

2017 Public Outcomes Report

The Commission on Cancer (CoC) is a group of professional organizations dedicated to improving survival and quality of life for cancer patients through standard-setting, prevention, research, education and the monitoring of comprehensive quality care. On Aug. 9, 2017, Cambridge Medical Center's (CMC) oncology team was surveyed by CoC and received three-year accreditation with contingency. The contingency is due to not meeting Standard 1.9 on clinical research accrual. The committee will work to submit a deficiency resolution plan to the CoC by September 2018.

In 2017 the CMC Oncology program underwent many changes. Sanda Morar, MD, left CMC at the end of March to relocate to Nebraska. Abou Hussein, MD, served as our locums oncologist from May 1 to Aug. 21. Arvind Vemula, MD, joined CMC as our permanent oncologist on Aug. 15, 2017. Dr. Vemula is board-certified in oncology, hematology and internal medicine. He was previously the director of Clinical Trials and Research at Mercy Cancer Center in Iowa and was the investigator for several clinical trials. He works full-time in CMC's Clinic E and sees patients Monday through Thursday.

In 2017 the Oncology Committee worked to continue to meet the CoC's standards and eligibility requirements. The committee met seven times during the year. Committee membership is defined by the CoC and required members, or their designated alternate, are required to attend at least four of the meetings. The required members are the oncologist and cancer liaison physician, a role initially filled by Dr. Morar, then by Dr. Hussein, and currently by Dr. Vemula. Other required members are:

- Anasooya Abraham, MD, general surgeon
- Dana Nelson, MD, pathologist
- Thomas Matson, MD, radiologist
- Pam Whitehead, cancer program administrator and patient care manager
- Laurie Bolen, RN, cancer care coordinator
- Jocie Wiedewitsch, social worker
- Nicki Klanderud, community engagement & wellness manager

- Maggie Lindstrom, manager, Quality
- Vickie Matthias Hagen, MS, CGC, certified genetic counselor
- Jim Scott-Greene, RN, oncology certified nurse
- LeeAnn Osada, certified tumor registrar.

The committee also includes representation from Administration, Nutrition Services, Pharmacy, Lab, Radiology, Allina Home Health, Clinic Services, Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute, the Virginia Piper Cancer Institute Clinical Service Line, and the American Cancer Society.

The CoC standards and eligibility requirements need to be met annually. Some of the projects completed by the Oncology Committee in 2017 were:

- a quality study and improvement project on the Harbor Room
- a quality study focusing on blood transfusions
- a quality improvement project on the new medication Daratumumab and the work the lab did due to its' impact on blood product antibodies
- an audit monitoring compliance with evidence-based guidelines. Dr. Vemula reviewed the charts of the 29 patients who were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2014. The first line of treatment and age at diagnosis was compared with the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) guidelines and the audit showed that the NCCN guidelines were met in each case.
- Cancer screening and prevention booths at the April 5, 2017 CMC employee health fair which was attended by more than 250 employees and volunteers. Radiology employees offered breast exam education and mammography scheduling, and scheduled eighteen mammograms. The Minnesota Department of Health hosted a table on the dangers of radon and gave away 95 testing kits. Pam Mason from the American Cancer Society and Pam Whitehead shared information on smoking cessation and the dangers of e-cigs and chew/ dip.

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- Each year the Oncology Committee needs to establish a barrier to cancer care. In 2017 the barrier chosen was patient transportation. CMC held its' first annual "It's Not Your Grandma's Gala" on April 21, 2017 and \$9,650 was raised specifically for patient transportation needs.
- A breast screening event was held on Sept. 20, 2017 in cooperation with the SAGE program. Nine participants had a clinical breast exam performed by Amy Hauptert, MD, followed by a screening mammogram. The screening mammograms and clinical exam results were all negative. There were no positive findings. Patients were also treated to snacks, hand and chair massages, and gift bags. The effectiveness of the event was evaluated by a survey completed by eight participants and the results were:

1. When was the last time you had a mammogram?

- 1 year ago (3)
- 1.5 years ago (1)
- 2 years ago (2)
- 3 years ago (2)
- 4 years ago (0)
- 5 years ago (0)
- Never (0)

2. How did you learn about this event?

- Mail from the SAGE program (7)
- Internet (0)
- Other (1)
- CMC employee or physician (0)
- Flyer (0)

3. Why did you choose to get your mammogram and breast exam at this event?

- Close to home.
- I had the time.
- No insurance.
- No insurance – great program.
Convenient, I work in Cambridge.
- Need to do on a yearly basis because of family history.
- My day schedule is busy. Evening is perfect.
- It sounded fun.
- After a few calls I followed through

4. Would you recommend this program to your friends and family member?

- Yes (8)

5. Would you use this service again?

- Yes (8)

6. Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

- No.
- Loved it! So fun!
- Thank you!! Everyone is very friendly and helpful.
- All of the staff is wonderful.
- Thank you for making this a pleasant experience.
- Very nice crew of ladies and the food and gifts are pretty sweet too!
- I am very grateful and feel valued.