



## Delaware Cancer Consortium Quality Cancer Care Committee Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2007, 10 am  
Delaware Technical Community College  
Dover, DE

### Attendees

#### Members

Did Not Attend	William Bowser, Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP
Did Not Attend	Cynthia Dwyer, The Wellness Community of Delaware
Attended	Christopher Frantz, MD, A.I. duPont Hospital for Children
Did Not Attend	Wendy Gainor, Medical Society of DE
Did Not Attend	Sean Hebbel, The Wellness Community of Delaware
Did Not Attend	Susan Lloyd, Delaware Hospice
Did Not Attend	Susan Lowry, Christiana Care Health System
Did Not Attend	Michael Marquart, Mediguide
Did Not Attend	Sherry McCammon, American Cancer Society
Attended	Eileen T. McGrath, American Cancer Society
Did Not Attend	James Monihan, MD, Allied Diagnostic Pathology Consultants, PA
Did Not Attend	Nicholas Petrelli, MD, Helen F. Graham Cancer Center
Attended	Valerie Pletcher, Cancer Care Connection
Attended	Ed Sobel, DO, Quality Insights of DE
Did Not Attend	James Spellman, MD, Beebe Hospital – Tunnel Cancer Center
Attended	Donna Stinson, Bayhealth Medical Center
Attended	Judy Walrath, American Cancer Society
Attended	Sandra Zorn, Nanticoke Health Services

#### Staff & Other Committee Liaisons

Attended	Betsy Cromartie, Delaware Cancer Registry
Attended	Pamela DeGour, Wheeler & Associates Management Services, Inc.
Attended	Michelle Eichinger, Division of Public Health
Attended	Cheryl Rogers, Bayhealth Medical Center
Attended	Ola Ruark, Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Attended	Marjorie Shannon, Division of Public Health

### Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

Committee members approved the May 21, 2007 Quality Committee meeting minutes without change.

### Old & New Business

#### **Call to Order**

Dr. Christopher Frantz called the meeting to order at 10:07am.

#### **Welcome & New Committee Member(s) and/or Staff Introductions**

Dr. Frantz introduced Ms. Marjorie Shannon and welcomed her as the new Public Health Specialist of the Quality Cancer Care Committee.

Dr. Frantz introduced and welcomed Ms. Ola Ruark from the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center as a potential new member to the committee pending application.

## Access to Clinical Trials

In relation to Access to Clinical Trials, a major goal of the committee, Dr. Frantz stated that letters will be going out to Delaware hospital CEOs, clinical trials staff and cancer care coordinators explaining that data related to clinical trials and cancer will be requested from them. Further, Dr. Frantz stated that someone from this committee will need to meet with clinical trial point people at the various institutions to come to a mutually agreed upon approach to clinical trial data collection.

Copies of an information capture tool created by Ms. Shannon were distributed to the meeting attendees. Ms. Shannon explained that she created this tool as a means to obtain the data sought after to achieve Goal 2, Object 2b of the Quality Cancer Care Committee's recommendations. Ms. Shannon stated that these documents were merely a rough draft and welcomed comments and suggestions for improvement.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the Quality Cancer Care Coordinators' role in obtaining data concerning patients enrolling in or declining clinical trials and more specifically their role in "referring" patients to clinical trials. Ms. Michelle Eichinger, acting as a liaison from the Quality Cancer Care Coordination program, explained that, after piloting a report attempting to capture clinical trials enrollment data by cancer care coordinators, it was apparent that the data would not be readily available or even accurate due to clinical trials procedures already in place at the hospitals. Some of the cancer care coordinators simply do not have access to clinical trials information. Ms. Donna Stinson described the clinical trials protocol used at Bayhealth Medical Center, which further illustrated the difficulties described by Ms. Eichinger. The role of a computer system such as MIDIS, in relation to this data collection process, was also discussed. Dr. Frantz suggested revising the job description of the cancer care coordinators to include coordination and discussion with clinical trials staff. Regardless of the clinical trials protocol already in place at the individual hospitals, cancer care coordinators must educate their patients about clinical trials. Discussion concluded with the following action items agreed:

- Edit/Finalize clinical trials letter to hospital CEOs and clinical trials staff
- Meet with clinical trials staff to discuss existing clinical trials processes and the collection and reporting of clinical trials data to the Quality Cancer Care Committee of the Delaware Cancer Consortium
- Explore revising job description of cancer care coordinators to include coordination and collaboration with clinical trials staff

## Delaware Cancer Registry Advisory Committee (DCRAC) Update

Ms. Betsy Cromartie reported on the progress of each of the DCRAC's 7 Strategies:

1. To Improve the Timeliness and Completeness of Data – The IT Taskforce is currently in the process of developing a specification document for a new IT system for the central registry that would enable electronic reporting from all reporting sources. A focus group with staff representing ambulatory surgery centers will meet later this month. Dr. Frantz, Ms. Shannon, Ms. Cromartie and Mr. Garnett, IT Task Force Lead, have and will continue to communicate with Dr. Dennis Deapen, cancer registry researcher and director of the Los Angeles central cancer registry, as a resource for developing the central cancer registry database.
2. To Improve Data Quality – The Data Committee of the Delaware Cancer Consortium will assist DCRAC in improving the quality of staging and treatment data through chart validation studies. This includes a pilot involving stage 3 colon cancer whereby Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance claims data is merged with data from Christiana's cancer registry.
3. To Provide More Support to Registries & Registrars in Delaware – The 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Issue of the Delaware Cancer Registry Newsletter has been issued. DCRAC is planning to host webinars created by the North American Association for Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR). The first one is scheduled for later this afternoon. The DCRAC is also considering the possibility of having a "circuit riding" certified tumor registrar (CTR) who would travel to the hospitals to provide on-site trainings, help enter back-logged information, or perhaps fill in if there is a staff shortage.
4. To Increase Use of Data to Answer Research Questions – Will be discussed at the Data Committee Meeting.
5. To Change the Delaware Cancer Control Act to Eliminate Occupation/Residency Date Collection Requirements – This will not be addressed this year. In the fall, Dr. Paul Silverman will submit this to the Governor to be addressed next year.
6. To Develop Routes of Efficient and Effective Communication between the Registry and its Stakeholders – No update beyond the aforementioned newsletter, which is a step towards this goal.
7. To Close Gap between Timely Reports of Data – The purpose is to fill data requests in a timely manner. Ms. Cromartie currently keeps a log that records the date of the data request and the date that the request was completed.

