

Symposium on **Cancer Control** in the **Western Pacific** cum
Launching of **The Cancer Atlas 2nd Edition (Chinese Version)**

Session II :
The Cancer Atlas

SPEAKER



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Otis Webb Brawley, MD, is an acknowledged global leader in the field of cancer prevention and control. As the chief medical and scientific officer and executive vice president of the American Cancer Society, he is responsible for promoting the goals of cancer prevention, early detection, and quality treatment through cancer research and education. He champions efforts to decrease smoking, improve diet, and provide the critical support cancer patients need. He also guides efforts to enhance and focus the Nation's research program, upgrade the Society's advocacy capacity, and concentrate community cancer control efforts in areas where they will be most effective.

Dr. Brawley currently serves as professor of hematology, oncology, medicine and epidemiology at Emory University. He is also a medical consultant to the Cable News Network (CNN). From April of 2001 to November of 2007, he was director of the Georgia Cancer Center at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, and deputy director for cancer control at the Winship Cancer Institute at Emory University. He previously served as a member of the Society's Prostate Cancer Committee, co-chaired the U.S. Surgeon General's Task Force on Cancer Health Disparities, and filled a variety of positions at the National Cancer Institute (NCI), most recently serving as Assistant Director.

Dr. Brawley has served on a number of advisory committees including: the NIH Committee on Women's Health; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Breast Cancer in Young Women; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection and Control Advisory Committee; and the Food and Drug Administration Oncologic Drug Advisory Committee. He chaired the NIH Consensus Panel on the Treatment of Sickle Cell Disease.

He has been listed by Castle Connolly as one of America's Top Doctors for Cancer. Among numerous other awards, he was a Georgia Cancer Coalition Scholar and received the Key to St. Bernard Parish for work in the U.S. Public Health Service in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. He is a fellow of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, a Fellow of the American College of Epidemiology and one of less than 1300 physicians to be named a Master of the American College of Physicians in its more than 100 year history. Dr. Brawley is also a member of the National Academy of Medicine.

Dr. Brawley graduated from the University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine; trained in internal medicine at Case-Western Reserve University, and in medical oncology at the National Cancer Institute.

Abstract:

Major Risk Factors of Cancer

A significant benefit of basic and epidemiologic research has been the determination of many causes of cancer. These findings are helpful in prevention programs.

Worldwide tobacco use is the most preventable cause of cancer death. There are 1.3 billion smokers and about six million deaths occur due to smoking related cancer every year. The majority of these deaths occur in middle age. Tobacco use causes more than a third of all cancers. It is linked to at least twelve kinds of cancer. Among them: cancers of the lung, mouth, lip, nose and sinuses, larynx (voice box), pharynx (throat), esophagus (swallowing tube), stomach, pancreas, kidney, bladder, uterus, cervix, colon/rectum, ovary (mucinous), and myeloid leukemia.

Certain infectious agents cause cancer. The impact of infectious agents varies by region. It is estimated that infectious agents cause 33 percent of cancers in Africa, 20-26 percent in India and China, 17 percent in Southern America and 3.3 to 4 percent in North America and Australia.

- Schistosomiasis (also known as bilharzia) is a flat worm. It is a leading cause of squamous cell bladder cancer in Egypt.
- Aflatoxin found in stored grain, and from certain species of the *Aspergillus* fungi, is a major cause of liver cancer in parts of Africa and Asia.
- HIV is related to a number of malignancies especially lymphoma.
- Human Herpes Virus 8 is linked to Kaposi Sarcoma in the immunosuppressed.
- *H. Pylori* causes gastric cancer.
- Certain types of Human Papilloma Virus cause cancers of the vulva, penis, cervix, anus, tonsil and oropharynx.
- The Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C viruses cause liver cancer.

In East Asia, liver cancer is a major problem. It is estimated that 60 percent of liver cancers in this area are due to hepatitis B and about 25 percent to hepatitis C. Aflatoxin and alcohol also attributed to the burden of liver cancer in East Asia.

A growing cause of cancers worldwide and especially in developed countries is the combination of obesity, high caloric intake and lack of physical activity. Indeed, within the next twenty years this combination is projected to surpass tobacco as the leading cause of cancer in the U.S.