Award Number: DAMD17-01-1-0360

TITLE: Effects of Moderate Aerobic Exercise Combined with Caloric Restriction on Circulating Estrogens and IGF-I in Premenopausal Women

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Nancy I. Williams, Sc.D.

CONTRACTING ORGANIZATION: The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802-7000

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PREPARED FOR: U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command
Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012

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**Title and Subtitle**
Effects of Moderate Aerobic Exercise Combined with Caloric Restriction on Circulating Estrogens and IGF-I in Premenopausal Women

**Authors**
Nancy I. Williams, Sc.D.

**Performing Organization**
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802-7000

**Sponsoring Agency**
U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command
Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012

**Abstract**
The proposal entitled "Effects of moderate aerobic exercise combined with caloric restriction on circulating estrogens and IGF-I in premenopausal women" will provide important scientific contributions with respect to the primary prevention of breast cancer in women. Specifically, this study will examine potential mechanisms relating to the role of physical activity in the reduction of the risk of breast cancer by testing whether moderate aerobic exercise can reduce the levels of two hormonal biomarkers, circulating estrogens and insulin-like growth factor I (IGF-I), as expected caloric restriction combined with aerobic exercise training occurring 4 times per week has resulted in increases in aerobic capacity, weight loss ranging from 2.5-7.5 kg and loss of body fat ranging from 3% to 7% over four months. Results for T3, IGF-I, and estrone look promising, although the number of subjects who have completed the study thus far is too low to test these changes statistically. Compliance to our dietary and exercise protocols has been excellent, with subjects completed 3.8/4 workouts per week, and meeting or exceeding their caloric intake goals. In conclusion, we are making good progress toward completion of this study.

**Subject Terms**
Breast cancer, menstrual cycle, IGF-I, estradiol, exercise

**Number of Pages**
46

**Security Classification**
Unclassified

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</table>
# Table of Contents

Cover........................................................................1

SF 298........................................................................2

Table of Contents............................................................. 3

Introduction...................................................................4

Body.............................................................................5

Key Research Accomplishments.............................................8

Reportable Outcomes........................................................8

Conclusions..................................................................11

References.....................................................................11

Appendices...................................................................11
INTRODUCTION

This proposal entitled "Effects of moderate aerobic exercise combined with caloric restriction on circulating estrogens and IGF-I in premenopausal women" will provide important scientific contributions with respect to the primary prevention of breast cancer in women. Specifically, this study will examine potential mechanisms relating to the role of physical activity in the reduction of the risk of breast cancer by testing whether moderate aerobic exercise can reduce the levels of two hormonal biomarkers, circulating estrogens and insulin-like growth factor I (IGF-I). Since elevated levels of both of these hormones have been associated with an increased risk of breast cancer, and because exercise may modulate circulating levels, we wish to extend previous findings from epidemiological and cross-sectional studies by performing a tightly controlled, prospective clinical study that addresses previously unanswered questions related to the role of exercise in the modulation of estrogen and IGF-I. Although previous studies have shown that negative energy balance, and not other stressful aspects of physical exercise, can modulate reproductive function and therefore circulating estrogen levels, no studies to date have determined the magnitude of energy deficit required for these changes during long-term training, and no studies have attempted to differentiate between the exercise-induced changes in ovarian versus adipose sources of circulating estrogens. Since both estradiol (ovarian) and estrone (adipose tissue) are biologically active, and because the importance of estrone as a risk factor increases with age and adiposity, it is important to consider the degree to which exercise which creates a negative energy balance affects both of these sources of circulating estrogens. Circulating levels of IGF-I correlate with breast cancer risk, yet studies examining the responses of this hormone and its binding proteins to chronic exercise are lacking. Since IGF-I levels are very sensitive to nutritional status, previously reported stimulatory effects of exercise on IGF-I can be overridden if exercise is performed in the face of negative energy balance. In this regard, exercise that promotes weight loss can be viewed as a way to reduced levels of IGF-I, and therefore potentially reduce the risk of breast cancers. To date, no studies have addressed whether a program of moderate aerobic exercise and dietary restriction producing a negative energy balance that is carried out over a long duration will significantly alter IGF-I levels. Further the degree to which these levels might be altered in individuals of differing energy stores has not been addressed. Metabolic energy availability is an important contributing factor in the development of reproductive cancers. However, current methods for assessing energy availability, which include anthropometric measures, calculations of energy balance, evaluation of various serum and urinary biomarkers are prone to measurement error, not sensitive to alterations in energy availability, and are sometimes affected by disease states. The current project centers on the introduction of a novel approach to estimating energy status by measuring metabolic hormones in plasma, insulin, IGF-I, IGFBP-1 and leptin. Recently, dried blood spot (DBS) sample collection techniques have allowed for endocrine based population studies examining a wide variety of ecological factors that contribute to variation in human reproduction. In order to use the proposed method of energy status assessment in large population-based applications, such as those addressing the role of physical activity and or diet in the risk of breast cancer, the battery of metabolic hormones that comprise the proposed method must be amenable to collection and assays. Although the DBS technique has been partially validated for some hormonal assays, it has not yet been properly validated for insulin, IGF-I, IGFBP-1 and leptin, and it is unclear whether the technique is responsive to physiological changes of these compounds. Therefore, the current work calls for the validation of the DBS sampling technique for these assays under physiological conditions. The proposed studies will yield new and important information regarding the degree to which an exercise and diet program that results in an energy deficit will reduce the risk of breast cancer.
Study Design: The study utilizes a prospective, randomized design that tests the effects of a moderate exercise program (4X/wk; 4 months) combined with moderate dietary restriction that results in an average daily energy deficit of -20%-30% kcals (Figure 1). Previously sedentary, eumenorrheic women aged 25-40 years will be assigned to exercise or control groups. Both normal weight (BMI 21-25 kg/m²) and overweight (BMI 26-30 kg/m²) will be assigned to either exercise or control (no exercise, no dietary restriction) groups; 4 groups, n=15 each group. Subjects will be studied for a total of six menstrual cycles, i.e., 2 control followed by 4 cycles with training and dietary restriction.

