

THE QUARTERLY

THE
REGIONAL ISSUE

REGIONAL SUPPORT >

PREVENTION AND SCREENING

The Prevention and Screening Team is your partner in enhancing outcomes for your patients through improved access to care, reduced wait times, and continuous quality improvement. Our team provides access to high-quality education and resources, as well as support for the Screening Activity Report (SAR), a vital tool to help track when your patients are due for cancer screening. We have developed many resources, such as the **MakeItStick** checklist (see insert) that can be tailored to meet your specific patient demographic.

Access your SAR >

A selection of resources has been included within this issue of The Quarterly newsletter for your reference. To order more resources, or for more information on how to register and access your SAR, please contact our team at ICSregional@southlakeregional.org

PERSON-CENTRED RADIATION MEDICINE>

CARE CLOSER TO HOME



By Dr. Woodrow Wells, MD, FRCPC
Physician Lead, Radiation Medicine (SRCC)

Cancer Care Ontario supports patients receiving cancer care close to home. Dr. Woody Wells, the Physician Lead of the Radiation Medicine Program, notes that not only is this practice sensible, it takes the stress out of long commutes into central Toronto to receive advanced Radiation Treatment. Since opening in March of 2010 the Radiation Medicine Program at the Stronach Regional Cancer Centre (SRCC) at Southlake has been committed to local, accessible treatment.

The eight Radiation Oncologists who work at SRCC also work at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre on a weekly basis, which means University Avenue quality and safety is available to patients referred to the SRCC. The Stronach Centre is an official partner of the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and has affiliation agreements with the Odette Cancer Centre and the University of Toronto. Patients who have received radiation treatment at the SRCC frequently comment on the personalized care, and the support received from the entire inter-disciplinary treatment team. Along with a Shockingly Excellent Experience and a commitment to person-centred care, quality and safety are paramount.

Every patient's treatment plan is peer reviewed by a large inter-disciplinary team prior to treatment. This safety step is unique in Ontario, and is a benchmark commitment to patient safety, facilitating seamless care throughout the patient's journey. The Radiation Program has simple access for patient referrals, and the quickest times for patients to be seen by a Radiation Oncologist. One fax to a central number is all that is required. After consultation, SRCC also has the shortest wait times in Ontario to begin radiation therapy. The combination of high quality and easy access make SRCC the obvious choice for cancer patients who need radiation therapy in the Central LHIN.

REGISTER NOW

The 5th Annual Central LHIN Oncology Day for Primary Care takes place Friday, November 18, 2016 at the Hilton Suites Conference Centre in Markham. Register at <http://centraloncologyday2016.eventbrite.ca/>

Oncology Day 2016



CANCER PREVENTION HIGHLIGHTS >

HPV IMMUNIZATION FOR BOYS

Announced in April 2016, the province is now expanding its program to offer the HPV vaccine to both males and females in Grade 7 effective September 2016.

These changes align with current scientific and expert recommendations including Canada's National Advisory Committee on Immunization. For more information on eligibility criteria or missed doses for the publicly funded HPV program, visit

<http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/ms/hpv/>

We anticipate that the continued success of the HPV immunization program will decrease the risk of developing cervical cancer and its precursors in our population. Cervical cancer screening using the Pap test will remain an important element of cervical cancer prevention and early detection.



ONTARIO CANCER STATISTICS REPORT: 2016

Ontario Cancer Statistics (OCS) 2016 is a comprehensive report that describes the changing burden of cancer in Ontario. The focus of this report includes the incidence, mortality, relative survival and prevalence trends in 30+ years of data.



One in two will develop cancer

One in four will die from cancer



A full copy of the report is available at cancercares.on.ca/OCSReport

SOUTHLAKE'S NEW SKIN CANCER DIAGNOSTIC CLINIC

The Regional Cancer Program at Southlake and Diagnostic Assessment Program launched the Skin Cancer Diagnostic Clinic in April 2016. If you are uncertain whether your patient may have skin cancer or melanoma, you can refer them for rapid assessment, biopsy, and interdisciplinary management.



Want to refer a patient?

Phone: (905) 895-4521 ext. 2960

Fax: (905) 952-2819

SMOKING CESSATION IMPROVES TREATMENT OUTCOMES

Smoking reduces the effectiveness of cancer treatment and likelihood of survival. Cancer Care Ontario supports a smoking cessation initiative in the Regional Cancer Programs to ensure patients achieve the best possible outcomes from their treatments. See the resources included with this newsletter. To learn more, visit <http://bit.ly/1Xs4DSL>

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS >

The Crescent Medical team took the initiative to improve colorectal cancer screening rates by targeting eligible patients. Over the past year, they increased their screening rate from 57% to 63%.

