

Cancer Prevention & Control Program

COLLOQUIUM SERIES

"The Lawrence Latino Diabetes Prevention Project - What We Learn from Differing Intervention Effects in Different Populations"



Dr. Ira S. Ockene

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Faculty Profile

March 20

10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Discovery 1 | Rm. 140 915 Greene Street

Dr. Ockene is a clinically active cardiologist with focus on prevention, both primary and secondary. Dr. Ockene's research interests have been specifically directed at increasing the knowledge of methodologies to improve preventive interventions directed at the patient, the provider, and the system. While his interests have been primarily in the role of nutrition, he has done considerable work in developing methodologies for patient centered counseling for nutrition change, to be delivered by both physicians, nurses, and community health workers. This has led to multiple NIH supported projects particularly oriented towards behavior change for reduction of risk via diet and physical activity modification. Recognizing that real improvement in population health must take place at the community level, for the last decade, Dr. Ockene has become increasingly involved in community-based research. He was the Principal Investigator of the NIDDK-funded Lawrence Latino Diabetes Prevention Project, which with a low-cost diet and physical activity intervention demonstrated favorable outcomes in weight, HgbA1C, and insulin resistance in a lower socioeconomic-status Latino community in Lawrence, Massachusetts. Dr. Ockene also serves as the director of the Community Engagement and Research section of the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Research, which is particularly oriented towards the problems of obesity and other behavioral risk factors, diabetes, and health disparities.