Recruiting/Screening

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recruiting/Screening</th>
<th>Control 1</th>
<th>Control 2</th>
<th>Exercise 1</th>
<th>Exercise 2</th>
<th>Exercise 3</th>
<th>Exercise 4</th>
<th>Post-Exercise Testing</th>
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<td>Beck Depression</td>
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<td>3-Day Diet Record (FP &amp; LP)</td>
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<td>3-Day Diet Record (FP)</td>
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<td>3-Day Diet Record (FP)</td>
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<td>EDI</td>
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<td>Serum (&amp; E2)</td>
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<td>Serum (FP):</td>
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<td>Menstrual Symptoms</td>
<td>3-Day Diet Record</td>
<td>3-Day Diet Record</td>
<td>IGF-I, IGFBP-1, Insulin,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ovulation</td>
<td>Detection Kit</td>
<td>Body Composition</td>
<td>T3, leptin</td>
<td>Body Composition</td>
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<td>Diet Counseling (LP)</td>
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<td>IGF-I, IGFBP-1, Insulin, T3, leptin</td>
<td>IGF-I, IGFBP-1, Insulin, T3, leptin</td>
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<tr>
<td>VO₂max (FP)</td>
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<td>3-Day Diet Record</td>
<td>IGF-I, IGFBP-1, Insulin, T3, leptin</td>
<td>3-Day Diet Record</td>
<td>3-Day Diet Record</td>
<td>3-Day Diet Record</td>
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<tr>
<td>Body Composition (FP)</td>
<td>3-Day Diet Record</td>
<td>3-Day Diet Record</td>
<td></td>
<td>Body Composition</td>
<td>Body Composition</td>
<td>Body Composition</td>
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<tr>
<td>PP Physical Exam</td>
<td>Serum (FP)</td>
<td>Serum &amp; DBS (FP):</td>
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<td>Serum (FP):</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>IGF-I, IGFBP-1, Insulin, T3, leptin</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>IGF-I, IGFBP-1, Insulin, T3, leptin</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Menses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

→ = Entire Study
FP = Follicular Phase
EDI = Eating Disorder Inventory
LP = Luteal Phase
E₂ = Estradiol

Figure 1. Study Design

Progress According to the Approved Statement of Work:

(See previous Annual Summary for 2001-2002)

Proposed Month 13-16
1. Repeat steps above for year 2 recruiting and beginning testing (n=15 in each of 4 groups)
2. Perform assays on metabolic hormones in serum
3. Send serum and blood spot samples from year 1 subjects to DSL
4. Perform urinary assays on LH, E3G, PdG

Actual Month 13, September, 2003- We continued aliquotting and processing urine samples and data entry.

Actual Month 14, October, 2002 -completed data entry and are beginning preliminary data analysis; began assaying urine for E1G and PDG; beginning to assay metabolic hormones, i.e., insulin, leptin, T3, and IGF-I; preparing data reports for subjects that completed the study, and getting ready to recruit for Year 2.

Actual Month 15, November, 2002-Finished sending out data reports for all nine subjects that completed; held off on recruiting until Spring due to upcoming holiday season; continued assaying urine, but encountered difficulties with performance of research technician assigned assay duties

Proposed Months 16-24
1. Continue year 2 recruitment efforts only if necessary
2. Continue year 2 subject screening/initial testing
3. Complete year 2 subject exercise training/experimental testing
4. Perform urinary assays on LH, E1G, PdG

Actual Month 16, December, 2002- Held off running urinary assays, re-assigned duties of research technician, planned for new recruitment strategy
Actual Month 17, January, 2003- Placed ad for volunteers in local newspaper, and began “rolling recruitment strategy”, by continuing to place ads and posting weekly fliers on campus. This was due to low enrollment. We also increased the age of enrollment to 40 years, again to increase study numbers. This increase will not affect the scientific underpinnings of the study.
Actual Month 18, February, 2003- Enrollment continuing, several subjects began study
Actual Month 19, March, 2003- Enrollment continuing, several subjects began study
Actual Month 20, April, 2003 Enrollment continuing, several subjects began study; having enlisted new technical help, began urinary assays for subjects that had completed study
Actual Month 21, May, 2003 Enrollment continuing, several subjects began study; continued assaying urine for reproductive hormones, began assaying metabolic hormones and serum estradiol and estrone
Actual Month 22, June, 2003- Enrollment continuing, several subjects began study; completed urinary assays of E1G and PDG; began assays for T3
Actual Month 23, July, 2003- Enrollment continuing, several subjects began study; continued assays for T3
Actual Month 24, August, 2003; Enrollment continuing, several subjects began study; continued assays for T3; began assays for IGF-1
Actual Month 25, September, 2003- Enrollment increased dramatically, fourfold increase in enrollment; assays completed, T3, and continued for IGF-1; arrangements made with Salimetrics Laboratory, University Park, PA to develop blood spot assays for Leptin, T3, and IGF-1 (See Appendix); begun assays on urinary LH to document LH surges.