CRESCENT MEDICAL QIP

HOW WE DID IT

Identified eligible patients by reviewing charts and their

- monthly Screening Activity Report (SAR) to contact them for a discussion about colorectal screening
- In addition, charts for booked patients were evaluated prior to their appointment to deem eligibility, and they were offered screening at the end of their visit regardless of their presenting complaint
- Included MakeltStick checklists in FOBT kits
- Staff conducted reminder calls to patients who had received but not completed a FOBT kit in 6+ weeks
- Monday evening appointments were offered to patients who could not visit during regular office hours



WHAT WE LEARNED

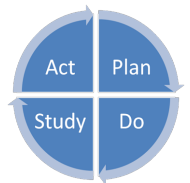
- Patients were the most receptive if offered the chance to discuss screening while visiting for an alternative reason
- Rejections from the lab significantly decreased after use of the MakeltStick checklist

WHAT'S NEXT

- Setting up an EMR alert to notify when a patient is due so that they can be contacted and book their screening
- Continuing to review charts prior to visits to identify eligibility / overdue patients so that physician can discuss the benefits and offer same-day screening
- Keeping Monday evening hours for accommodation

The Prevention and Screening Team regionally supports primary care practices on quality improvement projects and can provide individualized office support. To order resources such as the MakeltStick checklist, or to find out more about the support available to your practice, contact us

 ICSregional@southlakeregional.org



WHAT WE DID

- Used the SAR to identify patients overdue for breast cancer screening and contacted them by telephone to discuss the importance of mammography
- Partnered with a local OBSP site to distribute an incentive (transportation costs, courtesy of the Prevention and Screening Team)

WHAT WE ACHIEVED

Ninety-five successful connections with patients via telephone. Twenty-seven vouchers distributed to patients and three redeemed their voucher at the OBSP partner site. A further chart review showed 10 additional breast screens, 11 Pap tests and 3 FOBT kits completed as a result of the outreach.



JANE-FINCH FHT: QIP UPDATE

WHAT WE LEARNED

The perception of pain was identified as a common barrier to complete their screening mammogram. Telephone calls to patients were a large time commitment, but with advance planning were effective at moving the needle on our cancer screening rates.

WHAT'S NEXT

- Applying a similar approach to both cervical and colorectal screening
- Hosting a "Pap day" in the clinic

UPDATED CCC RECOMMENDATIONS >

COLON CANCER CHECK

Updated colorectal cancer screening recommendations for people ages 50 to 74 at average risk have been released. For more clinical information or information on the evidence for the screening recommendations, visit: cancercare.on.ca/pcresources

HEATHER TOMLINSON >



NEW: PROJECT ASSISTANT

Why did you choose healthcare?

I have always had a passion for health and well-being, and advocating for one's own health.

What are the most rewarding aspects of your job?

It is inspiring to come in everyday and collaborate with like-minded people who truly care about the work they are doing. I am continually reminded of why I chose the healthcare field when seeing the impact cancer screening and prevention education has on the diverse members of our Central LHIN community.

What have you learned about cancer prevention and screening that others may not know?

I have learned of the impact that alcohol has in increasing the incidence of cancer, not only of the liver, but of the larynx, esophagus, breast, colorectal, and oral cancers.

REFUGEE RESOURCES >

SCREENING RESOURCES FOR ARAB COMMUNITIES

Our research in the Central LHIN shows that there are increasing numbers of recent immigrants from Arabic-speaking countries, and initiating conversations about cancer screening with this population can be challenging. For example, anecdotal preference has been shown for colonoscopy-based screening since the FOBT test kit involves handling fecal matter. In addition, young and middle-aged women may not easily engage in discussions about cervical cancer screening and the HPV vaccine, due to associations with multiple sexual partners or promiscuity.

We recently developed Arabic resources to assist you when having conversations about cancer screening with these individuals. It is our hope that these discussions will empower them to educate themselves and others in their community.

For these or any resources included in your newsletter, contact

 ICSregional@southlakeregional.org

PHYSICIAN-LINKED CORRESPONDENCE

A proven way to get more of your patients screened for cancer. Physicians play a crucial role in cancer care and can greatly influence patients' participation in cancer screening. To enroll or for more information, visit:

www.cancercare.on.ca/pcs/primcare/physician_linked_correspondence/



**Central
Regional Cancer Program**
in partnership with Cancer Care Ontario

QUESTIONS? CONCERNS? NEWSLETTER IDEAS, DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION, OR TOPICS YOU'D LIKE TO SEE COVERED? CONTACT US:

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