

MCCI Update

The Latest Information About the Michigan Cancer Control Initiative

MCCI Activities Building as Summer Progresses

Even though we needed to cancel the June 1999 Michigan Cancer Consortium (MCC) meeting, we have many activities related to the Michigan Cancer Control Initiative (MCCI) underway this summer. The Executive Committee has participated in conference calls and meetings to discuss how to ensure a smooth transition from action planning to implementation of MCC's priorities. Executive Committee members are working on plans for presentations about the MCCI that they will make at major meetings sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in September and the Michigan State Medical Society in November. MCC staffers are compiling information contained in the Action Plans and formatting it for use during the upcoming discussions with the key MCC organization decision-makers that will lead to commitments for implementation. We also are gathering input from our Resource Development Advisers and exploring possible funding options. The next MCC business meeting is being planned for Oct. 6. For more information about any of these activities, please contact MCCI Coordinator Sue Haviland (Phone: 517-335-8372; e-mail: havilande@state.mi.us).

MCC Lends a Helping Hand to Maine Coalition

Recently, representatives of the Michigan Cancer Consortium (MCC) staff and the MCC Executive Committee participated in a video conference organized by Maine's state health agency. The purpose of the video conference was to inform members of Maine's cancer advisory committee about Michigan's comprehensive approach to cancer control. Health care leaders from the two states met "face to face" in an April 30 video conference. Approximately 100 individuals from Maine participated in the video conference from two Maine locations. Six representatives from Michigan participated, including Dr. William Peters of the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute; Dr. Aaron Scholnik of Marquette General Hospital; Marie Swanson of the Michigan State University Cancer Center; and Sue Haviland, Carol Callaghan, and Jean Chabut of the Michigan Department of Community Health; all six participated via the video conferencing link at the Michigan Health and Hospital Association. During the hour-long video conference, Michigan representatives discussed the history behind the MCCI, including why the Initiative was undertaken and how it has been organized. They also presented a panel discussion on the lessons learned by members of the Initiative in Michigan, followed by a question and answer period with participants from Maine.

Maine is in the process of forming its own equivalent to the Michigan Cancer Consortium. In fact, Maine will host its first organizational meeting this month to identify members of its coalition.

MCCI Update is a report from the co-chairs of the Michigan Cancer Consortium, Vicki Rakowski, RN, ET, and Aaron P. Scholnik, MD, for all those associated with the Michigan Cancer Control Initiative. To share ideas for future reports, or to change your mailing information, contact Patty Brookover at 517-335-9620 (FAX: 517-335-9397; e-mail: brookoverp@state.mi.us). For more information about the MCCI, contact Sue Haviland at 517-335-8372 (FAX: 517-335-9397; e-mail: havilande@state.mi.us).

Michigan leaders will continue to consult with Maine representatives and with representatives from other states forming comprehensive cancer control initiatives as part of an agreement under Michigan's recent grant award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to help support evaluation of the MCCI.

Local Public Health Folks Interested in Helping with MCCI

Michigan Cancer Consortium staff and partners participated in a concurrent session at the May 20 Local Public Health Leadership Meeting at the Michigan State University Kellogg Center in East Lansing. The following individuals described the Michigan Cancer Control Initiative (MCCI) and discussed possible local public health responses to it: Sue Haviland, Carol Callaghan, Jean Chabut, Patty Brookover, and John Beasley, all of the Michigan Department of Community Health; and Polly Hager of the Michigan Public Health Institute.

The Initiative offers local public health agencies an opportunity to organize community efforts to focus on cancer control priorities. Local public health agency representatives at the meeting were encouraged to consider how they could help break down barriers among high-risk populations and contribute to outreach efforts intended to educate high-risk populations about the importance of being screened for breast, cervical, and colorectal cancers. They also were encouraged to help in tobacco-reduction efforts targeted at both youths and adults. The response from the local public health people attending the session was overwhelmingly positive. Many of the individuals present at the meeting indicated an interest in the Initiative and said their agency would like to participate in it.

The presentation was part of an ongoing outreach effort being launched by MCC staff and partners to spread the word about the Initiative and how agencies can become involved. Plans are being made to present MCCI information to members of several other organizations throughout the remainder of 1999. For information, contact MCCI Coordinator Sue Haviland (Phone: 517-335-8372; e-mail: havilande@state.mi.us).

MCCI Evaluation Committee Launches Evaluation Process

The new Evaluation Committee for the Michigan Cancer Control Initiative, composed of experts recruited from Michigan Cancer Consortium member organizations and Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) consultant evaluators, held its first meeting May 12. The evaluation component under development will provide feedback on specific activities and goals for use by Initiative support staff and MCC decision-makers. The committee has developed a basic plan for assessing the development of the MCC collaboration, including the work of the advisory committees on objective development and initial prioritization, as well as the work of the nine Action Planning Groups. Now that the action plans have been completed, the committee will concentrate on assessing the progress toward achievement of the priority objectives.

Members of the Evaluation Committee include: Paula Lantz, PhD, faculty, University of Michigan School of Public Health; Allen McBride, MD, senior associate medical director, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan; Harry Perlstadt, PhD, faculty, Michigan State University Department of Sociology; Neva Nahan, program director, Survey and Evaluation Services, Center for Urban Studies, Wayne State University; Carol Garlinghouse, MSN, RN, Cancer Prevention and Control Section, Michigan Department of Community Health; Ruth Mohr, PhD, consultant evaluator, MPHI; and May Yassine, PhD, consultant evaluator, MPHI.

These members will serve through the first cycle of the MCCI (i.e., 2002). They will provide assistance in thinking about collaboration-related process outcomes (i.e., What changes in cancer control at the organization, health system, or community level are related to the MCC's collaborative approach?) and about how to link the collaborative efforts to measures of cancer burden in the state. Support for the evaluation is provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through a four-year grant award that began this year. For more information, contact MCCI Evaluation Committee Coordinator Ruth Mohr (Phone: 734-669-8830; e-mail: ruthmohr@pilot.msu.edu).

One Final Note

We send these *MCCI Update* reports to all MCC member representatives and to the conveners of the nine Action Planning Groups. However, you should feel free to share their content with anyone else who might be interested.

MICHIGAN CANCER CONSORTIUM MEMBERS:

Organizational: ACCESS Community Health Center • American Cancer Society, Great Lakes Division, Inc. • American College of Surgeons • Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute • Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan • Flint & Vicinity Action Community and Economic Development • Grand Rapids Community Oncology Program • Health Alliance Plan • Henry Ford Health System • Hospice of Michigan • Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc. • Michigan Academy of Family Physicians • Michigan Association for Local Public Health • Michigan Black Nurses Association • Michigan Dietetic Association • Michigan Health & Hospital Association • Michigan Hospice Organization • Michigan Nurses Association • Michigan Osteopathic Association • Michigan Peer Review Organization • Michigan Primary Care Association • Michigan Radiological Society • Michigan Society of Hematology and Oncology • Michigan State Medical Society • Michigan State University Cancer Center • National Association of Hispanic Nurses, Michigan Chapter • Oncology Nursing Society • University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center • University of Michigan School of Public Health • Upper Peninsula Health Care Network, Inc. • West Michigan Cancer Center

At-Large: Deanna Beyer, MS, RN • Donald Bronn, MD, PhD