Preliminary Results From Years 1 and 2:

Subject Recruitment: We have accumulated over 249 contacts since September of last year. We have recently stepped up recruitment efforts and plan to enroll 55-60 new subjects by January, 2004. This will allow us to reach our target initial enrollment of 60, but we may need to extend the time frame of the study if sign-ups slow down towards the holidays. Forty-six women started the study and 19 have dropped out for the following reasons: 3 for menstrual abnormality, 5 medical, 10 self (time, intervention, etc.), and 1 noncompliant. The forty-six women described their ethnicity as the following: 32 Caucasian, 8 Asian, 3 African-American and 2 other. Ten women have completed the study, fourteen women are more than half-way through the study at this point in time.

Table 1. Initial characteristics of subjects completed and currently enrolled

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Age (yrs)</th>
<th>Weight (kg)</th>
<th>Height (cm)</th>
<th>BMI (kg/m²)</th>
<th>% Fat</th>
<th>VO₂ max (ml/kg/min)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Light Conditioning/Low BMI</td>
<td>32 ± 4</td>
<td>63 ± 3</td>
<td>167 ± 6</td>
<td>23 ± 2</td>
<td>29 ± 1</td>
<td>31 ± 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light Conditioning/High BMI</td>
<td>33 ± 5</td>
<td>68 ± 2</td>
<td>156 ± 6</td>
<td>28 ± 2</td>
<td>35 ± 5</td>
<td>25 ± 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercising/ Low BMI</td>
<td>31 ± 4</td>
<td>62 ± 6</td>
<td>165 ± 6</td>
<td>23 ± 2</td>
<td>27 ± 5</td>
<td>32 ± 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercising/ High BMI</td>
<td>30 ± 6</td>
<td>77 ± 8</td>
<td>166 ± 6</td>
<td>28 ± 2</td>
<td>37 ± 3</td>
<td>29 ± 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are mean +/- SD

**Results From Subjects Completing the Study:** Subjects met our initial targets for weight, age, BMI and fitness levels. Average menstrual cycle length was 29.7 ± 5 days, and did not change significantly in either Low or High BMI group. Aerobic exercise training was 4 times per week for four consecutive menstrual cycles at 76 ± 3 % of maximum heart rate for 40-60 minutes, resulting in an average of 24% increase in aerobic capacity as defined by VO_2_ max (32.6 ± 4.7 to 42.0 ± 10 ml/kg/min; P < 0.05 pre vs post). Dietary intake was successfully reduced using the food exchange system (Low BMI= 1778 ± 234 to 1230 ± 139 kcals; High BMI =2345 ± 187 to 1350 ± 284 kcals; P< 0.05 pre vs post in both groups). The combination of moderate exercise and diet produced significant weight loss in both groups (Low BMI -3.3 %; High BMI -7.6% P< 0.05, Figure 3). Significant changes in percent body fat occurred in both groups (Low BMI 32 ±4% to 25 ± 8 % ; High BMI 39 ± 5 to 32 ± 6 % : P < 0.05).

**Body Weight Changes of Subjects Currently Exercising:** Figures 1-4 illustrate the changes we are seeing in body weight in our experimental groups that are currently exercising. These changes in body weight represent an estimated 30% increase in energy expenditure for the “exercising groups”, combined with a 25% reduction in caloric intake. The exercise completed by the “light conditioning” group represents an estimated 10% increase in energy expenditure, and no changes in caloric intake. All subjects meet every other week with the nutritionist to go over dietary records and review educational modules for that week.

**Urinary Assays:** We have completed urinary E1G and PDG for 9 subjects thus far and are now confirming ovulation day in these cycles by assaying urinary LH. We expect to complete these assays within the next two months, and then continue running them in batches as subjects complete the study. Preliminary results suggest no changes in cycle length, follicular phase length, luteal phase length with exercise, but a trend toward a reduction in the magnitude of the pre-ovulatory estradiol peak. Figure 5 shows representative data for subject D-001, and illustrates this reduction in the estradiol peak.

**Metabolic Hormone Assays:** We have completed assays for subjects who have completed the study for T3, and are in the middle of IGF-1 and leptin. We plan to run insulin and IGFBP-1 in the next three months, and continue with all these assays as individuals finish the study. We will run them in batches of 3-4 subjects at a time. Preliminary results indicate that IGF-1 is reduced with weight loss. Figures 6-8 illustrate this decrease in during the Control 2 month, and then during Exercise 4, in two out of three subjects who lost 3.2 to 7.5 kg.

**Serum estradiol and estrone:** We have completed these assays for 9 subjects, and have them up and running to complete as subjects finish the study. We will run them in batches of 3-4 subjects at a time. Figures 9-12 changes in serum estrone, estradiol, and urinary estrone-1-glucuronide.

**Blood Spot Assays:** We had technical/administrative problems with our contracted source for the development of the blood spot assays, Diagnostic Systems Laboratory (see information in Appendix). They discontinued the blood spot assays. ZRT Laboratory was recommended. The PI contacted ZRT Laboratory and was unsatisfied with their customer support and knowledge base regarding quality control of the assays. The PI then re-contacted Doug Granger of Salimetrics at Penn State, and we now have a contract with them to develop the assays for leptin, T3, and IGF-1. We chose these hormones because they will be the best indicators of energy.
availability, and therefore correlate the best with changes in body weight and estradiol and estrone. We should get results from them in six months time from this point forward.

