**Attendees**

**Delaware Cancer Consortium**

**Early Detection & Prevention Committee**

**July 9, 2018**

**Minutes-APPROVED**

**The Outlook at the Duncan Center**

**500 West Loockerman Street**

**Dover, DE**



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| **Members** |  |
| Did not attend | Vikas Batra, MD, FACP, FC – Sussex Pulmonary & Endocrine Consultants, PA |
| Attended | Heather Bittner-Fagan – Christiana Care Health System |
| Attended | Kathleen Connors-Juras – American Cancer Society |
| Did not attend | Vicky Cooke – Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition |
| Attended | Tiffany Edwards – Sussex County Health Coalition |
| Did not attend | Stephen Grubbs, MD – American Society of Clinical Oncology |
| Attended-phone | Nora Katurakes, RN, MSN, OCN – Christiana Care Health System  |
| Attended | Stephanie McClellan – Bayhealth Medical Center |
| Attended | Carolee Polek, RN, MSN, PhD – DE Diamond Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society |
| Attended | Judith Ramirez – Beebe Hospital – Tunnell Cancer Center |
| Attended-phone | Albert Rizzo, MD FACP FCCP – Christiana Care Health System |
| Attended | Lisa Schirtzinger – Nanticoke Health Services |
| Did not attend | Robert Sikes, PhD. – University of Delaware |
| Attended | Sarah Toborowski – Quality Insights |
| Attended | Michael R. Zaragoza, MD, FACS – Delaware Prostate Cancer Coalition |
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| **Staff** |  |
| Attended | Heather Brown – Delaware Division of Public Health |
| Attended | Zeinab Baba – Delaware Division of Public Health |
| Attended | Rosemary Doughten – Delaware Division of Public Health |
| Attended | Melissa Keiper – Delaware Division of Public Health |
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| **Public/Guests** |  |
| Attended | Katy Connolly – Delaware Cancer Consortium Chair |
| Attended-phone | Darcy Burbage – Christiana Care Health System |
| Attended | Allison Shevock- AES Professional Services |
| Attended | Diana Ellison – Westside Family Healthcare |
| Attended | Melissa Ramos – Westside Family Healthcare |
| Attended | Jo Wardell – DE Quitline |
| Attended | Vikki Benson – Westside Family Healthcare |
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**Welcome/Review/Approval of minutes**

**Review/Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Heather Bittner-Fagan, filling in for Chair, Dr. Steve Grubbs, called the meeting to order at 10:10 am and took a vote on the April 9, 2018 minutes. Ms. Tiffany Edwards motioned to approve the April 9 minutes as written, the move was seconded and all present approved.

**HPV 5-year plan**

Ms. Heather Brown provided an update on the HPV 5-year plan that was approved by the Delaware Cancer Consortium (DCC) Advisory Council earlier in the morning. The plan includes heavy emphasis on education to providers and parents on the importance of HPV vaccination as cancer prevention instead of moving toward making the vaccine mandatory at this time. This recommendation comes from the Immunization Program within the Division of Public Health (DPH) and Immunization Coalition of Delaware in that outcomes of other states making the vaccine mandatory have shown that this could drive rates down rather than up and the emphasis needs to be put on education to start. Details will be worked out for quality improvements and collaboration with the partners including the Department of Insurance and Department of Education.

**Analyzing Delaware Cancer Registry Industry Data to Guide Targeted Worksite Messaging Efforts**

Dr. Allison Shevock presented findings of an evaluation conducted using Delaware Cancer Registry (DCR) data to help guide targeted worksite messaging in an effort to increase colorectal cancer (CRC) screening rates. Delaware’s CRC screening rate ranks 12th highest in the nation based on 2016 data. From 1999-2003 to 2009-2013, DE’s proportion of distant-stage CRC cases increased from 16.8% to 21.2%. This shows there is need for continued outreach as there is still a high proportion of cases diagnosed after cancer has spread.

Studies are showing that there is an increase in incidence rates for tumors of the rectum and colon in young adults in their 20s, 30s and 40s. New screening guidelines from the American Cancer Society suggest screening to begin at age 45.

Two research questions were posed in the study:

1. How can previously unused industry data from the DCR assist the DCC and DPH in creating targeted worksite messages designed to increase CRC screening among vulnerable Delawareans?
2. What is the estimated cost of expanding Screening For Life (SFL) to cover Out of Pocket costs associated with diagnostic colonoscopies (including screening costs, co-pays, and bowel prep) for all underinsured Delawareans age 50+ who receive a positive FIT?

