

A quarterly publication of the Indiana Cancer Consortium

Strategies Adopted for 2008

The Indiana Cancer Consortium Steering Committee has currently shifted the focus of how the ICC tackles priority issues surrounding cancer in Indiana. In the past, we have had nine coordinating committees, each working on a separate strategic plan from the Indiana Cancer Control Plan. The ICC has decided to focus on two to three priority issues each year, in effort to make a greater impact in Indiana. Each of these issues will be addressed by forming Action Teams. For 2008, the Steering Committee has decided on the following priorities:

1. Insurance coverage for clinical trials. This is an advocacy issue focused on advocating for legislation that will increase insurance coverage of standard care for cancer patients enrolled in clinical trials. The first meeting for this action team convened on January 25th.
2. Encourage primary care practitioners to incorporate clinical practice guidelines to promote early detection of cancer. In a recent survey conducted by the Primary Prevention Committee, they found barriers regarding primary care providers utilizing cancer prevention resources. They hope to find a way to address and eliminate these barriers. The first meeting for this Action Team will be on Tuesday, February 18, 2008 from 4:00-5:00 pm (EST) via conference call.

If you are interested in learning more or participating in either action team, please contact us at admin@indianacancer.org.

Smoking Ban Legislation Dies

A house bill designed to ban smoking in certain public places statewide did not pass. The Bill would have prohibited smoking in: (1) public places; (2) enclosed areas of a place of employment; and (3) certain state vehicles. The ban would have also required the alcohol and tobacco commission to enforce the prohibition making it a Class B infraction to violate the smoking prohibition and a Class A infraction if the person has three unrelated prior offenses. The bill died in a house committee on January 23, 2008 after a brief hearing. Representative Brown announced plans to refile the bill during the 2009 legislative session.

Save the Date

Indiana Cancer Consortium

Spring Meeting 2008

April 23, 2008

10:00am-3:00pm

Marten House Hotel and Lilly Conference Center

1801 West 86th Street Indianapolis, Indiana

Focus: Prevention and Screening

Registration is now available online at

www.indianacancer.org.

More information will be presented as it becomes available

News and Notes

- Welcome Keylee Wright as the New Comprehensive Cancer Control Director.
- Mary Shields has resigned from her position as Chair of the Colorectal Cancer Coordinating Committee. We wish to thank Mary for her dedication to the ICC and the committee.
- Rachel Miller has resigned from the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program. We wish to thank Rachel for her hard work and good luck on future endeavors.



ICC's New Status

The ICC has recently restructured some of our committees and processes in order to increase the efficiency and efficacy of our efforts to implement Indiana's 2005-2008 Cancer Control Plan. The revised structure, presented at the October 2007 ICC Meeting, predominantly affects the committees and the role they play in implementing strategies from the Cancer Control Plan. Key features of the new structure are summarized as follows:

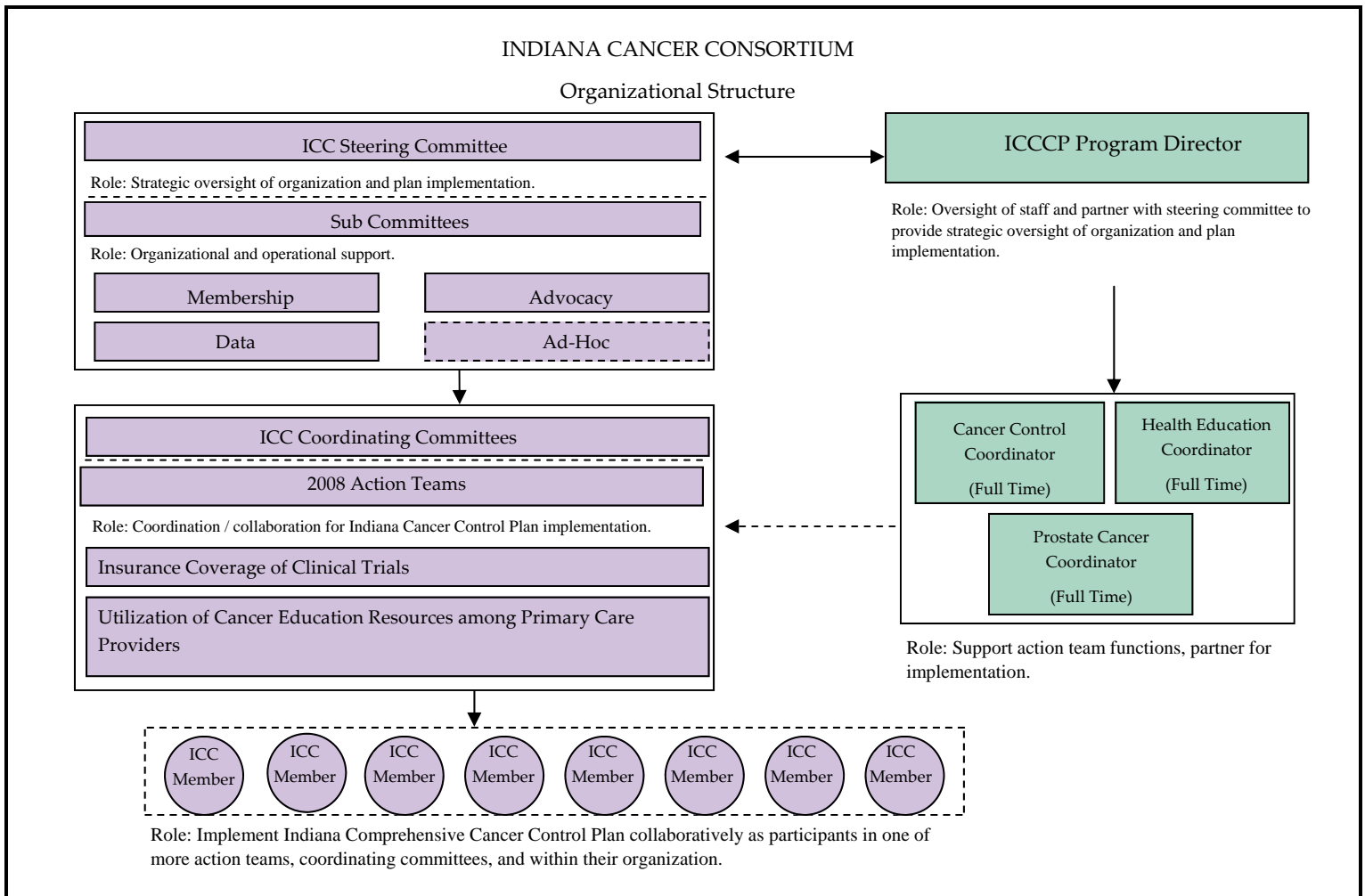
New this year is the addition of "Action Teams" (in purple, on the left side of the organizational chart). These teams will focus on one to two year efforts in areas that have been identified as priorities by the ICC membership. In 2008, the Action Teams will focus on advocating for insurance coverage of medical expenses related to clinical trials and increasing the utilization of cancer education resources among primary care physicians.

The ICC Coordinating Committees (e.g., Breast and Cervical Cancer, Prostate Cancer, Quality of Life, etc.) are also encouraged to remain active or direct their efforts towards the Action Teams. Each committee can determine the direction in which it would like to continue for the year.

The Data and Advocacy committees (along with the new Membership Committee) have become subcommittees of the Steering Committee. ICC members who serve on these committees do not need to be members of the Steering Committee. Instead, the work of these committees often coincides with the major roles of the Steering Committee.

If you have any questions about the revised structure of the ICC or how this may affect your participation, please contact us at admin@indianacancer.org.

By Mindy King



Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Quitline

ITPC and Smokefree Indiana are excited to announce the Indiana Tobacco Quitline, a statewide telephone-based service to help tobacco users quit, is now available. Any Indiana resident can access this FREE resource by calling 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

The Quitline provides support for individuals who want to stop using tobacco; offers information on tobacco dependence for health professionals, and families and friends of tobacco users; and provides information on community or national cessation resources.

Callers can talk with a live quit coach from 8:00 a.m. to midnight, seven days a week. During non-operation hours, a bank of recorded informational messages will be available for callers who can leave a voice message or listen to tailored messages. Quitline services will be available in both English and Spanish, and Interpretive Services will be utilized for other languages.

The Indiana Tobacco Quitline is made possible through ITPC funding and a supplemental grant to Smokefree Indiana from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Member Organization Highlight Olcott Cancer Center at Bloomington Hospital



When it comes to facing cancer, no one should feel alone. In Bloomington and south central Indiana, there is a safe place for people to receive information and support and share with individuals who have had similar experiences. That place is Bloomington Hospital's Olcott Center for Cancer Education, A Regional Cancer Institute Service.

The Center is named for Lloyd and Joan Olcott who saw a need to have a place that provided educational materials and support for those facing cancer. Lloyd and Joan made a generous gift to make this center a reality. The Olcott Center serves as a community resource where one can find out where to get wigs, mastectomy prostheses and transportation. It also offers genetic risk assessment to anyone wanting to know their possible risk to genetic cancers as well as a lending library to provide

further education and inspirational strength to patients and families going through cancer treatment.

