



Meeting Summary
May 15, 2015

Members in Attendance:

Kathleen Connors-Juras
Stephanie Cooper-Greenberg
Diane Couchman
Kevin Cullen
Joan Daughtery
Catherine Fenwick
Lisa Gallicchio
Mary Garza
Donna Gugel
Roger Harrell
Kim Herman
Christine Marino
Jed Miller
William Nelson
Delegate Sheree Sample-Hughes
Artie Shelton
Yale Stenzler
Stanley Watkins
Brock Yetso

Members Absent:

Mary DeShields
Wendy Friar
Kevin Kelly
Senator Anthony Muse
Jay Perman
Paul Rothman
Kala Visvanathan

Staff and Guests in Attendance:

Sarah Conolly Hokenmaier
Nanyamka Hales
Meredith Truss
Ken Lin Tai
Jody Sheely
Blair Inniss
Elizabeth Platz
Peggy Funk
Barbara Fagan

Welcome and Review of Minutes from 1/23/15 Meeting

- The Council approved minutes from the meeting held on January 23, 2015.
- Dr. Watkins announced and welcomed Delegate Sheree Sample-Hughes as the new Cancer Council member representing the Maryland House of Delegates and Donna Gugel as the DHMH representative on the Council, replacing Dr. Carlessia Hussein.

Hospice Care in Maryland

Barbara Fagan from the Maryland Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) and Peggy Funk from the Hospice & Palliative Care Network of Maryland (HPCN) presented on hospice regulation in Maryland. (See attached) Highlights from their presentations and discussion include:

- Hospice facilities are surveyed every three years by the Maryland Health Care Commission on the quality of care provided; surveys do not include patient diagnoses.
- There are 28 hospice providers in Maryland representing 4 models of hospice: general hospice providers (traditional model), limited hospice providers (provide companionship), general inpatient hospice, and hospice in the home.
- Disparities exist in hospice utilization among minority populations, and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Network organization has reinstated a diversity council to examine disparities.
- The Hospice & Palliative Care Network in Maryland has access to hospice utilization rates by Maryland jurisdiction via the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO), and will provide these rates to the Council through DHMH staff. (See attached)
- The Maryland Health Care Commission surveys hospice utilization each year, and 2014 survey data should be available in the fall.
- The Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) is collecting data on services provided by hospitals that are participating in the palliative care legislation pilot project.

The Council discussed the importance of being involved in the promotion of palliative and hospice care being offered to patients at the optimal time, and the importance of continuing to include palliative and/or hospice care as a conference agenda topic.

Legislative Session Discussion

Meredith Truss discussed the Council's past interest in cancer-related legislation and the process for taking a position.

- As bills are introduced, hearings are scheduled quickly so the turn-around time is often very short and insufficient for the Council to review a bill, decide whether to take a position, and draft the position.
- At the previous meeting, the Council expressed an interest in selecting priority legislative topics and preparing positions in advance for bills of interest.

A summary of 2015 cancer-related legislation was reviewed including outcomes (see attached).

- The Council discussed various bill topics as potential priorities, and agreed that it should support legislation that is feasible and for which there is current scientific evidence. Council members decided to focus on preparing positions to support the following bills if they are reintroduced in the next legislative session:
 1. A ban on tanning bed use for minors (HB 56/SB 152)
 2. The addition of e-cigarettes and other electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) to the Clean Indoor Air (HB 26)

3. Increasing the fees for a cigarette retailer license, and requiring retailers of electronic smoking devices and flavored tobacco products to obtain a license. (HB 1015)

Council members expressed interest in inviting scientific experts to its next meeting to summarize the evidence around ENDS to help prepare a position for 2016. Council members with suggestions for speakers on this topic should contact DHMH staff. There was also a suggestion for the Council to share relevant scientific evidence with new legislators prior to the 2016 legislative session.

Maryland Cancer Plan Update Process

The Cancer Plan Feedback Sessions that were previously scheduled to take place in April were rescheduled to May 28, 2015 at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Council members were sent invitations to the sessions. There will be a final feedback session on the revised draft of the Cancer Plan on June 25, 2015; a Save the Date announcement has been sent (see attached).

