As an accredited Commission on Cancer (CoC) program, Cleveland Clinic Akron General McDowell Cancer Institute provides the Public Reporting of Outcomes to show the results of activities completed by our cancer program as required by the American College of Surgeons (ACOS) CoC. Accreditation is granted to facilities that have demonstrated compliance with the CoC Eligibility Requirements and Standards. To maintain accreditation, cancer programs must undergo an on-site survey every three years. This year, we were awarded our Three-Year Accreditation with Commendation which is only awarded to a facility that exceeds standard requirements at the time of its triennial survey.

Each year, our program’s Cancer Committee is responsible for monitoring, assessing and identifying changes that are needed to maintain compliance with CoC criteria.

2017 Cancer Committee

PHYSICIAN MEMBERS:
Esther Rehmus, MD (Chair)
Noaman Ali, MD
Brian Canterbury, MD
Andrew Fenton, MD
Thomas Herbener, MD
Amanda Mendiola, MD
Mary Murray, MD
William Papouras, MD
Angela Powell, MD
Ashok Ramalingam, MD
Sonia Sandhu, MD

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS:
Amanda Benedetti, PharmD
Connie Bollin, MBA, RN
Mary Brackle
Kitty Clark, RN
Alicia Ferrell, MS, RD, LD
Dena Hunt, LISW, LCDC III
Julie Imani, MSN, RN, CNS, OCN
Liz Lattimer, RN, BSN, OCN
Mary Anne Loftus, RN, BS
Kathy Lukity, RN, BSN, CBCN
Jessica Marquard, MS, LGC
Michael McNeal, RN, BSN
Gillian Myers, MSN, RN, CNS, ACNS-BC, ACHPN, OCN
Londa Roberts
Brenda Runion, PT, MEd, DPT, CCCE
Renee Santin, CTR
Margaret St. Jean, BSN, RN, OCN
Claire Wilson, DPN, APN, RN
Tiffany Williams, MPA – American Cancer Society Representative
Outcomes: Art Therapy
Art Therapy Accomplishments in 2017

Another successful year of art therapy has been completed for 2017. A total of 386 cancer patients and/or family members or support persons participated in art therapy from January to November. Art therapy services have been expanded to include patients at Akron General’s Health & Wellness Center, Bath.

Multiple activities were offered to patients throughout the year. An art therapy presentation was given at our patient survivorship event on June 14, and 88 patients completed an art project. Pumpkin decorating was also offered to patients in October and 20 patients participated. In December, another special art project was offered to patients during our patient holiday celebration on December 18.

The art therapy program collaborated with Lily Oncology on Canvas in September. Patients were invited to complete a paint-by-number piece of art work that was created by a cancer survivor who entered the Lily Oncology on Canvas art show and won.

A group art therapy project called “Forging Ahead,” that represented emotions and thoughts that patients let go of to forge ahead in their recovery, will continue to be worked on by patients now and through the beginning of 2018. The project a boat at sea that patients voted and named the boat USS Believe. The completed piece will be hung in the infusion lobby of the Akron General Health & Wellness, Green.

During the entire month of December, the 5th Annual Patient Art Therapy Exhibit took place. There were 18 pieces of patient artwork displayed in the Physician Office Building lobby.

Cover: Patients, family members and friends had the opportunity to create survivor t-shirts to wear on their last day of treatment. The Cancer Treatment Center staff participated by signing patients’ shirt. The shirts and materials were provided by the Stephen A. Comunale, Jr. Family Foundation. The shirt pictured on the cover is called Flow for a Cure. The survivor who created this design said, “The turtle is calm and feels free in his or her journey to a cure.”
Outcomes:
Cancer Research & Clinical Trials

Clinical trials, also called research studies, answer specific questions to find better ways to prevent, diagnose, and treat cancer. These studies test many types of treatment. This may include new drugs or new combinations of drugs, new ways of using known therapies, or new approaches to radiation therapy or surgery.

Akron General participates in National Cancer Institute-sponsored clinical trials as well as pharmaceutical industry-sponsored trials. Our doctors, here, also design and implement research studies of scientific interest. All research studies are given vigorous scrutiny by a review committee before being approved by our Institutional Research Review Board (IRRB). This board consists of diverse groups of scientific and non-scientific members who function to review and approve the plan or protocol for each clinical trial conducted at Akron General. The IRRB protects study participants by making sure the trial is well-designed, does not involve undue risks and has included patient safeguards. An additional, separate review by Cleveland Clinic’s IRRB ensures the trial also complies with the requirements and regulations of our parent institution.

