospital (AURORA)	7
2	KY106 - Saint Joseph Hospital East (CORA)	6
3	GA031 - Northside Hospital (GEORGIA)	5
	GA134 - Northside Hospital - Duluth (GEORGIA)	
	NM004 - Univ. of New Mexico Cancer Center (NEW MEXICO)	
	NC002 - Wake Forest University Health Sciences	
	WI029 - Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center (WINCORP)	

\* Data from 01/01/2026 - 03/31/2026

**Non-Patient Accruals (excluding practice)**

Rank	Affiliates	Accruals
1	KY106 - Saint Joseph Hospital East (CORA)	1
	MI132 - Corewell Health Grand Rapids Hospitals - Butterworth Hospital (CRCWM)	
	KS035 - HaysMed (KANSAS)	
	ME037 - Harold Alfond Center for Cancer Care (MAINE)	
	AR012 - Mercy Hospital Fort Smith (OZARKS)	
	VA010 - VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center (VCU)	
	WI029 - Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center (WINCORP)	

\* Data from 01/01/2026 - 03/31/2026

## Top Accruing CCDR Sites\*

### Patient Accruals

Rank	Affiliates	Accru
1	PR046 - Centro Comprensivo de Cancer de UPR (PUERTORICO)	2
2	ME018 - MaineHealth Maine Med. Ctr- Scarborough (MAINE)	1
	MS056 - Baptist Memorial Hospital & Cancer Ctr-Oxford (BAPTIST)	
	TN029 - Baptist Memorial Hospital & Cancer Ctr-Memphis (BAPTIST)	
	WI212 - ThedaCare Regional Cancer Center (WINCORP)	

\* Data from 01/01/2026 - 03/31/2026

### Non-Patient Accruals (excluding practice)

Rank	Affiliates	Accru
1	DE028 - Helen F Graham Cancer Center (CHRISTIANA)	10
2	MI013 - Trinity Health St Joseph Mercy Hospital Ann Arbor (MCRC)	7
	SC045 - Prisma Health Greenville Memorial Hospital (PRISMA)	
3	IL168 - Carle Cancer Center (CARLE)	6
4	NC081 - FirstHealth of the Carolinas-Moore Regional Hospital (SCOR)	5
	MN031 - Fairview Southdale Hospital (METROMIN)	

\* Data from 01/01/2026 - 03/31/2026

## Wake Forest NCORP RB Annual Meeting

**Save the Date!**

Registration and Hotel Link coming soon!



**Wake Forest NCORP 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
**October 12-14, 2026**  
**The Marriott Resort Myrtle Beach**  
**Grand Dunes, Myrtle Beach, SC**



## Follow us on Social Media!

Wake  
Forest



**NCORP RESEARCH BASE**

A centralized research base  
in Winston-Salem, NC  
for Cancer Center affiliates and  
NCI-funded NCORP community sites.

Follow our *new*  
LinkedIn and X accounts for:

- ✔ Study Announcements
- ✔ Cancer Research Opportunities
- ✔ Results and Publications
- ✔ Research Base Events and News



UPDATES



Contact Us:  
[NCORP@wfusm.edu](mailto:NCORP@wfusm.edu)



Website:  
[www.wakencorp.phs.wakehealth.edu](http://www.wakencorp.phs.wakehealth.edu)

**X: @WF\_NCORP\_RB**

**LinkedIn: Wake Forest NCORP Research Base**

## **Top Accruing Investigators by Study**

(from 01/01/2026 - 03/31/2026)

### **WF-1806 (patient)**

1. Michael, Mullane, MD (3) - IL042 (STROGER)
2. Adrienne Aasand, CNP (1) - MN075 (METROMIN)  
Vinay Gupta, MD (1) - MO056 (OZARKS)

### **WF-1901 (patient)**

1. Maria Grosse-Perdekamp, MD (2) - IL168 (CARLE)
2. Pratima Chalasani, MD (1) - IL168 (CARLE)  
Pankaj Kumar, MD, MDA (1) - IL352 (HEARTLAND)  
Yoshihito Saito, MD (1) - HI005 (HAWAII)

### **WF-2201 (patient)**

1. Michael Chan, MD (5) - NC002

### **WF2304-A172401 (patient)**

1. Amelia Zelnak, MD, MSc (5) - GA031 (GEORGIA)
2. 6 investigators with 4 each at GEORGIA, AURORA,  
HAWAII, WINCORP, CORA, NEWMEXICO

### **WF-2403 (APPs)**

1. 7 investigators with 1 each at CRCWM, VCU,  
CORA, WINCORP, KANSAS, OZARKS, MAINE

### **WF-2501CD (patients & non-patients)**

1. Luis Santos Reyes, MD (5) - PR046 (PUERTORICO)
2. Rose Juhasz, MD (4) - MI349 (MCRC)  
Stefanie Zuleger, MD (4) - WI212 (WINCORP)

### **WF-2502CD (surgeons & surgical APPs)**

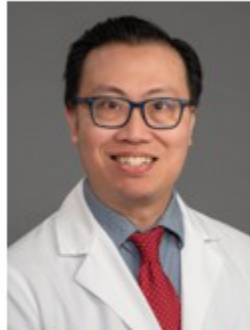
1. Gregory Masters, MD (12) - DE002, DE028, MD047 (CHRISTIANA)
2. Margaret Nolan, MD (9) - MN031, MN019, MN075 (METROMIN)
3. Jay Carlson, DO (8) - MO034, MO043, MO042, MO200 (OZARKS)