**Personnel/Technical Issues:** Our progress has been delayed somewhat due to personnel issues relating to poor performance on the part of a research technician who is no longer with us. Additionally, our project coordinator is out on maternity leave but will return in four weeks.

**Overall Results from Years 1 and 2:** All aspects of the study are up and running. Preliminary analyses indicate support for the hypotheses that estrone and IGF-1 will decrease with our exercise and diet intervention. Assay development using the blood spot technique is progressing, and thus we will be able to test the validity of this method for two newly developed assays, i.e., T3 and IGF-1, both of which, in our hands, will be very useful for doing field work and or obtaining samples from subjects outside of our immediate geographical area. Future grant proposals, and follow-up studies will make use of these techniques.

**KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

This is an ongoing study, so preliminary publication of the data is not feasible.

**REPORTABLE OUTCOMES**

The following outcomes have occurred since Dr. Williams received BCRP funding.

**Published Manuscripts:**


**Manuscripts in Review**


Abstracts


Senior MK, Williams NI, McConnell HJ, Clark KC. Screening for subclinical eating disorders in female athletes: validation of an indirect interview technique. (*Presented at the 24th Annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine, Bushkill, PA, November 2-3, 2001)*.

McConnell HJ, Williams NI, O'Connor KA, Clark KL, Putukian M. Menstrual irregularities and disordered eating in female athletes: survey vs follow-up clinical and physiological studies. (*Presented at the 24th Annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine, Bushkill, PA, November 2-3, 2001)*.


Dougherty, K., Galucci AN, McConnell HJ, Williams NI. Cortisol and testosterone levels prior to competitive exercise. (Submitted for presentation at the 2003 American College of Sports Medicine Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, June, 2003).


**Grants Applied For:**

National Institutes of Health (NIH)
1 RO1 (Co -Principal Investigator with Mary Jane De Souza, Univ. Toronto)

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<th>End Date</th>
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<td>4/1/05-3/31/06</td>
<td>$1,144,613</td>
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NASA
Co-Investigator (PI is James Pawelczyk, PSU)
“Improving Orthostatic Tolerance in Women: Control of Splanchnic and Cutaneous Vascular Capacitance”

Cancer Research and Prevention Foundation
Co-Investigator 1/04-12/05 0%
$76,865

“Exercise and Estrogen Metabolism: Implications for Breast Cancer Prevention”

CONCLUSIONS

We are making good progress toward the completion of this study. Preliminary examination of the data look interesting and supportive of the hypotheses put forth in the study, but statistical power is too low at this point to draw firm conclusions.

REFERENCES

NONE

APPENDICES

Figures 1-12

Letters to and from Salimetrics, Inc.

N. Williams Curriculum Vitae
Figure 1
Light Conditioning/Low BMI
Weight (kg) vs Dates
Figure 11

D-011

- Estrone
- Estradiol
- E1G

Cycle day

Control 2

Exercise 4

E1G (ng/ml)
Blood Spot Collection Protocol

As a sample collection technique, blood spot collection can offer certain advantages over other methods such as venipuncture, urine or saliva collection. Blood spots are relatively easy to procure, minimally invasive, and can be stored longer at room temperature than samples from other methods. The following describes a collection protocol designed to optimize the sample volume and standardize the sampling procedure.

1. The subject should wash her hands in warm water.
2. Bathe the hand in warm water for two minutes, or longer if necessary, to accomplish a flush of the skin.
3. Dry, and wipe the finger with an alcohol wipe.
4. Prick the finger with a lancet.
5. When blood flow begins, wipe away the first bit with a tissue.
6. The next drops are absorbed onto the paper (Schleicher and Schuell, #903) by positioning the finger just above, but not touching, the paper so that the blood wicks onto, rather than drops onto, the paper until the spot is large enough.
7. The paper should be handled by the edges only to avoid introducing any contaminating substances and placed on a clean surface or rack to air-dry at room temperature – usually about 4 hours, depending upon the humidity levels.
8. After drying, place the card in a zip-lock bag, preferably with a dessicant, and store at –20 C until analysis.

Notes:
- Do not smear the blood onto the paper
- Do not apply one drop onto another
- Do not expose the spots to direct sunlight or other source of heat
Dear Dr. Williams,

At Dr. Granger’s request, I am writing to outline the basic objectives for our development of blood spot assays for Total T3 and IGF-1 for your project. You should have received quotes for these projects from Martha Orland last weekend. As you are aware, we have already developed similar assays for testosterone, leptin, estradiol, and progesterone. Based on our previous experience I don't expect protocol development for these markers will be problematic. Nevertheless, as with any research project a specific timeline is difficult to predict. We hope the development work will take no longer than 3 months time.

As in the past, our approach will be to begin by modifying commercially available enzyme immunoassay protocols. The assay development will include determination of assay range, lower limit of sensitivity, linearity and spike recovery, and confirmation that intra- and inter-assay coefficients of variation are within acceptable limits outlined by Chard (1990). We will also provide recommendations regarding sample collection, preparation, and the amount of sample needed to perform each assay.

