Xiao-Cheng Wu, MD, MPH

Professor of Epidemiology Director of the Louisiana Tumor Registry

Education Xian Medical University, China MD, Medicine, 1983

Xian Medical University/Fourth Military Medical University, China, MPH Health Statistics, 1986



Xiao-Cheng Wu, MD, MPH, is a professor of epidemiology with LSU Health New Orleans and the director of the Louisiana Tumor Registry. With more than 20 years' experience with the Louisiana Tumor Registry, she possesses extensive expertise in registry operations and using registry data and infrastructure for cancer research.

Her research focuses on population-based cancer epidemiology and the use of cancer registry data for cancer surveillance studies. Dr. Wu's research has delved into important issues surrounding cancer screening policy and the evaluation of screening effectiveness. Notably, during the late 1990s, she conducted a pioneering study utilizing data from US population-based cancer registries. This study revealed a significant disparity in the stage of diagnosis between proximal colon cancers and distal colon and rectal cancers, even

within the same age, race, and gender groups. The findings of this study made a substantial impact on the existing literature, ultimately supporting a policy change that led to the reimbursement of colonoscopy screening for colorectal cancer.

As a strong patient advocate, Dr. Wu collaborated with oncologists to evaluate the impact of patient protection and the Affordable Care Act Medicaid expansion on cancer stage, treatment, and outcomes using population-based cancer registry data. Her research found that ACA expansion in Louisiana reduced the uninsured rate, increased the diagnosis of early-stage disease, and increased access to treatment.

She has served as the leading editor for the annual monograph "Cancer Incidence in North America" since 2000 and has established herself as an active participant of numerous national committees, including the Data Use and Research Committee, the Research Proposal Review Subcommittee of the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR), the CDC National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR) Scientific Advisory Group for Patterns of Care Studies, and the Annual Report to the Nation working group. She is a Co-Principal Investigator for both the National Cancer Institute-sponsored Louisiana Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) program and the CDC's NPCR program.

She earned a doctorate in 1983 and a Master of Public Health in 1986, both from Xian Medical University in Xian, China. She worked as an assistant research professor at the Chinese Academy of Preventive Medicine in Beijing, before joining the LSU Health Sciences Center faculty in 1991.