



Richard G. Laube Cancer Center

2013 Annual Report
On 2012 Data

Armstrong County Memorial Hospital
One Nolte Drive, Kittanning, PA 16201
www.acmrh.org

Introduction

The diagnosis of cancer is a frightening, life-altering experience for patients and their families. The multidisciplinary group of healthcare professionals at the Richard G. Laube Cancer Center recognizes this and is committed to assisting patients through diagnosis, treatment and follow-up care, maintaining the patient at the heart of the treatment team. Our program, is accredited with commendation by the American College of Surgeons (ACOS), Commission on Cancer (CoC), which recognizes high quality care, provides comprehensive medical and radiation oncology care utilizing the latest advances in technology in a convenient community setting. We continue to work in close collaboration with tertiary care centers and their physicians to offer our patients optimal, personalized care close to home. With pride, we present our 2013 annual report offering a glimpse into the many programs and services available at ACMH's Richard G. Laube Cancer Center.

The Cancer Care Team and staff recognize the importance of early detection and prevention of cancers and offer several screening and education programs for the community. We continue to provide free skin cancer screenings, which are very well received, and head and neck cancer screenings, prostate screenings, as well as breast cancer screenings. We also recognize a need to emphasize to our community at large the need for early colorectal cancer screening. We are pleased to have been able to collaborate with other area agencies, such as the American Cancer Society, Adagio Health and The Pittsburgh Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure to provide these services to the community. Dedicated oncology staff also target our local high schools and businesses with prevention and early detection information, particularly related to skin cancers and tobacco related cancers.

We continue to actively accrue patients to clinical trials, realizing participation benefits for the patient enrolling, as well as the importance of clinical trials in advancing the cancer treatment and options for cancer patients throughout the world. We continue to participate with National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP), Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG), and industry trials, to name a few.

The role of the oncology nurse navigator continues to expand at ACMH Hospital. Our navigator enthusiastically acts as a liaison assisting patients as they navigate through often complex cancer care and treatments while providing emotional support. This assists in bridging the potential gaps in care. Our navigator has received much positive feedback from patients as well as the medical community and is an asset to our program.

The staff of ACMH Hospital and the Richard G. Laube Cancer Center remain very active in fundraising and community activities in addition to the delivery of patient care. We tirelessly raise money year-round to support our Oncology Patient Assistance Fund. We also support collection of food for local food banks and help needy families within the community at Christmas time.

As part of our ongoing commitment to our patients and continued improvement, we worked diligently in 2012 to expand access to social services. Prior to this year, the Cancer Center staff and patients had limited access to social services, leaving the staff to field many issues that arose for patients undergoing cancer treatment. With administrative approval, we were proud to secure an LCSW (Licensed Clinical Social Worker) in the Cancer Center on a full time basis. This has been an invaluable addition to our program. The psychological, as well as social impact, a diagnosis of cancer can have on our patients is large and we are fortunate to have a skilled LCSW present to assist. In the 6 months since our LCSW's hire in July 2012, more than double the number of patients were provided one-on-one assistance as compared to the previous 6 months. Assistance included personal counseling and support in accessing resources for medications, transportation, utilities, insurances and financial support. Establishment of this role enables us to more comprehensively care for our patients.

Thank you to all whose dedication and hard work have helped to make the Cancer Program at ACMH Hospital successful as we continue to strive for excellence.

Sincerely,

The Cancer Care Team

Cancer Registry Summary

The Cancer Registry collects, manages and analyzes information for all patients with a malignancy or any central nervous system tumor. The core functions of the registry are to identify all reportable cases, complete an abstract for each case, and monitor each patient annually. Data is collected following a strict set of coding rules and must meet the requirements of the Pennsylvania Cancer Registry (PCR), the Commission on Cancer (CoC), and the Cancer Committee.

The computerized software system used by the ACMH Hospital registry is Oncolog. The registry offers access to a broad range of data including, but not limited to, demographics, primary site, histology, stage, treatment, recurrence and follow-up information.

The information in the registry is used for purposes of quality improvement, meeting the CoC standards necessary to maintain accreditation, statistics, and research. Cases are submitted to the PCR monthly and the NCDB (National Cancer Database) annually. Benchmark reports are provided by the NCDB for review of patient outcomes and to see how our hospital delivers care in comparison to other facilities across the nation. This information can be used as a tool to implement improvement processes as well as to identify areas of excellence.

