Research Fields:
- Control of Food Intake

Collaborations:
- Dr. Joseph Reeve Jr.
  School of Medicine
  UCLA

Biographical Sketch:
Ms. Washington is the Gastrointestinal Lab Coordinator/Supervisor in the Biomedical Sciences Department, College of Veterinary Medicine, and Tuskegee University. She attended Tuskegee University (Animal Science, B.S. Veterinary Science M.S.). Her research focuses on localizing the peripheral site(s) of action for gastrin releasing peptide (GRP) and cholecystokinin (CCK), which evoke reduction of meal size and prolongation of the intermeal interval, by delivering the peptides into specific regions in the gastrointestinal tract through (1) utilizing a microsurgical, intra-arterial catheterization technique, (2) analyzing the min-to-min behaviors that lead to feeding to determine meal sizes, intermeal interval and satiety ratio, (3) using a BioDAQ feeding system to record and analyze the feeding behavior of the rats in a freely-fed, undisturbed environment. In addition, we use immunohistochemical detection of neuronal markers and various surgical techniques e.g. vagotomy, sympathectomy and myotomy/myectomy to determine the possible neuronal pathways by which these peptide reduce meal size and prolong the intermeal interval. The work is funded by the NIH and various pharmaceutical companies.

Representative Publications:


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