Looking at the industry data the sectors identified with the two highest percentages of Distant Stage Diagnosis were: 1) Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting and 2) Educational Services. Dr. Bittner-Fagan inquired what is next step and what do we do with the recommendations. Ms. Brown advised that Ms. Katie Hughes, Director of the SFL Program, is working with the State Benefits Office and other organizations to reach people in the two sectors identified. She also added that a more in depth overview of how this data is being used to inform programming could be shared at the next meeting in October. Dr. Bittner-Fagan suggested looking at the cost analysis for Research Question 2 and possibly lobbying the DCC Advisory Council for approval to expand the guidelines of the program. Ms. Brown stated that further discussion on this could also take place at the next meeting.

**Colorectal Cancer Data Presentation**

Dr. Zeinab Baba provided an overview of CRC screening rates for time-period 1999-2016. In 2016, 77% of Delawareans age 50 and older reported ever having had a sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy compared to 70% nationwide. In Delaware, from 2002-2016, the Colorectal Cancer screening rate prevalence increased 20% among Caucasians and African Americans. In 2016, Delaware’s CRC screening prevalence rate for Caucasians was 6% higher than the U.S. For African Americans, Delaware’s prevalence rate was 2% higher than the U.S.

Delaware Colorectal Cancer (CRC) Screening Outcomes

* Delaware is a leader nationally in screening prevalence
* 2016 Delaware screening rates 12th highest in U.S.
* Delaware screening prevalence rates exceed U.S. rates
* The Delaware CRC screening racial disparity **ELIMINATED**

**Colorectal Cancer Screening: ACS Guidelines**

Dr. Heather Bittner-Fagan presented new American Cancer Society (ACS) guidelines for Colorectal Cancer (CRC) screening. ACS now recommends starting screening earlier at age 45. Cancer incidence has gone up 51% in age 20-49 since 1994. What is causing the increase in risk? It is not known at this time, however a possibility is the environment as the change is too fast to be due to a genetic shift. Candidate factors include: increasing obesity, lower fiber, more processed foods, less NSAID and aspirin use, less exercise, more inactivity, life stress and unknown factors. Ms. Edwards inquired as to what insurance companies will say or do with this recommendation. Dr. Bittner-Fagan commented that although that is not known, the benefit-burden balance strongly favors changing the starting age from 50 to 45. Dr. Bittner-Fagan asked if the SFL program should consider lowering the screening age to 45 for CRC screening. Ms. Brown responded that this could also be a topic for discussion at the October meeting.

**Sharing Time**

Dr. Heather Bittner-Fagan sat in on the DCC Advisory Council meeting and shared that there had been discussion about nurse navigators. She asked the Early Detection & Prevention group to start thinking more creatively about reaching people who really need to be helped. Ms. Nora Katurakas added that there are a lot of moving parts for nurse navigation, especially with lung cancer screening. She added that most individuals must be referred and cannot come in for screening on their own and that it will take some time for the numbers to increase. Dr. Bittner-Fagan added that it is hard to get the number of pack history on a patient’s electronic medical record (EMR). Dr. Judith Ramirez added that Beebe Hospital, Tunnell Cancer Center is looking to grow their cessation program. They are looking at an integrated health care system perspective and making an effort to engage the patient with meaningful conversation on steps that they can take themselves. Dr. Albert Rizzo added there are hurdles of stigmas of lung cancer screening and that there is a downside as some patients end up going through additional procedures. Ms. Jo Wardell from the Delaware Quitline advised that they do ask number of packs/year; however it is not in their contract to inform individuals about the lung cancer screening program. Ms. Brown advised that she will circle back with what is required in order to have the lung cancer screening included in the Quitline contract so that a nurse navigator can call potentially eligible individuals.

**Public Comment**

No items were discussed.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

  

Meeting documentation is available on the DCC website (www.healthydelaware.org) or by contacting Rosemary Doughten (Rosemary.Doughten@state.de.us or 302-744-1000).

**Future Meeting (s)**

Next Meeting(s):

The Outlook at the Duncan Center, 500 West Loockerman Street, Dover, DE 19901

Monday, October 8, 2018 8:30 am – 10:00 am