Maryland Cancer Collaborative Update

Joan Daugherty updated the Council on activities of the Maryland Cancer Collaborative (see attached). The Collaborative will hold its annual meeting on June 25, 2015; details will be sent in the coming weeks.

Cancer Regulations Review

DHMH is in the process of reviewing regulations around breast implantation, breast cancer treatment methods, and the breast cancer screening program. The current regulations are now open for public comment until June 30, 2015. For links to the regulations under review and to submit comment, visit: <http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/cancer/SitePages/legislation.aspx>.

Maryland Cancer Registry Advisory Committee Update

Lisa Gallichio updated the Council on the Maryland Cancer Registry Advisory Committee.

- Westat will begin the North American Association of Cancer Registries (NAACCR) version 15 database conversion on May 8, 2015. The conversion will change Hematopoietic coding and provide new transgender codes.
- National Cancer Registrars Week was celebrated in April 2015 with a Governor's Proclamation and thank you letters to all Maryland CTRs.
- The MCR met the NPCR's National Data Quality Standard for its data submission in November, NPCR's highest standard.

Menthol in Maryland

Baltimore City Health Department is currently working with organizations and partners to create menthol buffer zones around city schools, which ban the sale of menthol tobacco products within a specified distance of schools. There is a Cancer Plan strategy to restrict the sale of menthol flavored products, however in Maryland menthol is exempted from statewide legislation that restricts the sale of flavored tobacco products. A forum on the issue of menthol tobacco products was scheduled for May 28, 2015 (see attached flyer). Chicago has already instituted menthol buffers and other cities are looking into implementation as well (see handout).

HPV Vaccination in Maryland

The Council discussed efforts underway to increase the HPV vaccination rate in Maryland.

- On the lower Eastern Shore, the Richard A. Henson Cancer Institute is working with pediatricians and partnering with Salisbury University to increase vaccination among college students.
- The way that providers present the vaccine to parents is important (i.e. providers should be telling parents that their child is due to receive the vaccine vs. asking them whether they would like the vaccine).
- If Council members have suggestions for DHMH and/or others for how to better engage providers, they should send those suggestions to Nanyamka Hales.

2015 Cancer Conference

The Council needs to raise \$14-15,000 for the 2015 Cancer Conference. Supporting sponsors (donations of \$1,000-4,999) and major sponsors (donations of \$5,000+) are needed. Sponsorship letters were distributed (see attached); Council members should reach out to their organizations about potential sponsorship, as well as others who may be interested in sponsoring. Dr. Watkins will work with Anne Arundel Medical Center to determine whether the hospital's foundation can set up an account to receive donations for the conference, so that donations may be tax deductible.

The Council discussed several potential agenda topics, including:

- Palliative care: MHCC findings on the hospital palliative care pilot project; panel with examples of how to generate referrals earlier in the diagnosis and treatment cycle
- Survivorship: Johns Hopkins Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute grant on models of survivorship
- Incorporating patient-reported outcomes specific to cancer into hospital electronic medical record systems
- Panel on Maryland disparities in cancer control: HPV vaccination, colorectal cancer, prostate cancer
- ACS State of Cancer- from Incidence and Mortality Report recently released that discusses trends in cancer (ACS presenter)
- University of Maryland Proton Treatment Center
- Best practices in young adult cancer treatment programs/cancer centers
- Include presentations across the updated Cancer Plan sections: Prevention (HPV vaccination), High Burden Cancers (colorectal, prostate), Survivorship, Palliative, and Hospice Care (palliative care, survivorship, young adult best practices)
- Legislative Moment- for discussion of the Council's legislative priorities chosen; with invitation to legislatures
- Structural barriers to cancer prevention and prevention management- discussion of managing cancer in the workplace; ways of incentivizing staff and intuitions; how to make processes smoother for staff and patients
- Therapeutic Vaccines
- Bladder Cancer in relation to smoking/tobacco

Additional suggestions should be sent to Nanyamka Hales.

Next Meeting: September 25, 2015, Anne Arundel Medical Center 9:30-11:30am