In a previous note to Dr. Granger, you mentioned having matched serum/plasma samples. Once the assay is internally validated we highly recommend comparing values from the blood spot assay protocols with results you obtain from the serum tests. We can arrange those serum tests for you if you don't already have a source for those assays.

Once completed, we can provide testing services for your project at a cost of $25.00 per sample for T3 and $30.00 per sample for IGF-1.

If you have any questions or are just interested in a progress report, please don't hesitate to call (800-790-2258 ext. 207) or email me (Ebs@salametrics.com).

Best Regards,

Eve Schwartz
Director of Research and Development, Salimetrics LLC
August 20, 2003

Tech Support
Salimetrics, LLC
PO Box 395
State College, PA.
16804-0395

Re: Blood spot assays

Dear Technical Support Services:

We are currently running a study to test whether a program of moderate aerobic exercise that is combined with a moderate level of dietary restriction will result in significant decreases in two biomarkers of breast cancer. We also would like to validate a method of assessing energy status. We have been collecting dried blood spots from our volunteers. We wanted to know what blood spot assays you run. We would like to run some estrogen or progesterone assays. We would also like a cost estimate for supplies and running these assays on our blood spots. Currently, we have about 10 blood spots from our volunteers. We would appreciate any information that you could give us regarding your assays. We can be contacted through email at niwl@psu.edu or by calling our lab at 863-4488. Thank you in advance for your time and information.

Sincerely,

Nancy I. Williams
Primary Investigator
NANCY I. WILLIAMS
Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

1984 B.S. Biology, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA
1986 M.S. Exercise Physiology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
1992 Sc.D. Applied Anatomy & Physiology, Boston University, Boston, MA
1992-1996 Postdoctoral fellowship, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Center for the Study of Reproductive Physiology (Judy L. Cameron PhD, mentor)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1997-present Associate Professor Department of Kinesiology and Noll Physiological Research Center Joint Appointments:
  Intercollege Program in Physiology, Department of Nutrition, Life Science Consortium (Nutrition Science Option);
  Penn State University
  University Park, PA

1996-1997 Visiting Assistant Professor Human Anatomy & Physiology
  Department of Biological Sciences
  Ohio University
  Athens, Ohio

1992-1996 Postdoctoral Fellow Center for the Study of Reproductive Physiology
  School of Medicine
  University of Pittsburgh
1987-1992  **Graduate Fellow:**  Department of Health Sciences  
Sargent College  
Boston University  
Boston, Massachusetts  

**Research Projects:**  NIH grant: "Effects of exercise on pituitary hormone secretion"  
NIH grant: "Exercise as an adjunct therapy for persons with mental illness"  

**Health/Fitness Center Coordinator:**  Faculty/Staff Fitness Program  
Department of Health Sciences  
Sargent College  
Boston University  
Boston, Massachusetts  

1986-1987  **Project Director:**  Exercise Physiology Laboratory  
Department of Exercise Science  
The Ohio State University  
Columbus, Ohio  

**NIH Grant:** "Effects of chronic exercise training on aging"  

1984-1986  **Research Assistant:**  Exercise Physiology Laboratory  
Department of Exercise Science  
The Ohio State University,  
Columbus, Ohio  

**NIH Grant:** "Effects of chronic exercise training on aging"  

**HONORS AND AWARDS**  
Canada Research Chair Nomination, York University, 2003  
Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program, Career Development Award, 2001  
Fellowship Status: American College of Sports Medicine, 1998  
NIH Individual National Research Service Award (NRSA), 1994-1996
Endocrine Society; Women in Endocrinology Travel Award, 1995
Association of Women in Science Education Foundation Award, 1990
American Association of University Women Predoctoral Fellowship, 1990
American College of Sports Medicine, New England Chapter Scholarship Award; 1989
Phi Sigma Biological Honor Society; 1984
Scholar/Athlete of the Year, Southern New Jersey Courier Post, 1980

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

Collaborative Scientist, Oregon National Primate Research Center 2003-present
American College of Sports Medicine 1984-present
Endocrine Society 1996-present
New England Chapter ACSM 1987-1992
Association for Women in Science 1987-1992
Mid-Atlantic Chapter ACSM 1997-present

TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY:

HS 276  *Physiology of Exercise Laboratory*
HS 302  *Exercise Physiology (Lecture)*
HS 535  *Clinical Fitness Evaluation*
HS 573  *Physiology of Activity (Lecture)*
HS 573  *Physiology of Activity (Laboratory)*

COURSES TAUGHT AT OHIO UNIVERSITY:

BIOS 450/550 *Principles of Endocrinology (section on neuroendocrinology)*
BIOS 446/546  *Exercise Physiology Laboratory*
BIOS 345  *Human Physiology*
BIOS 346  *Human Physiology Laboratory*

COURSES TAUGHT AT PENN STATE UNIVERSITY:

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*Supervised the writing of new laboratory experiment and handout for Kines 456

** Supervise studentS who work in my laboratory on research project examining the interactions between reproductive function disturbances, eating habits, and body image
STUDENT TRAINING

Preceptor
NIH GM08619-07 Research Training in Physiological Adaptations to Stress. National Institute of General Medical Sciences, 1996-2005. Director is PA. Farrell, PhD, Noll Physiological Research Center, Penn State University

Mentor
(Pending) Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health; Principal Investigator is Jay Moskowitz, MD, Penn State College of Medicine, Hershey, PA

