

Howard University Consumer Genetics Education Network: Educating the African American Family

The Howard University Consumer Genetics Education Network (HU-CGEN)

The Howard University Consumer Genetics Education Network (HU-CGEN) is a grant project sponsored by the Health Resources and Services Administration and the March of Dimes specifically designed to increase awareness of genetics-related information for African American families residing in the Washington DC Metropolitan Area. This is a community-focused and community-driven project.

What products have been developed from this project?

- Two interactive booklets:
 - Planning for a Healthy Future: The Importance of Family Health History*
 - "Race", Genetics, and Health*
- A public service announcement on family health history
- www.myfamilies.org with links to resources on genetics, family health history, and health
- A toll-free number, 1-866-455-0501 for individuals to request information and materials on genetics, family health history, and health



What information is included in the educational materials?

Planning for a Healthy Future: The Importance of Family Health History encourages family members to collect their family health history and share the information with relatives and health care providers.

"Race," Genetics, and Health, is used as a "spring-board" for families to talk about how factors such as the "race", genetics, and the environment can have an affect on a family's health.

Who can benefit from this information?

Anyone can benefit from this information. The educational materials contain information on family health history and genetics for persons of any ethnicity.

Why is this information important?

This information is important because it could save your life or the life of someone you love.

How can I receive this information?

This information is presented through community education workshops to churches and other community groups within the Metropolitan Washington DC area. Please visit www.myfamilies.org or call 1-866-455-0501 for more information.



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