## Final Comments, Quality Committee's "Purple Book" Recommendations

The Quality Cancer Care Committee's "Purple Book" Recommendations were forwarded via email to committee members in advance of today's meeting with instructions to members to review and forward comments to Ms. Shannon prior to this meeting. Dr. Frantz addressed this agenda item by asking attendees for comments. As no comments were voiced, Dr. Frantz indicated the recommendations would be considered final as presented. He then continued to review the recommendations as they pertained to year 1.

The following duties were delegated by Dr. Frantz and agreed upon by attendees:

### Goal 1

#### *Objective 1a*

- Drs. Spellman and Sobel will work with the Medical Society of Delaware to create/select tools for primary practice cancer screening and subsequently to educate physicians about how to use and implement the tools in their offices. Drs. Spellman and Sobel and potentially a member of the Medical Society of Delaware will report progress at the next meeting of the Quality Cancer Care Committee scheduled for September 17, 2007.
- Ms. Valerie Pletcher offered to spearhead the task of exploring and evaluating coverage provided by self-insured employers for cancer screening. Ms. Pletcher will use her connections with the State Chamber of Commerce she made through the Advocates of Hope program. Additionally, she is also a member of the new Workplace and Workforce Committee of the Delaware Cancer Consortium., which may prove helpful in regards to this objective.
- Dr. Frantz volunteered to work with the cancer care coordinator at A.I. DuPont Hospital for Children to evaluate the extent to which younger cancer survivors are receiving care from primary care physicians.
- Ms. Eichinger reported that AB&C has been contracted to promote cancer screening programs. AB&C are currently working on advertising for prostate screening and the Screening for Life program and we can expect to see these running soon. Ms. Eichinger will report back with the progress of the ad campaigns at the next meeting.

#### *Objective 1b*

- Ms. Shannon will be responsible for accessing statewide availability of appropriate health care providers. She will start by contacting the University of Delaware and the Health Care Commission to inquire about existing resources.

#### *Objective 1c*

- Ms. Shannon will implement, via medical record review, the ASCO/NCCN quality measures for breast and colorectal cancers. There is an existing contract with Macro International that includes at least an annual review. Ms. Shannon explained that it may be possible to use this company to train the people at the hospitals who will be responsible for the chart reviews.

### Goal 2

Refer to "Access to Clinical Trials" section above.

#### *Objective 2b*

- Dr. Frantz, Ms. Shannon, and Ms. Donna Stinson will be responsible for bringing the goal to fruition. Dr. Frantz and Ms. Shannon will begin by contacting the appropriate points of contact at Delaware hospitals.

### Goal 3

#### *Objective 3a*

- This has already been realized with the approval of the RFP to continue the cancer care coordination program for fiscal year 2008.

#### *Objective 3b*

- Ms. Eichinger reported that the Division of Public Health has contracted with Research Triangle Institute (RTI) and that part of that contract will include a survey this committee will use to satisfy the objective of evaluating the level of interest among patients to continue care coordination beyond treatment. It is not yet clear if RTI will develop the survey as well as implement the survey. If RTI will conduct the survey only, in-house Division of Public Health staff could potentially develop the survey. Ms. Eichinger will provide more information regarding this at the next Quality Cancer Care Committee meeting in September.

*Objective 3d*

- Ms. Eichinger reported that an RFP was recently submitted to expand the current Colorectal Cancer Screening Nurse Navigator electronic database for use by the Cancer Care Coordinators. She will report back on the progress of this at a future meeting.

Goal 4

*Objective 4a*

- An Advisory Committee currently oversees the Delaware Cancer Registry and is doing a thorough job of meeting this objective.

*Objective 4b*

- In reference to implementing regulations requiring submission of treatment data, these are regulations that come through the Division of Public Health. Ms. Shannon will report more about this at the next committee meeting.
- The IT taskforce subcommittee of the DCRAC has been charged with this task. Ms. Cromartie will update this committee of their progress at future meetings.

*Objective 4c*

- Quality-Related Activities Reports are given to this committee by Ms. Cromartie at each committee meeting.

### Documentation

Along with the meeting agenda and minutes from the previous committee meeting, the following documents were provided at this meeting and are available upon request to Pamela DeGour, Wheeler & Associates Management Services, Inc. 302-335-1495 or via e-mail at [PamelaD@ManageTool.com](mailto:PamelaD@ManageTool.com):

- ~ Quality Committee Recommendations for 2007-2011 Cancer Plan (Purple Book Goals & Objectives)
- ~ Draft Clinical Trials Workbook

### Future Meeting(s)

The next Delaware Cancer Consortium Quality Committee meeting has been scheduled for **September 17, 2007, Delaware Technical Community College, Dover, DE.**