

2016
Annual
Report
On 2015
Data



Richard G. Laube Cancer Center



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 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 2016 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, 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 the importance of the participation benefits for patients who enroll, as well as the importance of clinical trials for advancing cancer care, prevention and treatment options for cancer patients throughout the world. We continue to participate with NRG Oncology which has brought the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP), Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG) and the Gynecologic Oncology Group (GOG) all together. We also participate in data studies as well as industry trials just 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.

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Introduction

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A Licensed Clinical Social Worker is on site full time and offers personal counseling and support in accessing resources for medications, transportation, utilities, insurances and financial support.

As part of our ongoing commitment to our patients and continued improvement, a utilization of the education simulation lab was used for testing oncology nursing competencies. Our goal was met having 100% of the chemo trained nurses having their chemo administration and management of chemo-related anaphylaxis competencies completed.

The Cancer Center continues to promote the Low Dose CT Lung Screening Program unveiled by Foundation Radiology Group and ACMH Hospital. The goal of this low dose CT scan project is to increase the rate of detection of stage I and II cancers.

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

The Cancer Registry collects, manages and analyzes information for all patients with a malignancy and 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.

All Commission on Cancer Accredited facilities were required to participate in a special study funded through the Patient Center Outcomes Research Institute in 2015. Improving the current approach to surveillance after active treatment for cancer has been identified as a priority. Current guidelines do not account for individual risk and are based on limited evidence. The goal of the study is to better understand how patients are currently being followed with surveillance testing and whether or not this is influencing outcomes, in hopes of tailoring follow-up based on individual risk. Information on follow-up and recurrence for colorectal, breast & lung cancers were collected by registrars to comprehensively capture patient health care following active treatment. The study will also look at the accuracy of recurrence data within the NCDB and begin to develop opportunities to improve collection of this outcome measure. The results of the study will not likely be published for 1-2 years.

Continuing education is a requirement for Certified Tumor Registrars. In 2015 the ACMH registrar attended training webinars from the Commission on Cancer, SEER, and the National Cancer Registrars Association on various cancer topics.

342 cases were abstracted for 2015. 304 were analytic (newly diagnosed) and 38 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.

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Cancer Registry

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The top analytic cancer sites, including in-situ and invasive, for 2015 were:

- Breast – 64 cases, 21%
- Colorectal – 38 cases, 13%
- Lung – 38 cases, 13%
- Prostate – 31 cases, 10%
- Bladder – 14 cases, 5%
- Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma – 14 cases, 5%

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 2,745 patients. The required follow up rate of over 90% is maintained in order to meet the CoC standard.

Top 24 Sites - AJCC Stage

Analytic Site Distribution-ACMH Hospital 2015 Cases

Diagnostic Site	Gender		STAGE							Totals	% Total
	Male	Female	0	I	II	III	IV	NA	UNK		
Breast Female	0	64	5	27	17	6	5	1	3	64	21.05
Lung	15	23	0	5	4	11	18	0	0	38	12.50
Prostate	31	0	0	7	17	0	6	0	1	31	10.2
Colon	12	15	2	5	6	5	7	0	2	27	8.88
Urinary Bladder	13	1	6	3	0	1	4	0	0	14	4.61
Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma	10	4	0	5	2	3	4	0	0	14	4.61
Thyroid	2	11	0	9	0	2	1	0	1	13	4.28
Corpus Uteri	0	13	0	8	1	0	1	0	3	13	4.28
Rectum	7	4	2	3	1	2	1	0	2	11	3.62
Pancreas	5	4	0	0	2	0	7	0	0	9	2.96
Multiple Myeloma	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	7	2.3
Benign Brain and CNS	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	7	2.3
Other Hematopoietic	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	6	1.97
Melanoma skin	3	2	0	3	0	0	1	0	1	5	1.64
Lip Oral Cavity Pharynx	3	2	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	5	1.64
Esophagus	5	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	5	1.64
Stomach	3	2	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	5	1.64
Myeloid and Monocytic Leukemia	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	1.32
Brain & Nervous System	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	1.32
Lymphoid Leukemia	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	3	0.99
Unknown Sites	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0.99
Anus	2	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	3	0.99
Larynx	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	0.99
Soft Tissue	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0.66

This graph is the top 24 sites so doesn't include all 304 analytic cases.

Clinical Research

ACMH is a community based hospital which participates in a number of clinical trials. ACMH has its own Institutional Review Board (IRB) for the continuing review, renewal and approval of clinical trials. Access to trials is offered through NRG Oncology which is a Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation founded to consolidate three adult NCI clinical cooperative groups: National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP), Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG), and Gynecologic Oncology Group (GOG). ACMH also enrolls patients through the Cancer Trials Support Unit (CTSU) which is a service of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) that provides clinicians across the United States and Canada access to cancer trials. We also have access to pharmaceutical sponsored trials as well as prevention and compassionate use protocols, observational studies and data registries.

The study coordinator reviews all new cancer patients and pathology reports that are diagnosed at ACMH facility in the inpatient and outpatient setting for potential eligibility to participate in a clinical trial. The study coordinator works closely with the Medical Oncologists, Nurse Practitioner and Pharmacist to discuss new and available studies along with possibilities of patient enrollment. We continue to have steady enrollment in the number of patients electing to participate in clinical trials at ACMH. The study coordinator also assists the Medical Oncologists in referring patients to other research facilities if there is an open trial that may benefit our patient but cannot offer participation here. We are proud to offer this program as an additional treatment option in our community.

A total of 90 patients which is 30% of our analytic case load were placed on a clinical trial. Four patients gave consent for a Polycythemia Vera Data Study. Three patients gave consent for a substudy for collection of samples for Genetic Blood Analysis for Polycythemia Vera. Seventy-seven of our oncology patients were placed on the Radiation Outcomes Study through AHN here at our facility in our Radiation Oncology Department. Six other patients were referred to other facilities for participation in clinical trials that were not able to be offered here at ACMH.

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. 58 cases were presented in 2015 with an average of 14 in attendance. Sites discussed included lung, gastric, pancreatic, breast, colorectal, lymphoma, hepatic, head & neck, skin, multiple myeloma, cervical, endometrial and renal cancers. 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 2015 included: "Expanding Treatment Options in Metastatic Melanoma", "MammaPrint & BluePrint- Evaluating Breast Cancer Risk of Recurrence & the Significance of Functional Molecular Subtypes in your Clinical Practice", "Low Risk MDS", "LowDose CT Scan" and "Treatment of Philadelphia Chromosome-positive Chronic Myeloid Leukemia in Chronic Phase with STYPEL".

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 Therapists, Occupational Therapists and Speech Therapists 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. A genetics counselor is available monthly to meet with patient to discuss the risk assessment and testing. Patients have the opportunity to speak with the medical oncologist specializing in cancer genetic testing via teleconference. 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, financial assistance 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 Saturday, June 27, 2015, ACMH Hospital and the Foundation supported a free cancer screening which was held in the Richard G. Laube Cancer Center. The cancer screenings consisted of skin screening, and head and neck screening.

There were 84 people scheduled for the skin screening and 15 scheduled for the head and neck screening. 73 skin screening participants showed up on the day of the screening, 41 (56%) of which were referred for additional care. All 11 of the scheduled head and neck screenings showed for their appointment time, all of which had normal screenings.

All abnormal exams were followed to ensure follow up appointments were made.

We also asked the participants to bring a non-perishable item, if able, to the screening. The items were donated to the Kittanning Food Bank.

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

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

2015 Cancer Committee Members

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