

2015 Public Outcomes Report Oncology Committee

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 Oct. 1, 2014, the team at the Virginia Piper Cancer Institute – Cambridge Medical Center was surveyed by the CoC and received accreditation with the silver level commendation which is the best result possible because programs being surveyed for the first time are not eligible for the gold level. In 2015 the Cambridge's Oncology Committee worked to continue to meet the CoC's standards and eligibility requirements.

The Oncology Committee met six times in 2015. Committee membership is defined by the CoC and required members, or their designated alternate, are required to attend at least five of the six meetings. The required members are:

- Sanda Morar, MD, medical oncologist and cancer liaison physician
- Pat Schuster, MD, general surgeon
- Dana Nelson, MD, pathologist
- Thomas Matson, MD, radiologist
- Pam Whitehead, cancer program administrator and patient care manager
- Danial Melton, BSN, RN, cancer care coordinator
- Jess Piatt, social worker
- Nicki Klanderud, community engagement & wellness manager
- Kathy Tetzlaff, quality director
- Denise Jones, CGC, genetic counselor
- Marcia Whitman, RN, oncology certified nurse
- LeeAnn Osada, certified tumor registrar.

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

2015 PROJECTS

The Commission on Cancer standards and eligibility requirements need to be met annually. The following outlines some of the projects completed by the Oncology Committee in 2015.

- A quality study and improvement project focused on oral chemotherapy.
- A quality study comparing the performance and correlation of breast cancer screening and stage at diagnosis.
- A quality study which evaluated the patient flow in Infusion Services and impact on RN lunch breaks.
- A quality study on 2015 volume in Infusion Services and a quality improvement project aimed at improving community awareness of the Virginia Piper Cancer Institute – Cambridge Medical Center.
- An audit monitoring compliance with evidence-based guidelines. Dr. Morar reviewed the charts of the 18 patients who were diagnosed with colon cancer and 11 patients who were diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2013. The first line of treatment 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 2015 Cambridge Medical Center employee health fair that was attended by more than 380 employees and volunteers. Radiology employees offered breast exam education and mammography scheduling. Denise Marty, genetic counselor, hosted a booth focused on cancer genetics and answered questions about family history, genetic counseling and genetic testing.
- Cancer screening and prevention booths at the Sept. 26, 2015 Ribbon Run & Ride & Health Fair which was attended by more than 250 community members. An estimated \$25,000 was raised to support the Harbor Room and proceeds from the event will benefit the Cancer Patient Emergency Fund. The following screening and prevention activities took place at the health fair:
 - Dr. Morar and Dr. Schuster did 53 skin exams and 11 breast exams.
 - Radiology employees hosted a booth and did breast exam education with a self- breast exam model. They scheduled two mammograms and completed two mammograms.
 - An American Cancer Society volunteer hosted a booth on smoking cessation and focused on sharing “Smoking in our Community.”
 - Danial Melton and Pam Whitehead hosted a booth on cancer and focused on the dangers of e-cigarettes, the dangers of tanning beds and 2014 Cambridge Medical Center cancer facts. They also offered assistance with colonoscopy scheduling, information on melanoma, skin cancer diagrams and information on tanning pills and other tanning products. They were able to offer materials such as the American Cancer Society’s “How to reduce your cancer risk” fact sheets for men and women and the “Virginia Piper Cancer Institute – Cambridge Medical Center: Introducing your cancer care team.”
 - Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute – Cambridge hosted a booth that shared how exercise related to a reduction in cancer rates.
 - Dr. Wang from the University of Minnesota Fairview Radiation Therapy Center hosted a booth and shared information on their center, their cancer risk management program, and their cancer survivorship program.
- One of the Oncology Committee’s 2015 goals was to increase the number of patients who have prehab prior to treatment. Prehab is exercise in Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute. Research has shown that prehab promotes positive outcomes with quicker recovery and improved tolerance to treatment. There were five prehab referrals in 2015.
- Monthly tumor conferences attended by physicians, pharmacy and nursing staff to review newly diagnosed patients and discuss the diagnosis and optimal treatment plan.
- Oncology care conferences with a multidisciplinary team twice monthly to discuss current oncology patients and the resources they need. The group consists of:
 - Sanda Morar, MD
 - Amanda Grace, PA-C
 - cancer care coordinator
 - oncology registered nurses
 - LPNs
 - social worker
 - pharmacist
 - dieticians
 - Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute STAR® therapist
 - home care liaison
 - palliative care
 - clinic manager.