New accreditation standards for 2012 were released by the Commission on Cancer in 2011 to be implemented in 2012. The new standards focus on patient-centered care. Policies were reviewed and updated to assure that the program is meeting the requirements for all of these new standards.

Continuing education is a requirement for Certified Tumor Registrars. In 2012 the ACMH registrar attended a PA State Cancer Registry training on lung cancer at Greenville in March and a PA Association of Cancer Registrars program on "Quality Patient Care Takes a Team" in Altoona.

319 cases were abstracted for 2012. 292 were analytic (newly diagnosed) and 27 were non-analytic (seen for recurrent or persistent disease not initially treated at ACMH). The quality of the registry data is verified by extensive edits built in to the registry software as well as a physician review of 10% of the cases.

The top 6 cancer sites, including in-situ and invasive, for 2012 were:

- Breast – 85 cases, 29%
- Lung – 43 cases, 15%
- Colorectal – 37 cases, 13%
- Prostate – 19 cases, 7%
- Bladder – 18 cases, 4%

Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma – 18 cases, 4%

Each patient in the database is followed annually in order to acquire information on recurrences, subsequent treatment, and survival. This process benefits patients because it serves as a reminder to physicians of the need for continued surveillance. The ACMH registry is currently following 2,501 patients. The required follow up rate of over 90% is maintained in order to meet the CoC standard.

Top 24 Sites - AJCC Stage
Site Distribution-ACMH Hospital 2012 Cases
Armstrong County Memorial Hospital

Diagnostic Site	Vital Status		Class of Case		Gender		STAGE							Total	% Total
	Alive	Dead	Ana	NonA	Male	Female	0	I	II	III	IV	NA	UNK		
1 Breast Female	84	1	85	0	0	85	18	39	15	5	7	1	0	85	29.11
2 Lung	21	22	43	0	21	22	0	3	4	13	20	0	3	43	14.73
3 Colon	18	10	28	0	15	13	1	10	6	8	2	0	1	28	9.59
4 Prostate	19	0	19	0	19	0	0	5	8	2	3	0	1	19	6.51
5 Urinary Bladder	10	2	12	0	10	2	5	2	2	1	2	0	0	12	4.11
6 Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma	11	1	12	0	8	4	0	2	2	4	3	1	0	12	4.11
7 Corpus Uteri	8	1	9	0	0	9	0	6	1	1	1	0	0	9	3.08
8 Rectum	7	2	9	0	6	3	0	4	1	3	1	0	0	9	3.08
9 Esophagus	2	4	6	0	3	3	0	0	1	2	3	0	0	6	2.05
10 Other Hematopoietic	2	4	6	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	6	2.05
11 Thyroid	5	0	5	0	1	4	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	5	1.71
12 Benign Brain and CNS	4	1	5	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	5	1.71
13 Lip Oral Cavity Pharynx	2	3	5	0	3	2	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	5	1.71
14 Other Female Genital	4	1	5	0	0	5	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	5	1.71
15 Cervix	4	0	4	0	0	4	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	4	1.37
16 Unknown Sites	0	4	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	1.37
17 Stomach	0	3	3	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	1.03
18 Liver	1	2	3	0	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	3	1.03
19 Pancreas	1	2	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	1.03
20 Other Digestive Organ	2	1	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	1.03
21 Larynx	3	0	3	0	2	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	1.03
22 Other Skin	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0.68
23 Hodgkins Lymphoma	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0.68
24 Multiple Myeloma	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0.68

Clinical Research

ACMH Hospital is a community hospital participating in a number of clinical trial cooperative groups, all of which are approved by ACMH Hospital Institutional Review Board. Our programs are affiliated with the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute and Allegheny General Hospital Community Network Programs which enables ACMH Hospital to enroll patients into The National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project, and Radiation Therapy Oncology Group studies. ACMH Hospital also enrolls patients through the Cancer Trials Support Unit, a project sponsored by the National Cancer Institute to adult cooperative group studies, pharmaceutical sponsored studies, the National Oncologic PET registry and prevention and compassionate use protocols. We have enrolled patients into studies for brain, lung, colon, kidney and breast cancer.

