



Marcia Cruz-Correa, MD, PhD, AGAF, FASGE

Dr. Marcia Cruz-Correa completed her B.S. in Biology and her medical degree at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR). She completed a residency in Internal Medicine at the UPR and a fellowship in Gastroenterology & Hepatology at the Johns Hopkins University. She completed a doctorate degree in Clinical Investigation and Genetic Epidemiology at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

She is Professor of Medicine at the UPR and Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins University (Maryland, USA). In 2020, Dr. Cruz-Correa became the first women Executive Director of the UPR Comprehensive Cancer Center and has continue to lead the Gastrointestinal Oncology Research Program. She is the lead investigator of multiple clinical research NCI funded research program and has been continuously funded by the NIH for over 19 years. Her research focuses at understanding the etiology and genetics of gastrointestinal cancer, use of endoscopic methods for screening and surveillance of gastrointestinal cancer and use of biological agents to intercept or treat cancer using early phase clinical trials. Dr. Cruz-Correa is a physician-scientist with strong focus in prevention, hereditary

cancer and health disparities.

Her career as a clinical investigator has combined her advanced endoscopic therapeutic skills focused on gastrointestinal oncology specifically understanding interception in the progression of disease for patients with familial adenomatous polyposis, Lynch Syndrome, Barrett's esophagus, gastrointestinal metaplasia and colorectal cancer. She is actively involved in several national professional organizations including the *American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)* as governing board member, Chair of the AACR Minorities in Cancer Research Council and the Women in Cancer Research Council. Since 2021, she was elected to the governing board of the *American Association for Cancer Institutes* and the *Alliance Foundation for Clinical Oncology*. Recently elected as the first female Puerto Rican to the honorary scientific *Association of American Physicians*. She is founding president of the *Puerto Rico Colorectal Cancer Coalition* a non-for-profit organization focused on increasing awareness for colorectal cancer, education and health policy efforts in Puerto Rico. She is past board member of the NCI *National Cancer Advisory Board* (President Obama Appointment) and of the *American Gastroenterology Association*. She is also editor of several prestigious medical journals including *Gastroenterology* and *AACR Cancer Prevention Research*. Dr. Cruz-Correa has over 120 peer-reviewed scientific articles and has mentored over 50 graduate students, residents and gastroenterology fellows as thesis/research advisor.