In addition, support groups are offered for individuals diagnosed with any type of cancer and for their caregivers, as well as specific support groups for women who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. Free FOBT kits are available year round and skin cancer screenings are offered each year. In the summer, a Pirate Cruise takes place on Lake Monroe to pass out some of the 100,000 packets of sunscreen available to the public. The Olcott Center also raises awareness in the community by offering educational programs on a variety of cancer related topics to various age groups. Nurse Educators teach Breast Self Exam and Testicular Self Exam to 15 area high school health classes and attend both

community and business health fairs and are guest speakers at several Indiana University classes.

Individual counseling sessions are available with an oncology certified nurse educator along with a follow up program for clients as they go through treatment. The Olcott Center manages a financial fund to help provide a service or item to ease the burden of having cancer. Massage therapy is also available on site for patients as well as the help of a Social Worker.

The Olcott Center receives 100% of its funding from the community through the Bloomington Hospital Foundation, as well as additional grants it receives. All services of the center are FREE.

By Janice Ross

Cervical Cancer Outreach

According to the National Cancer Institute, cervical cancer has decreased over the past three decades. However, for Latina and African American women incidence rates are much higher and in some cases double that of Caucasian women. Through proper screening techniques cervical cancer is preventable and curable when detected early. The Indiana Cancer Consortium is working on a project to decrease the burden of cervical cancer in Latina and African American women in the Indianapolis community. We need your help!!! If you or your organization would like to participate in the outreach efforts or health screenings please contact Jacquelyn Peelle at Jacquelyn.Peelle@cancer.org to get involved.

Health Education Resources Available

For copies of any of these materials, please contact us at admin@indianacancer.org.

American Cancer Society Quick Facts on Lung Cancer, Colon Cancer, and Prostate Cancer. Each book is a comprehensive and a quick read, with highlighted cover tabs for quick reference of specific topics.

Say You Care: Start the Conversation Packets. The packets are recommended for newly diagnosed patients, beginner caregivers, and families in the beginning states of end-of-life care planning. This folder has been presented by the Indiana Hospice & Palliative Care Organization, Inc.

LIVESTRONG Survivorship Notebook: The Notebook features printed versions of the information, worksheets and stories online in a portable three-ring binder, including information about aftereffects of cancer treatment, living with uncertainty, communicating with the health care team, stories of cancer survivors talking about their experiences with cancer, three survivorship tools, and sections for to add personal records, notes and information from health care providers.

Social, Economic Factors Impact Skin Cancer Survival

Low socioeconomic status is a strong predictor of poor survival among patients from different ethnic groups with melanoma skin cancer, new research indicates. However, according to the researchers, the poor overall survival seen in African American melanoma patients is not explained by low socioeconomic status or differences in treatment. "These data highlight the importance of melanoma control efforts directed at patients from all ethnic backgrounds," Dr. Jason A. Zell, from University of California, Irvine, told Reuters Health. The findings stem from 39,049 patients diagnosed with melanoma skin cancer between 1993 and 2003, including 36,694 in non-Hispanic whites; 127 in African Americans; 1,996 in Hispanics; and 262 in Asian or Pacific Islanders. This analysis "represents the largest study to date to address ethnic differences in survival for melanoma while accounting for disparities in treatment and social and economic factors, Zell said. Results showed that people of higher social and economic status were much more likely than those of lower socioeconomic status to be diagnosed with skin cancer at an early stage and to have surgery to excise the tumors. They also survived longer. "In this study, socioeconomic status itself was found to be a strong predictor of survival," Zell said, noting that melanoma patients with the highest, relative to the lowest, socioeconomic status were 37 percent less likely to die, even after accounting for differences in age, gender, cancer stage, and other factors. He also noted that while melanoma is "quite uncommon" among African-Americans, "our data reveal that survival among African-American melanoma patients is poor," and this is not explained by differences in cancer stage, treatment disparities, or differences in socioeconomic factors. The adjusted risk of death was 60 percent higher in African Americans compared with non-Hispanic whites. No survival differences were observed for Asians or Hispanics compared with non-Hispanic whites. Zell and colleagues say the potential "mechanistic explanations" for the findings are "speculative and must await future research."

M. Rauscher (2008, Jan. 21) Reuters Health

New Director

The Indiana Cancer Consortium is proud to introduce our new Comprehensive Cancer Control Director, Keylee Wright. Keylee will start with the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program and the Indiana Cancer Consortium on February 4, 2008.



I am humbled by my new position with the Indiana Comprehensive Cancer Control Program. Like many Hoosiers, I have experienced the devastating effects of cancer with family members and friends. Although survival rates keep increasing, cancer is still a considerable public health issue. I am looking forward to working with the Indiana Cancer Consortium in reducing the cancer burden in Indiana.