Patients are continually being reviewed and enrolled into clinical trials. The protocol coordinator reviews all new patients that are in the hospital or seen in the outpatient setting. The Medical Oncologists meet regularly with the protocol nurse to review and discuss new and available studies. Our protocol nurse also organizes a monthly connection with the Allegheny General Hospital Breast Cancer Conference via telecommunications, where the physicians can take an active part in the cases presented, listen to an educational lecture or present their own challenging patient cases for review. We continue to have increased enrollment in the number of patients participating in clinical trials at ACMH Hospital. We are proud to be able to offer this as an additional treatment option to our community.

Being able to offer research based clinical trials to our patients adds another dimension to our multidisciplinary care of cancer patients, and is part of the standard of care in cancer treatment. The oncology team continues to assess current patients with long-term follow-up as well as enroll a growing number of patients into our approved protocols.

Education & Enlightenment

TUMOR BOARD (Cancer Conference)

The Tumor Board at ACMH typically meets the 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesday of each month to present cancer cases for prospective review. The Cancer Conference offers multidisciplinary consults on every case presented. This structure ensures the availability of modern pretreatment evaluation, including accurate staging, up-to-date multidisciplinary treatment, and ongoing quality assessment including management guidelines. Cancer Conference focuses on problem cases and on pretreatment evaluation, staging, treatment strategy and quality of life. Participants include physicians from the Departments of Pathology, Medical Oncology, Radiation Oncology, Diagnostic Radiology and Surgery, as well as oncology nursing, social services, nutrition and tumor registry.

All major sites of cancer diagnosed and/or treated at ACMH are covered throughout the year. Forty-four cases were presented in 2012 with an average of thirteen in attendance. Sites discussed included breast, rectal, head and neck, pancreatic, ovarian, parotid gland in addition to malignancies of the gallbladder, prostate, lung and brain. Staff physicians are welcome and are invited to bring any oncology case to Tumor Board for discussion and/or second opinion review.

TUMOR CONFERENCE

The Tumor Conference typically meets quarterly at ACMH to offer educational opportunities, at least one of which relates to the use of staging and national treatment guidelines, for all physicians as well as hospital staff. This is a conference given by the speakers' bureau as well as industry speakers. Topics for 2012 included: Treatment for HER2-Positive Metastatic Breast Cancer, Genomic Profiling for Early Stage Breast Cancer, ACMH Hospital's new Lung Screening Program, Evolving Treatment Strategy for Advanced Nonsquamous NSCLC and Mantel Cell Lymphoma.

Care & Compassion

NUTRITION SERVICES

Nutrition is an integral part of the management of cancer and related therapies. The maintenance of an adequate nutrition status may reduce the complications from oncologic therapy and may contribute to the patient's sense of well-being. A Registered Dietitian is part of the ACMH Hospital Cancer Care Team and is available for consultation as the need arises.

Patients and families can request to meet with a Dietitian for nutrition concerns and suggestions for optimizing meal planning.

REHAB SERVICES

ACMH Rehab Services (Physical Occupational, and Speech Therapy) are available to provide services to patients who may have functional limitations/impairments, disabilities, or changes in physical function and health resulting from injury, disease process or other causes. Our highly skilled therapists can provide care to patients in a variety of settings across the continuum of care (Inpatient, Outpatient, Skilled Nursing, and Acute Rehab). The therapists design individual treatment programs to address each patient's physical and functional deficits. Our Physical Therapist's, Occupational Therapist's and Speech Therapist's are available to treat Cancer related problems such as: pain, weakness and fatigue, difficulty with gait or unsteadiness (loss of balance), lymphedema, loss of joint range of motion or function, stress/anxiety, difficulty with activities of daily living and speech and swallowing dysfunctions. We also have 2 off campus offices, one in Ford City and one Leechburg that also provide outpatient PT.

CANCER GENETIC COUNSELING

In collaboration with Allegheny General Hospital, we are able to provide cancer genetic counseling to our patients and their families on-site. This is accomplished in part by the use of teleconferencing equipment made possible by the generous donation of Mrs. Carrie Bracken in memory of her late husband, C. Lavern Bracken. Patients can meet on a monthly basis with a genetic counselor to discuss the risk assessment and testing. Patients have the opportunity to speak with the medical oncologist specializing in cancer genetic testing via teleconference. In the year 2012, 48 patients were seen, 38 new patient and 10 follow-up patients. We are fortunate to be able to offer this important service on-site for patients with significant family medical histories of cancer.

