

Dr. Preetha Rajaraman



Following receipt of her doctoral degree in epidemiology from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in 2004, Dr. Rajaraman pursued a post-doctoral fellowship in molecular epidemiology at the Radiation Epidemiology Branch (REB) of the US National Cancer Institute (NCI), and was subsequently appointed as a tenure track investigator. In 2011, Dr. Rajaraman relocated to New Delhi, India, where she currently serves as the South Asia Program Director for the NCI's Center for Global Health.

Dr. Rajaraman's research program has focused on the identification of environmental and host biological factors that influence the incidence of radiosensitive tumors, particularly the etiology of brain tumors, occupational exposure to radiation from medical sources, and early life exposure to radiation. During her tenure at REB, she served as co-principal investigator of the U.S. Radiologic Technologists Study, an occupational cohort of more than 100,000 radiologic technologists exposed to low-to-moderate doses of fractionated radiation. She continues to investigate risk of cancer and other adverse health effects in this cohort. Dr. Rajaraman is particularly interested in radiation effects in susceptible populations, including those exposed at young ages. She has examined cancer risk following diagnostic x-rays in childhood; second cancer risk in childhood cancer survivors; and is currently a co-investigator in a genome-wide association study of second cancers following childhood cancer. In addition to her work on radiation, Dr. Rajaraman has focused on the study of environmental and genetic risk factors for brain tumors.

Dr. Rajaraman acts as a reviewer for several international journals, and is on the Editorial Board of "Frontiers in Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention" and the "South Asian Journal of Cancer." She has served on a number of committees at the Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, including committees overseeing the technical evaluation of protocols, technical evaluation of questionnaires, and the genotyping review committee. She is currently a member of the advisory committee of the International Brain Tumor Epidemiology Consortium (BTEC).