

# 2019

Public Reporting of Outcomes  
McDowell Cancer Center



*Behind Every Dark Cloud, There Is A Silver Lion*

As an accredited Commission on Cancer (CoC) program, Cleveland Clinic Akron General McDowell Cancer Center provides the Public Reporting of Outcomes to show the results of activities completed by our cancer program as required by the American College of Surgeons (ACOS) CoC. Accreditation is granted to facilities that have demonstrated compliance with the CoC Eligibility Requirements and Standards. To maintain accreditation, cancer programs must undergo an on-site survey every three years. We were awarded our Three-Year Accreditation with Commendation in 2017, which is only awarded to a facility that exceeds standard requirements at the time of its triennial survey.

Our program’s Cancer Committee is responsible for monitoring, assessing and identifying changes that are needed to maintain compliance with CoC criteria.

## 2019 Cancer Committee

### PHYSICIAN MEMBERS:

Esther Rehmus, MD (Chair)  
Noaman Ali, MD  
Brian Canterbury, MD  
Andrew Fenton, MD  
Thomas Herbener, MD  
Amanda Mendiola, MD

Mary Murray, MD  
William Papouras, MD  
Angela Powell, MD  
Ashok Ramalingam, MD  
Sonia Sandhu, MD

### ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS:

Frank Colella, MSN, RN, OCN  
Wendy Catchpole  
Rebecca Daubner, LISW, OSW-C  
Alicia Ferrell, MS, RD, LD  
Amy Gerber, MSN, APRN-CNP, OCN  
Kristen Glaspell  
Kristen Holmes  
Dena Hunt, LISW, LCDC III, OSW-C  
Julie Imani, MSN, RN, CNS, OCN  
Mary Anne Loftus, RN, BS  
Kathy Lukity, RN, BSN, CBCN

Jessica Marquard, MS, LGC  
Michael McNeal, RN, BSN  
Gillian Myers, MSN, RN, CNS, ACNS-BC, ACHPN, OCN  
Londa Roberts  
Brenda Runion, PT, MEd, DPT, CCCE  
Renee Santin, CTR  
Jeannie Terry, CTR  
Claire Wilson, DPN, APN, RN  
Tiffany Williams, MPA – ACS Representative





## Outcomes: Art Therapy

### Art Therapy Accomplishments in 2019

698

ART THERAPY VISITS FROM  
JANUARY TO OCTOBER

491

patients, family  
members and friends  
participated in the art  
therapy program from  
January to October

93

guests participated in the 7th Annual Cancer  
Survivorship Celebration on September 7

3

community outreach sessions  
to 48 Bolich Middle School  
(Cuyahoga Falls, OH) health  
and art students

66

staff from Akron General's  
Center for Family Medicine  
participated in an art  
therapy workshop

This year, we celebrated the sixth year of our art therapy program. Amber Gano, Board Certified Art Therapist, joined us in April of 2013 to start this program, working 10 hours per week. From April to December that year, she completed 118 sessions with patients. Since then, the program has grown tremendously and she is now with us 24 hours each week. Participation by patients and caregivers continues to grow each year.

Participation in the art therapy program is voluntary and sessions can be in a group setting or by individual request. This therapy is facilitated by our therapist who uses art media, the creative process and resulting artwork to explore feelings and reduce anxiety for those individuals going through cancer treatment. It also helps participants express themselves when it is difficult to put into words what they are feeling.



## Outcomes: Art Therapy

### Art Therapy Accomplishments in 2019

AS YOU ENJOY THE LATEST ART THERAPY GROUP PROJECT ON THIS YEAR'S COVER PAGE, REMEMBER THAT MAKING ART IS HEALING AND LIFE-ENHANCING FOR EVERYONE – BOTH PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS.

Another group art therapy project started and it is an elephant, representing “the elephant in the room,” symbolizing the difficulties we have knowing what to say or do when someone is ill. Patients have been working on it and it should be completed in January 2020.

#### Lion

“This was a dark place for me and I never thought or imagined I would have to face something as tough or terrifying. With each treatment I began to see that I was stronger than this dark place.

The sun began to shine with each session.

The sun began to hide the cloud with the silver sparkles and glitter.”