ONCOLOGY SOCIAL WORKER

The Oncology Social Worker assists in identifying psychosocial issues of patients, families and significant others who are facing the impact of cancer. The social worker acts as an advocate for patients and their families by helping others understand their needs. The social worker is also responsible for counseling, education, case management and networking community services.

ONCOLOGY NURSE NAVIGATOR

The Oncology Nurse Navigator at ACMH Hospital is available to assist cancer patients obtain timely and efficient care from diagnosis to treatment to follow-up cancer care. Currently the Navigator's primary focus is our breast cancer patient population, but is available for any oncology patient in need of assistance.

Getting a breast cancer diagnosis can be very scary. Getting through the maze of appointments with radiology, cardiology, laboratory, surgery, oncology, and radiation oncology can be confusing and overwhelming. Once a newly diagnosed patient receives her diagnosis of breast cancer, the nurse navigator contacts her and provides information about her pathology report, diagnosis, possible treatment options, and what to expect at her first visit with the surgeon or oncologist. The time period between diagnosis and initial appointment with the specialist is extremely stressful. Having a point of contact during this critical time can be very helpful for patients who may have additional questions or need emotional support.

Once the patient's treatment plan is in place, the nurse navigator stays in contact with the patient. Patients are contacted post-op to monitor for pain and drain management. If chemotherapy is indicated, patients are monitored for treatment-related side effects. Patients often call with questions related to diarrhea, constipation, and infection. The nurse navigator often serves as a triage nurse, directing patients on how to manage these symptoms at home, recommending they call their doctor, or urging them to visit the emergency room. The nurse navigator also acts as a liaison, updating the physicians on the patient's care team as needed.

Patient navigation services are constantly being reviewed and changed based on the needs of our patient population and the needs of the physicians. Although breast cancer patients are our main focus, any patient can be referred for navigation services. If you would like to refer a patient to the patient navigator, please call 724-525-6496.

Community & Commitment

COMMUNITY HEALTH SCREENINGS

On May 16, 2012, with the help of ACMH Hospital and the Foundation, we offered a "Screenings for Life" health fair. A total of 86 cancer screenings exams were provided, including skin, head and neck, prostate and PSA levels. Participants were asked to bring a nonperishable item, if able, which were donated to the Kittanning Food Bank.

On October 13, 2012, we held our 2nd annual "Girls Day Out" breast cancer screening. A total of over 200 women were in attendance. 22 women pre-registered for a mammogram, 13 women who were eligible through Adagio and the Komen-Pittsburgh Affiliate Mammogram Voucher program for the uninsured and underinsured. Cancer screenings and mammograms were provided and participants were provided with valuable health information. 18 vendors also participated in the day by selling a variety of items.

Affiliations

University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute
Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG)
National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP)
Allegheny General Hospital

References

Cancer Facts and Figures Pennsylvania, American Cancer Society
National Cancer Institute
Department of Health
PCR (Pennsylvania Cancer Registry)
Division of Health Statistics and Research
National Cancer Database

2012 Cancer Committee Members

Denny Tang, MD
Committee Chairman
General Surgery

James Betler DO
Radiation Oncology

Mark Casteel, MD
Radiology

Manju Nath, MD
Pathology

Diane BuchBarker, MD
Medical Oncology

Richard Bernat, MD
Otolaryngology

Charles Lynn, MD
Radiology

Randall Barrett, DO
Pain Management

Natalie Obradovich
American Cancer Society

Rev. Mark Davis
Pastor

Kimberly Schultz, RPH
Pharmacist

Lori Bly
Clinical Resource Management

Cindy Scoccimerra, RN, BSN, OCN
Nurse Manager
Medical/Radiation Oncology

Linda Reesman, CTR
Tumor Registrar

Linda Atwood
Secretary, Cancer Center Program

Dana Klingensmith, BSN, RN, OCN
Research Protocol Nurse

Cari Chavira, RN
Oncology Nurse Navigator

Rhonda Gengler
Quality Management

Miriah Moore, RN
Oncology Nurse Manager

Gretchen Young, LCSW
Social Worker

Megan Marshall, MS
Genetic Counselor

Sharon McKelvey, MS, RN, LDN
Nutrition

Jeff Lasko, MPT
Director, Outpatient Rehab Services

Accreditations

American College of Surgeon's Commission on Cancer

American College of Radiology

FDA Certified under the Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA)

College of American Pathology