

Cancer Chairman's Report - 2014

Vassar Brothers Medical Center is committed to providing quality care to patients in New York's Hudson Valley. Founded in 1882, Vassar Brothers Medical Center has made a commitment to provide high-quality diagnosis, treatment, care, education and support to cancer patients and their families in a caring and supportive environment. We continuously strive to provide patients with early detection, lifestyle education and support services along with the latest advancements in diagnosis and treatment options. The Cancer Program at Vassar Brothers Medical Center has continued to expand and enhance its services to the community, including outreach, prevention and screening programs.

During the past year, the Cancer Committee met eight times and played an important role in the following activities:

- Cancer Program annual goals in 2014
 - Programmatic: To improve the Oncology-Rehabilitation Interface the Survivorship Training and Rehab Program (STAR) will be established at VBMC
 - Clinical: Design and develop a Low-Dose CT Screening Program for high risk lung cancer patients

- Cancer conferences
 - Multidisciplinary/breast conference
 - Head and neck conference
 - GI conference
 - Thoracic conference
 - Urology conference

- Support groups
 - Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group
 - Introduction to Chemotherapy
 - Healthy Eating for Oncology Patients
 - Living with Lymphedema
 - Look Good, Feel Better
 - Reach to Recovery

- Community outreach, education, prevention and screening
 - No-cost mammography for breast cancer screening
 - Low-dose CT scan screening for lung cancer
 - Radio Woodstock – Pink October 3-day event
 - Cancer Survivors’ Day
 - Prostate Cancer Walk
 - Smoking cessation
 - Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk
 - Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Walk
 - Relay for Life
 - Senator Gibson’s Health and Wellness Fair
 - Veterans’ Wellness and Cancer Screening Event
 - Colon Cancer Awareness

- Clinical education
 - Oncology Teaching Day
 - Breast Teaching Day
 - Pulmonary and Critical Care Conference
 - Urology Teaching Day
 - OB/GYN Education Day: Grand Rounds
 - Advanced and Innovative Care Conference
 - STAR Rehabilitation

Focusing on our community outreach, education, prevention and screening efforts has involved the entire medical center and the community. In 2014, we provided two prevention programs, a Colon Cancer Awareness event and a Veterans’ Wellness and Cancer Screening event.

There were two screening programs in 2014. A Breast Cancer Screening event was held in October. The event provided mammograms to women with no insurance. There were 11 patients screened, one with a positive finding with the patient going on for appropriate treatment. In September, Vassar Brothers Medical Center, in conjunction with Premier Medical Group, provided prostate screening to men. There were 15 patients screened. All with negative findings.

Respectfully submitted,

Dimitrios Papadopoulos, MD
Chair, Cancer Committee 2014