Committee Chair- Undergraduate Honors Thesis
2000 Kathleen Flecker – Shreyer’s Honor’s College: "Weight and diet concerns among female athletes with menstrual cycle irregularities" (Winner 3rd place Undergraduate Research Exhibition)
2002 Chrissy Rezk – Shreyer’s Honor’s College: “Cognitive restraint and urinary cortisol in athletes with menstrual cycle disturbances”
2002 Meredith Snook- Shreyer’s Honor’s College: To be determined

Committee Chair- Masters Students
1999 Paula Wilkins "Body Image, Social Physique Anxiety, and Menstrual Dysfunction in the Female Athlete" (Physiology)
2000 Heather McConnell "Determining the validity of ovulation detection methods in an athletic population" (Physiology)
2000 Angelique Matuch "Quantifying physiological responses prior to competitive exercise" (Kinesiology)
2002 Megan Senior "Screening for Subclinical Eating Disorders in Female Athletes: The Use of an Indirect Interview Technique " (Nutrition)
2002 Michael Perry (In progress) (Kinesiology)
2002 Kelly Dougherty (In progress) (Kinesiology)
2002 Brian Frye (In progress) (Kinesiology)

Committee Chair - Doctoral Students
1999 Jill Bush "Proenkephalin peptide F concentrations in different blood bio-compartments: The effect of an acute resistance exercise protocol" (Kinesiology)
2000 Heather McConnell, MS (In progress) (Physiology)
2001 Thomas Whipple, MS, PT, (In progress) (Kinesiology)

Committee Member- Masters Students
1997 Scott Mazetti "The influence of direct supervision of heavy resistance training on muscular performance and hormonal responses" (Kinesiology)
1998 Sang Kyung Kim "The effects of menstrual function on plasma peptide F immunoreactivity in response to high intensity cycle exercise" (Kinesiology)
1998 Jennifer DeSanto "Body Composition and energy balance: Comparison between eumenorrheic and amenorrheic athletes" (Kinesiology)
1998 Wallace Baker "Characterization of leukocyte infiltration after muscle damage" (Kinesiology)
1998  Steve Tokeshi "Maximal isokinetic force generation in upper body musculature during concentric and eccentric actions: a gender comparison" (Kinesiology)

1999  Jannell MacAulay "Submaximal cycle ergometry as a predictor of maximal aerobic capacity in women on oral contraceptives" (Kinesiology)

2000  Britney Salkeld "The effect of oral contraceptive use on measures of fatigue and energy metabolism" (Kinesiology)

2003  James Butler Media Studies (ongoing)

2003  Micheal Curren (Physiology)

**Committee Member- Doctoral Students**

1998  Jeff Volek  "Fasting and postprandial serum lipoprotein responses to a hypocaloric low carbohydrate diet rich in monounsaturated fat and supplemented with n-3 fatty acids" (Kinesiology)

2002  Greg Daniels "Walking and running: Information and energetics" (Kinesiology)

2002  Nancy Johnston "Bio-markers of pre-term labor" (Nursing, Physiology minor)

**Undergraduate Research Advising:**

*Summer 1998  Minority High School Student Research Apprentice Program at Penn State University
  *Mentored student who helped with research projects in laboratory

*Fall 98 to present  WISE program; Women in Science in Engineering
  *Have averaged two female students per year who have worked in laboratory

*Summer 2001  Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC)
  *Mentored student who helped with research projects in laboratory

*Summer 2002  McNair Scholars Programs
  *Mentored first generation college student who performed research project

**RESEARCH**

**INTRAMURALLY FUNDED GRANTS**


Sargent College of Allied Health Professions

Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts
Principal Investigator:
"Effects of exercise and caloric restriction upon luteinizing hormone secretion"

Penn State University
College of Health and Human Development
Interdisciplinary Seed Grant Program, 1997-1998

Principal Investigator:
“Prevalence of Female Athlete Triad Disorders: Estimation by Questionnaires and Subsequent Follow-up with Clinical and Laboratory Assessments of Physiological Status”

Penn State University
College of Health and Human Development
Interdisciplinary Seed Grant Program, 1998-1999

Principal Investigator:
“Disturbances in Reproductive Function caused by Metabolic Stress: Possible Increased Susceptibility in Individuals with Elevated Levels of Perceived Psychological Stress “

Co- Investigator: (PI Jay Hertel)
"Changes in risk factors of anterior cruciate ligament ruptures in female collegiate athletes across the menstrual cycle"

Pathology Initiation Grant
Hershey Medical Center, Dept. Pathology
January 2002-January 2003 5%

Co-Investigator (PI is Williams' Doctoral student, Thomas Whipple, MS, PT)
"The Role of Resistance Exercise and Energy Availability on Bone Metabolism"

Children's Youth and Family Consortium
Penn State University, CHHD
January 2002- January 2003 5%

Co-Principal Investigator (with Moira Petit, PhD (PSU-Hershey))
"Designing Intervention Programs to Optimize Bone Development: Application of Bone Markers to Monitor the Short-term Response to Exercise"
EXTRAMURALLY FUNDED GRANTS

NIH National Research Service Award (NRSA), 1994-1996
Center for the Study of Reproductive Physiology
School of Medicine
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**Principal Investigator:**
"Metabolic cues governing reproductive hormone secretion"

Pharmavite Corporation, Seattle, Washington
Research Grant-in-Aid, 1998-1999

**Principal Investigator:**
"Consumer Taste and Education of a Nutritional Sports Supplement"

**US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command** 1998-2001 5%
US Army Breast Cancer Program
**Co-Investigator:**
"Use of Exercise to Increase CD4 Lymphocytes following Chemotherapy Treatment for Breast Cancer"

