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NSF-NIEHS Oceans & Human Health Center Role: Investigator-Recreational Microbes

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Education

- **Ph.D.** (1989) Microbiology, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI.
- **M.S.P.H.** (1986) Public Health, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI.
- **M.A.** (1984) Geography (Environmental Studies), University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI
- **B.A.** (1982) Geography *Cum Laude*, Millersville University, Millersville, Pennsylvania.

Research Interests

Throughout my career, my overall research interest has been focused on infectious disease. I have been involved with analyzing water quality for both

indicator organisms and pathogens for over two decades. Other research has encompassed investigating shellfish, both in aquaculture and in their natural environment, and marine mammals, for the presence of both indigenous and non-indigenous microorganisms. Determination of pathogen presence/quantity in shellfish and marine mammals was complimented with evaluations of antibiotic resistance patterns in microbial pathogens recovered from these sources and development of ELISA test methods to determine marine mammal immune response to selected pathogens.

For the past ten years, my work has focused heavily on international infectious disease concerns, with particular emphasis on tropical diseases transmitted environmentally through poor sanitation and/or insect vectors in the Americas. Field research has been a large component of this work encompassing studies on the epidemiology of selected diseases in countries in the Caribbean, Central and South America. An important component of the international work has been to seek to improve diagnostic infrastructures in underserved areas of the Americas through integration of rapid testing/diagnostic methodologies that require little to no laboratory infrastructure or expertise.

Representative Publications

Desmarais, T.R., H.M. Solo-Gabriele, and **C.J. Palmer**. The influence of soil on the regrowth of fecal indicator organisms in a tidally influenced sub-tropical environment. Applied and Environmental Microbiology. 68:1165-1172. 2002

Lindo, JL, L. Validum, AL Ager, A. Campa, RR Cuadrado, R. Cummings and **C.J. Palmer**. Intestinal parasites among young children in the interior of Guyana. West Indian Medical Journal 51:25-27. 2002

Palmer, C.J., L. Xiao, A.Terashima, H.Guerra, E.Gotuzzo, G.Saldías, J.A.Bonilla, L.Zhou, A.Lindquist, and S. J. Upton. “*Cryptosporidium muris*, a rodent pathogen recovered from a human in Peru.” Emerging Infectious Diseases. 9:1174-1176. 2003

Palmer, C.J., J. A. Bonilla, D. A. Bruckner, E. D. Barnett, N. S. Miller, M. A. Haseeb, J. R. Masci, and W. Stauffer. “Multicenter Study to Evaluate the Optimal[®] Rapid Malaria Diagnostic Test in U.S. Hospitals.” Journal of Clinical Microbiology. 41(11):5178-5182. 2003.

More Info:

<http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu/path/path.htm>