

# Cancer Chairman's Report - 2015

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 five times and played an important role in the following activities:

- Cancer Program annual goals in 2015
  - Programmatic: Implementation of a Smoking Cessation Program
  - Clinical: Adverse Drug Reactions Program
  
- 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
  - Women Moving Through Breast Cancer
  - Partnership with Support Connection, Inc.

- 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
  - Melanoma education for farmers
  - Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk
  - Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Walk
  - Relay for Life
  
- 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
  
- Quality Studies
  - Kidney Case Review for Compliance with NCCN Guidelines
  - Preventing Overutilization of Bone Scans for Early Stage Prostate Cancer
  - KRAS Testing for Metastatic Colon Cancers
  - Evaluation of Radiology Reports for Pancreatic Cancers
  
- Quality Improvements
  - PEG Tube Placement Aftercare Education
  - Early Identification of Palliative Care and Hospice Patients
  - Clinical Stage Prior to Surgery for Lung Cancer Patients

Focusing on our community outreach, education, prevention and screening efforts has involved the entire medical center and the community. In 2015, we provided a smoking cessation prevention program. Six attendees completed the entire program. Our annual mammogram screening program screened eight women and provided education on breast health. There were no malignancies identified.

Respectfully submitted,

Dimitrios Papadopoulos, MD  
Chair, Cancer Committee 2015