**NIH**
1 RO1 HD39245-01 (Williams) 5/1/01 - 4/30/04 30%
PHS/NICHD

**Principal Investigator:**
"Bioenergetics of Exercise-induced Menstrual Disturbances"

**US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command** 9/17/01- 9/16/04 50%
US Army Breast Cancer Program (IDEA AWARD)

**Principal-Investigator:**
"Effects of Moderate Aerobic Exercise Combined with Caloric Restriction on Circulating Estrogens and IGF-1 in Premenopausal Women (IDEA Award)"

**US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command** 9/17/01- 9/16/05
US Army Breast Cancer Program (CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD)
Principal-Investigator:
"Effects of Moderate Aerobic Exercise Combined with Caloric Restriction on Circulating Estrogens and IGF-1 in Premenopausal Women (Salary Only)

Retirement Research Foundation 2000-2001 2%

Co-Investigator: (PI is J.L. Cameron, PhD) "Physical Exercise and Brain Aging"

National Institutes of Health (NIH)
HD-02-012 Cooperative Reproductive Science Research Centers at Minority Institutions
Co-Investigator: 5%
"The efficacy and safety of metformin and lifestyle factors in the amelioration of hyperandrogenemia and its associated symptomology"

Pending Support

National Institutes of Health (NIH)
1 RO1 (Co –Principal Investigator with Mary Jane De Souza, Univ. Toronto) 7/01/02 - 6/30/07 15%

PHS/NICHD
"Clinical Sequelae Exercise-Induced Hypoestrogenism"

National Institutes of Health (NIH)
Co-Investigator (PI is Teryl Hartman, PSU) 4/01/04-3/31/08 20%
"Female Cancer Survivors Weight and Activity Intervention"

NASA
Co-Investigator (PI is James Pawelczyk, PSU) 4/1/05-3/31/06 5%
"Improving Orthostatic Tolerance in Women: Control of Splanchnic and Cutaneous Vascular Capacitance"

Cancer Research and Prevention Foundation
Co-Investigator 1/04-12/05 0%
"Exercise and Estrogen Metabolism: Implications for Breast Cancer Prevention"

RESEARCH REPORTS

Williams NI, Christante DH, Swavely K, Laufer E, McBrearty C, and Clark KC. Penn State University JogMate Study: Product Effectiveness and Consumer Appeal
Submitted to Pharmavite Corp, Seattle, WA, July 15, 1999
PUBLISHED MANUSCRIPTS


**MANUSCRIPTS IN REVIEW**

**Williams, NI,** Flecker KL, McConnell. Weight and Diet Concerns in Female Athletes: Association with Menstrual Cycle Length (submitted to *Int J Sports Nut Exerc Metab*, September, 2002)


**Williams, N.I.** , Berga S.L., and Cameron, J.L. Synergism of multiple sub-threshold stressors: effects of diet, exercise, and psychosocial stress on menstrual cyclicity. (*submitted to Nature Medicine, October, 2003*)

**MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS**

**Williams NI,** Galucci AN, Dougherty K. Physiological indicators of psychological stress prior to competitive exercise.

**Williams NI,** McConnell HJ, Galucci AN, Clark KL. Menstrual irregularities and disordered eating in female athletes: survey vs follow-up physiological studies.

Hertel J, Williams NI, Olmsted LC, McConnell HJ, Gribble PA, Putukian, M. Neuromuscular performance and knee laxity do not change across the menstrual cycle of female athletes.

**ABSTRACTS**

N.I. Williams, K.A. Greaves, G.R. Brodowicz, T.E. Kirby, and D.R. Lamb, FASCM. Cardiovascular effects of endurance training during submaximal exercise in elders. Exercise Physiology Laboratory, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, 43210. (research abstract presented at the *Midwest American College of Sports Medicine Winter Meeting*, Boyne Mountain, Michigan, February, 1986)

N.I. Williams, K.A. Greaves, and D.R. Lamb, FACSM. “Cardiovascular function in lean and obese children during acute submaximal exercise”. Exercise Physiology Laboratory, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, 43210. (research abstract presented at the *Midwest American College of Sports Medicine Winter Meeting*, Boyne Mountain, Michigan, February, 1987)


Flecker KA, Williams NI. Body Image, disordered eating and menstrual status in collegiate athletes. (presented at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR), University of Montana, Missoula, Montana, April 27-29, 2000)


Mastro AM, Williams NI, Kraemer WJ, Orsega-Smith EM, Perry MD, Dixon RH, Bleznak AD, Underwood J. Exercise, quality of life, and the recovery of CD4 (+) lymphocytes following


Senior MK, Williams NI, McConnell HJ, Clark KC. Screening for subclinical eating disorders in female athletes: validation of an indirect interview technique. *(Presented at the 24th Annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine, Bushkill, PA, November 2-3, 2001).*

McConnell HJ, Williams NI, O'Connor KA, Clark KL, Putukian M. Menstrual irregularities and disordered eating in female athletes: survey vs follow-up clinical and physiological studies. *(Presented at the 24th Annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine, Bushkill, PA, November 2-3, 2001).*


Dougherty, K., Galucci AN, McConnell HJ, Williams NI. Cortisol and testosterone levels prior to competitive exercise. *(Submitted for presentation at the 2003 American College of Sports Medicine Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, June, 2003).*


INVITED PRESENTATIONS

"Cardiovascular/Medical Applications for Aerobic Exercise", Aerobics and Fitness Association of America (AFAA), National Primary Certification Workshop, Boston, Massachusetts, October 3, 1987.