### **Top CC Accruing Investigators**

(from 01/01/2026 - 03/31/2026) Patient accruals



Amelia Zelnak, MD, MSc  
GA031, GEORGIA (5)



Michael D. Chan, MD  
NC002, AHWFB (5)

### **Top CCDR Accruing Investigator**

(from 01/01/2026 - 03/31/2026) Patient accruals



Luis J. Santos Reyes, MD  
PR046, PUERTORICO (2)

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## **Publications & Presentations**

### **Manuscripts**

- **WF-97415 UPBEAT:** Szewczyk W, Reding KW, D'Agostino RB Jr, et al. Association of sleep disturbance during breast cancer treatment and left
-

ventricular ejection fraction decline: a prospective cohort study. *Cardiooncology*. 2026;12(1):37. Published 2026 Feb 24.  
doi:10.1186/s40959-026-00462-6

- **WF-98213 PREVENT:** Rodrigues JL, O'Connell NS, Sutton AL, et al. Muscle quality during cancer treatment and associations with health-related quality of life. *Qual Life Res*. 2026;35(3):71. Published 2026 Feb 12.  
doi:10.1007/s11136-026-04175-2
- **WF-2202 SHINE:** Shaffer, K. M., Glazer, J. V., Kittel, C. A., Dressler, E. V., Wood, E., Lawson, H., Reese, J. B., Danhauer, S. C., Showalter, S. L., Cohn, W., Clayton, A. H., Weaver, K. E., Lesser, G. J., & Ritterband, L. M. (in press). Examining recruitment differences by race, ethnicity, and age to a decentralized trial of an internet-delivered intervention for sexual health after breast cancer: The WF-2202 SHINE trial. *Supportive Care in Cancer*.
- **WF2304-A172401 COSMIC:** Nugent SM, Ashare RR, Cullen J, et al. Leveraging the National Cancer Institute's collaborative efforts to understand the benefits and harms of cannabis use among individuals with cancer, *JNCI: Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, 2026;,, djag057, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jnci/djag057>
- **Pilot Project:** AuBuchon KE, Bonthu A, Inbar-Albo L, et al. Culturally Adapting a Video-Based Self-acupressure Intervention to Manage Symptoms for Black and Latina Breast Cancer Survivors. *J Cancer Educ*. Published online July 12, 2025. doi:10.1007/s13187-025-02684-1
- **WF-1801 Ramipril:** Cramer CK, Smith S, Dressler EV, et al. WF-1801: Single Arm Pilot Study of Ramipril for Prevention of Radiation-Induced Cognitive Decline in Glioblastoma Patients Receiving Chemoradiotherapy, *Neuro-Oncology Practice*, 2026;,, npag047, <https://doi.org/10.1093/nop/npag047>

## **Abstracts**

### **American Society of Preventative Oncology - ASPO**

- **WF-1804CD AH-HA:** Price SN, Dressler EV, Smith S, et al. Sleep Duration among Post-Treatment Adult Cancer Survivors in Community Oncology Care: Secondary Analyses from the AH-HA Trial (WF-1804CD). ASPO Conference, Poster. April 12-14, 2026.
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## American Society of Clinical Oncology - ASCO

- **WF-2303CD HRSN:** Haines E, Birken S, Clark L, Zimmer R, et al. Health-related social needs screening in community oncology settings: results from a context assessment of a national sample of NCORP clinics. ASCO Conference. Online Publication. May 26 - June 2, 2026.

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### WF NCORP RB Quarterly Calls

The next call is scheduled for August 12, 2026.

[Click here to add the Quarterly Call to your calendar](#)

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## Community Engagement Committee Updates

The **Community Engagement Core (CEC)**, led by Karen Winkfield, MD, PhD and Carla Strom, MLA with support from WF NCORP Research staff members, provides an opportunity for sites to highlight the work they are doing to build capacity for inclusive participation, recruitment and retention.

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In 2026 to date, the Community Engagement Committee (CEC) **held two meetings** and **welcomed ten new members** to the committee. During these virtual gatherings, the leadership team shared updates on recent activities, including site visits, and reviewed demographic accrual data. The committee also discussed emerging topics for the Annual WF NCORP Research Base Meeting and selected assessing health-related social needs (HRSN) as the primary focus. The CEC panel will feature representatives from participating sites who will discuss site feasibility

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processes and lessons learned from their participation in the WF-2303CD study *Understanding and Enhancing HRSN Screening Among Community Oncology Practices*.

We have also added new participants to the **Advocates for Research in Medicine (ARM) program** that received training and will work alongside current advocates to support WF NCORP Research Base's ongoing research activities. ARM participants bring the patient perspective to our research to help ensure it is patient centered. Advocates have the opportunity to serve on scientific committees and participate in activities such as concept review and review of patient-facing materials. We will be recruiting for a 2026 advocate training this fall so stay tuned!

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The CEC meets quarterly to share best practices, influence study design, discuss community engagement strategies and share resource tools.

**Interested in joining the CEC team?** Contact us at [NCORP@wfusm.edu](mailto:NCORP@wfusm.edu).



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