Patients who enter clinical trials are given an in-depth explanation of the clinical trial through the informed consent process. Adequate time is given to answer any questions and concerns a patient or their family may have. Patients are monitored closely through the duration of the study, and many continue to be monitored throughout their lifetime.

Akron General’s McDowell Cancer Institute Research Department is staffed by experienced oncology and research nurses and data management personnel. The staff ensures the integrity of the protocol is maintained while collecting and communicating data.

We provide patients with access to these studies because we believe that patients enrolled in a study have access to new treatments that are not otherwise available. Their participation helps our doctors and scientists learn more about cancer. For 2017, Akron General enrolled 133 participants to cancer-related clinical trials.
Outcomes: Prevention & Screening Programs
(Standard 4.1 & 4.2)

Breast Cancer Screening, Prevention and Education

National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®) and ASCO guidelines were followed for determining women who needed a breast exam and/or mammogram. Prevention education was provided to make women aware of the signs and symptoms of breast cancer as well as the importance of living a healthy lifestyle and risk factors associated with breast cancer. Our hope is to promote early diagnosis of breast cancers and to decrease the number of patients with late-stage disease. A pre and post-test to question and educate participants’ knowledge of risk factors associated with breast cancer.

May 20, 2017
Reflections Breast Health Center, Ambulatory Care Center, from 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

- 33 women scheduled for this screening
- 28 women attended
- 28 clinical breast exams (CBE) completed
- 15 screening mammograms completed
- Two of those who received a screening mammogram needed diagnostic testing
- Four were scheduled for diagnostic testing after having their CBE
- 50% had health insurance
- Seven women qualified for our Muffins for Mammograms fund to cover their mammogram
- All women received education on safer sex practices and the need for a regular cervical cancer screening
- Navigation: Women received their results via letter and are being followed

A Cervical Cancer Screening was offered at the May 20th event also.

- 19 women participated in the cervical cancer screening
- Pap testing done on 17 specimens
- HPV testing completed on all 19
- Four specimens were positive for HPV
- Two specimens showed Atypical Squamous Cells of Undetermined Significance
- All women received education on safer sex practices and the need for a regular cervical cancer screening
- Navigation: Women received their results via letter and are being followed

May 2, 2017
Cleveland Clinic Akron General Lodi Hospital from 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

- First-time breast cancer screening for this location
- Four women scheduled for screening
- One did not show for the screening
- Three women received a clinical breast exam
- Two screening mammograms completed and one needed diagnostic testing, which was completed at our breast center
- Woman who had diagnostic testing was positive for breast cancer and is being treated
- Navigation: All women being followed by our Reflections Breast Center and Lodi Hospital
Outcomes:
Prevention & Screening Programs
(Standard 4.1 & 4.2)

MENtion It: Prostate Cancer Screening & Education

Akron General participated in the Cleveland Clinic enterprise MENtion It campaign that encouraged men of all ages to take a more active role in their health. As part of the program, the Cleveland Clinic Glickman Urological & Kidney Institute encouraged men to speak with a physician about prostate cancer. Attendees met with our urologist, discussed the pros and cons of prostate-specific antigen (PSA) testing. If deemed appropriate, PSA was drawn, results were sent to the men with recommendations to submit those screening results to their healthcare provider.

September 30, 2017
Health & Wellness Center, Green, Wellness Fair from 8 a.m.-12 noon

• 95 men met with the urologist to ask questions about PSA
• Five men were in need of PSA screening
• Four had results in the normal range
• One had an elevated result
• All participants received results via a letter from the urologist
• Navigation: All are being followed

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR FEEDBACK ABOUT THIS REPORT OR OUR PROGRAM, PLEASE CALL US AT 330.344.HOPE (4673).
2017 Types of Cancer
Total sites: 1232

Data finalized as of May 31, 2018

Brain & Nerves: 47
Mouth & Throat: 16
Thyroid gland: 26
Liver: 19
Gallbladder: 1
Bladder & Kidney: 116
Blood: 18
Bones & Joints: 0

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