

**For more information about available cancer clinical trials in Indiana, contact the Hoosier Oncology Group at (317) 921-2050, or visit their Web site**

**[http://hog.walther.org/hog\\_trials.html](http://hog.walther.org/hog_trials.html)**

**or contact the Indiana University Cancer Center at (317) 916-3500 or 1-800-622-4989 or visit their Web site <http://cancer.iu.edu/cancer/trials/>**

**For more information about the Indiana Cancer Consortium, visit <http://www.indianacancer.org/>**

Health Care Excel is a member of the Indiana Cancer Consortium, a statewide network of 50 public and private organizations united in the mission to reduce the cancer burden in Indiana through the implementation and evaluation of a comprehensive plan that addresses cancers across the continuum from prevention through palliation. It will be assisting the ICC in this statewide project.



**Indiana Cancer Consortium**



Health Care Excel, the Indiana Medicare Quality Improvement Organization (QIO), is a proud member of the Indiana Cancer Consortium

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**The Indiana Cancer Consortium**



**The National Cancer Institute**

***Clinical Trials Education***



The Indiana Cancer Consortium (ICC), Treatment Access and Utilization Coordinating Committee, is pleased to partner with the National Cancer Institute (NCI) on its new Clinical Trials Education Series, a complete collection of resources that provides general practitioners with the information needed to discuss clinical trials with patients and community groups. The series includes educational tools for health care professionals interested in learning more about the clinical trial process and educating their colleagues.

“The partnership offers physicians, patients, and advocates a complete set of tools needed to help people make informed decisions about participating in clinical trials,” said ICC Treatment Access and Utilization Committee Co-Chair, Dr. Stephen Tharp. “Our support of NCI’s efforts to increase awareness of clinical trials is one step toward meeting our priority strategy of increasing public awareness about the purposes, benefits, and enrollment procedures for clinical trials, particularly among minority populations.” The strategy is one of fourteen strategies from the Indiana Cancer Control Plan that

have been identified by the ICC as priorities for the coming year.

The new series consists of 13 adult education resources, including workbooks, slide presentations, booklets, brochures, videos, and a web-based course, to help potential trial participants learn about treatment and prevention options. Most materials can be easily adapted to fit any audience. Easy-to-read and Spanish language materials are also available.

Recent studies found that approximately 85 percent of cancer patients are unaware that participation in clinical trials is an option. Furthermore, only 3 to 4 percent of cancer patients participate in clinical trials.

Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Indiana. In addition, about 2.5 million, or 2 in 5 Hoosiers now living, will eventually develop cancer. “We are hopeful that increased education of both patients and their physicians about clinical trials will help those diagnosed

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with cancer decide whether participation is right for them,” Tharp concluded.

Initial planned outreach activities will focus on the education of health professionals via upcoming professional meetings. Primary care physicians and other health professionals are key influencers in patient decision-making regarding clinical trial participation and an ideal target audience.



If you would like to help implement the Clinical Trials Education Series in your community, order free copies in print, or on CD-ROM, by calling **1-800-4-CANCER**, or visit **[www.cancer.gov/publications](http://www.cancer.gov/publications)**