- Patient



*Behind Every Dark Cloud, There Is A Silver Lion*

# Outcomes:

## Prevention & Screening Programs

### Standard 4.1 – Prevention Programs

#### HPV Vaccine Education as Cancer Prevention

For 2019, based on the current Community Health Needs Assessment, we continued with HPV education, colorectal cancer screening, prostate education with screening and breast cancer screening.

The HPV vaccine prevents six cancers. Getting children vaccinated against HPV now can help keep them healthy well into adulthood. Age of vaccination matters as it works best when given before age 13. Every year in the United States, more than 33,000 men and women are diagnosed with cancers caused by HPV. Simply put, HPV vaccination:

- is cancer prevention
- is safe
- is recommended at age 11 or 12, for both boys and girls
- is expected to prevent 90% of HPV cancers when given before children are exposed to the virus

#### **HPV information was distributed at the following outreach events:**

- County of Summit Employee Health Fairs – February 13 & 20
- Akron General Wellness Fairs at the Health & Wellness Centers  
Stow – March 9 | Bath – May 18 | Green – October 26
- 17th Annual Minority Men's Health Fair at Akron General's Ambulatory Care Center – April 11
- WAKR Senior Luncheon – May 8
- Wayside Wellness Fair at the Akron Civic Theatre – September 21
- Akron General Ladies Night Out: Healthy You! event at Raintree Golf & Event Center – October 3
- City of Green Employee Health Fair – October 17

# Outcomes:

## Prevention & Screening Programs

### Standard 4.1 – Prevention Programs

#### Colon Cancer Prevention and Education

Colorectal Cancer is the third most common cancer diagnosed in both men and women in the United States. Estimates for the number of new cases (of colon and rectal cancers) for 2019 are more than 145,000. Lifetime risk for developing colorectal cancer is about 1 in 22 for men and 1 in 24 for women. Death rates from this cancer has been dropping in both men and women for several decades due to finding and removing polyps before they can develop into cancers, as well as improvement in the treatment of colon cancer. However, deaths among people younger than 55 have increased. Bottom line: finding this cancer early allows for more treatment options.

#### **April 11**

#### **Minority Men's Health Fair at Akron General's Ambulatory Care Center**

**5:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

For the second year of participation in the annual Minority Men's Health Fair, we invited the program coordinator, her staff and one of the gastroenterologists to assist with educating and screening participants. For this event, the visitors were able to meet one-on-one with a nurse or physician. Of the 21 men who opted for this education and screening, 15 said they were up-to-date with having a screening colonoscopy, four scheduled their screening colonoscopy and two said they would follow with their physician. The four who had their screening colonoscopy completed are being followed by the Colorectal Center healthcare team.

All men who attended this event were also given a copy of the Cleveland Clinic Akron General Health Maintenance Guidelines for Men, which includes recommendations for screening and immunizations. This brochure was also distributed at the following events:

- County of Summit Employee Health Fairs – February 13 & 20
- Akron General Wellness Fairs at the Health & Wellness Centers  
Stow – March 9 | Bath – May 18 | Green – October 26
- WAKR Senior Luncheon – May 8
- Wayside Wellness Fair at the Akron Civic Theatre – September 21
- City of Green Employee Health Fair – October 17

# Outcomes:

## Prevention & Screening Programs

### Standard 4.2 – Screening Programs

#### Prostate Cancer Screening and Education

Nearly 1 in 9 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer. It is more likely to develop in older men, as well as African American men. It is rare in men under the age of 40. Most men diagnosed with prostate cancer do not die from it, but it is the second leading cause of cancer death in American men behind lung cancer.

Considering that prostate cancer was listed as an area of concern in our current CHNA, we decided to form a Prostate Cancer Coalition to offer free PSA testing at our Minority Men's Health Fair and local events focusing on minority men. The focus was to encourage men to get a screening PSA. Results were sent to the urologist for review and the men received a follow-up phone call. If any of the men were unable to be reached by phone, staff mailed them a letter with their results. If the results warranted further discussion or investigation, it was recommended to submit those screening results to their health practitioner. If someone did not have a healthcare provider, they were followed by the Cleveland Clinic Akron General urology office.