I spent the last few years working for the Public Health Preparedness & Emergency Response Program at the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH). As a risk communication director and field public information officer, I developed strong working relationships with various local health departments throughout the state. I gained invaluable experience working with grants funded by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, supervising three field staff, managing media relations during crises, and facilitating trainings for physicians, residents, and local health department/ISDH staff.

Prior to my position with the ISDH, I worked for Open Door/BMH Health Center, a federally qualified health center, as an outreach coordinator for Covering Kids & Families. The purpose of my job was to increase the number of insured children and pregnant women in Delaware County. We accomplished that goal by building a strong local coalition, increasing the number of enrollment centers in the area, and by securing additional funding to promote Hoosier Healthwise.

As my work history implies, I am passionate about wellness and public health. I graduated from Ball State University in May 2007 with a Master of Arts degree in Wellness Management & Applied Gerontology with a minor in Business. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Madison in 2001. Additionally, I am a sports enthusiast and played collegiate volleyball.

Keylee Wright
Kwright@isdh.in.gov
(317) 234-2945

Medicaid Coverage for HPV Vaccination

Effective immediately and retroactive to February 1, 2007, the IHCP will reimburse providers for CPT code 90649, *Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccine* for members 9 to 18 years of age. Vaccine for Children (VFC) providers are voluntarily asked to bill for HPV vaccine according to the source of the stock. IHCP encourages providers to use VFC HPV vaccine, but if an IHCP VFC provider is not able to obtain enough VFC vaccine to immunize appropriately and has private stock available, the provider may submit the claims to EDS with charges appropriate to the source of the vaccine. VFC immunization vaccine stock is to be billed at the \$8 administration fee and private stock may be billed using the provider's usual and customary charge (UCC) for CPT code 90649, *Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccine*.

Submit claims for 90649 for all IHCP programs to EDS for reimbursement. The vaccine procedure code 90649 will be carved-out of RBMC until December 31, 2007; however, the MCOs will maintain responsibility for reimbursement of any associated services including an administration code or evaluation and management code that is billed on the same date of service as the vaccine. IHCP will continue to investigate and monitor HPV immunization for women 19 to 26 years of age.

If you have questions about this information published please IPHC contact Customer Assistance at (317) 655-3240 in the Indianapolis local area, or toll-free at 1-800-577-1278, unless otherwise noted.

Banner Page, BR 200729, July 17, 2007, Indiana Health Coverage Programs

ICC Event Calendar

Indiana Cancer Consortium Meetings for the Action Teams and Coordinating Committees are now posted on the ICC Website. Please visit www.indianacancer.org for the most up to date calendar information.

ICC Member Events



The Indianapolis Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure is hosting our first ever Breast Cancer Symposium to be held March 15th 8:00-3:30 at the Fountain Conference Center, 502 E. Carmel Drive, Carmel IN. Registration is now open. The St. Vincent Mobile Mammography Van will also be on site for anyone who is interested in receiving a mammogram. Please register for your Mammogram when you RSVP your attendance for the symposium. To reserve your space, call (317) 638- CURE or visit www.komenindy.org.



The Piece of the Pie Advocacy Day will inform participants of current health advocacy issues in Indiana and provide knowledge on how to communicate these issues with state legislators. Plans include an overview of advocacy, breakout sessions led by experts in the field of public health, and lunch. Following lunch, participants will have the opportunity to see legislation in the making by touring the Statehouse, attending hearings, and/or meeting with legislators to discuss health priorities. For more information or to register online, please visit www.insophe.org

Have an event you would like to promote, please share the information with us at admin@indianacancer.org. Please note that all events announcements are subject to approval prior to distribution.

ICC Membership

The Indiana Cancer Consortium is composed of public, private, and voluntary organizations. Membership in the ICC is open to all organizations interested in cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, promoting quality of life, using cancer and related data, or advocating for change regarding cancer issues. The ICC is an action-oriented organization. To meet the goal of reducing the cancer burden in Indiana, member organizations make a commitment to implement specific strategies identified in the Indiana Cancer Control Plan.

Benefits of ICC Membership

- Networking and collaboration with other organizations committed to cancer control in Indiana
- Participation in statewide efforts to make a difference in cancer care and outcomes
- Professional education and information

To become an ICC member, , complete a membership application located at www.indianacancer.org. You can complete the application online or download it in PDF form. If you choose to download the PDF version, you can then fill in the form and print it; then fax or mail it to the number or address shown on the application.

You will receive membership confirmation and begin receiving ICC updates and other news of interest.