"Principles and Benefits of Exercise Training for Seniors", Annual Health Program, Leo Yasenoff Jewish Community Center, Columbus, Ohio, June 6, 1987.


"Exercise and Female Hormones: What are the Health Risks and Benefits?" American College of Sports Medicine Health Fitness Summit, April 14-18, 1999, New Orleans, LA.

"Women's Health and Fitness Issues" Panel Discussion at American College of Sports Medicine Health Fitness Summit, April 14-18, 1999, New Orleans, LA.


"Career Development for Women" Women and Sciences and Engineering (WISE) program for potential college students from surrounding area and other states, June 19, 2000, Penn State University.

"Physiological Connections Between Factors of the Female Athlete Triad" Penn State Athletic Training Conference, April 12, 2002, Penn State University, University Park, PA

"Exercise and Women's Health: Lessons from the Female Athlete Triad", Department of Health and Exercise Science, April 25, 2002, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC

"Subclinical Eating Disorders and Menstrual Cycle Irregularities in Female Athletes" Eating Disorders on Campus, The Institutional Response, June 7, 2002, Eighth Annual Conference, Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel, Penn State University, University Park, PA

SYMPOSIUM PRESENTATIONS


WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

The X and Y: Current Topics in Gender – Specific Medicine, April 6-7, 2001
Harvard Medical School, Department of Continuing Education, Boston, Massachusetts

SERVICE

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

COMMITTEES

American College of Sports Medicine Student Affairs Committee,
Student Representative for New England Chapter, 1988-1990

American College of Sports Medicine Executive Committee,
Member at Large, New England Chapter, 1990-1991

American College of Sports Medicine, Strategic Health Initiative Committee: Women, Sports and
Physical Activity, June 2000-2002

American College of Sports Medicine, Credentials Committee, Spring 2003-

American College of Sports Medicine, Position Stand Review Committee, “Female Athlete Triad,” Spring 2002

REVIEWER

Journals

Journal of Applied Physiology, ACSM Health Fitness Journal
Medicine, Science, Sports and Exercise, Journal Clinical Endocrinology
and Metabolism

Grants

Dissertation Awards, Susan B. Komen Foundation for Breast Cancer

Editorial Board

American College of Sports Medicine Health and Fitness Journal (2002-
present)

Fellow

American College of Sports Medicine, June, 1998

Participant

"Biopsychology of Infertility Workshop"
Sponsored by National Institutes of Health (National Institute of Child
Health and Human Development); September 21-22, 1995; NIH Campus,
Bethesda, Maryland

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Advisory Board: The Tremin Trust Research Program on Women's Health, Penn State University,
University Park, PA, 2001-present

University Committees

Faculty Senate (Spring 2002-present)-Senate Committee on Intra-University Relations

College Committees (College of Health and Human Development)

College of Health and Human Development Seed Grant Review Committee (Fall 00)
Faculty Council (Fall 00- Spring 2003)

Intercollege Program Committee (Physiology)
Candidacy Exam Committee (Intercollege Program in Physiology) (Spring 01-present)

Department Committees (Department of Kinesiology)

Curriculum Committee
Fall, 1998 to Spring 2002
Candidacy Committee
Fall, 1998 to 2002
Search Committee  
(Noll Laboratory Exercise Physiology positions)  
Fall, 1998

Search Committee  
(General Education Fitness Position)  
Spring 99

Search Committee  
(Department of Kinesiology Chair)  
Fall 01-Spring 02

Curriculum Revisions (ad hoc)  
Spring 01-Spring 02

Advisory Committee for Fitness Assessment Program  
Spring 02-present

Search Committee  
(Director, Noll Laboratory)  
Fall 02-present

Advisory Committee  
Fall 02-present

Search Committee  
(Pedagogy Positions)  
Spring 2003-present

University Presentations

Fall 1997  Kinesiology Proseminar  “Professional Development”

Fall 1998  Kinesiology Proseminar  “Professional Development”

Fall 1997  Nutrition Ingestive Behavior Journal Club  “Reproductive disturbances and low energy availability: aberrant eating habits”

Fall 1997  Kinesiology Colloquium  “Low energy availability and the female athlete: Clinical and Hormonal Effects”

Fall 1997  Population Research Institute  “Modulation of Reproductive Function by Metabolic Cues”

Spring 1998  Nutrition Dept. Colloquium  “Modulation of Reproductive Function by Metabolic Cues”

Spring 1998  Biobehavioral Health Dept. Colloquium  “Reproductive disturbances caused by low energy availability: Interaction with psychological stressors”

OTHER SERVICE

News article, Kinesiology Today, Spring 1999 issue, “Study links Body Image to Athletes’ Fertility”

Interview/article, The Penn Stater, September/October 1999 issue “Research and Discovery Section” by Nick McCarthy

Interview/article, The Penn Stater, 2000 issue of undergraduate research, “Research and Discovery”

Interview/article, Intercom, July, 1999. featured in “Focus on Research” article, by Barbara Hale.
2000 Undergraduate Exhibition
Served as Judge for the 2000 Undergraduate Exhibition in April, 2000.