**April 11**

**Minority Men's Health Fair at Akron General's Ambulatory Care Center**  
**5:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

- Total attendance – 330
- 128 men met with the urologist individually
- 128 men agreed to PSA screening
- All received results via a phone call or letter from the urologist
- If no physician on record, patient followed at Akron General's urology office
- Navigation: all are being followed



# Outcomes:

## Prevention & Screening Programs

### Standard 4.2 – Screening Programs

#### Additional Community Events with PSA Screenings

Of note: Men were asked if they had a previous screening PSA, were being treated for Prostate Cancer or were following with an urologist. As noted, not all men disclosed their true health status.\*

##### **August 3 – African American Male Wellness Walk**

- 15 men screened
- Urologist on-site for the event
- 2 abnormal results
  - 1 was already being followed by a urologist\*
  - 1 was advised to make an appointment with a urologist
- Navigation: all are being followed

##### **August 14 and September 11 – Akron Urban League**

- Total of 7 men screened at the events
- 6 had never had a PSA test
- 0 abnormal results
- Navigation: all are being followed

##### **September 21 – Wayside Wellness Fair at the Akron Civic Theatre**

- Total attendance – 517
- 23 men screened
- 20 had normal results
- 3 abnormal results
  - 1 was being treated for prostate cancer\*
  - 2 men needed further evaluation and were advised follow up ASAP
- Navigation: all are being followed

##### **October 19 – St. John CME Church Health Fair**

- Total attendance – 40
- 8 men were not in need or due for PSA
- 1 man screened
- 0 abnormal result
- Navigation: being followed

##### **November 1 – Stewart's Caring Place**

- 23 men screened
- 2 had abnormal results\*
  - 1 was already being followed by a urologist for elevated PSA levels
  - 1 was currently being treated for prostate cancer
- 2 other men had been treated for prostate cancer\*
- 5 have a urologist on record
- 7 men had a PSA done within the last year\*
- 12 men did not have a screening PSA on record
- Navigation: all are being followed



# Outcomes:

## Prevention & Screening Programs

### Standard 4.2 – Screening Programs

#### Breast Cancer Screening with Clinical Breast Exams

In order to encourage women to get their mammogram, we opted to participate in a church health fair and offer free clinical breast exams and education about breast health. If needed, our breast surgeon was on hand to order a screening mammogram. Our hope is to decrease the number of breast cancers diagnosed and decrease the number of patients with late-stage disease.

##### October 19 – St. John CME Church Health Fair

- Total attendance – 40
- 4 women screened
- 2 women were due for a screening mammogram
- Navigation: all are being followed by Akron General's Reflections Breast Health Center

##### Breast Cancer Screening Guidelines

It is important to perform a monthly breast self-exam and also have an exam done by a healthcare professional yearly. These exams help identify when changes have occurred in the breast tissue. If you recognize any changes, talk to your doctor, discuss these changes and decide about appropriate follow-up care.

- All women should review their specific risk factors for breast cancer with their healthcare providers and decide together when to start and how often to screen for breast cancer.
- All women should have the opportunity to start screening mammography at age 40.
- For women ages 45-55, Cleveland Clinic recommends annual screening mammograms.
- For women 55 and over, Cleveland Clinic supports for the transition to a biennial interval for screening mammograms, or continuation with annual screening.
- All women should discuss with their healthcare providers when to stop screening mammograms.



## Outcomes: Survivorship



This year, our Annual Survivorship Celebration was held at Akron General's Health & Wellness Center, Green, on Saturday, Sept. 7. The 93 survivors, family members and their supporters were treated to lunch and dessert.

The theme this year centered on bees and beekeeping, featuring local beekeeper, Lily Holderbaum, who also happens to be a caregiver at Cleveland Clinic Akron General. She shared how beekeeping became a part of her life and what working with bees taught her about wellness and inspiration. Guests sampled six batches of honey, which varied in taste depending on when it was harvested. Continuing with the bee theme, guests used bee props for selfies at our Bee Booth, and Amber Gano, our art therapist, presented an art task.

Thanks to the volunteers for helping to make this an enjoyable event! Details for the 2020 event, which will take place in June, will be coming soon.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR FEEDBACK ABOUT THIS REPORT OR OUR PROGRAM, PLEASE CALL US AT 330.344 HOPE (4673) OR VISIT [AKRONGENERAL.ORG/CANCER](https://akrongeneral.org/cancer).**

# 2019 Types of Cancer

Total cases: 1,607

