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Quick News & Links:

[The 2019 Annual Meeting will take place on October 24th at the Kellogg Center. To get involved in the planning contact Amy Stagg.](#)

[Do you have good news to share about your organization? Send us the details and we will post it on our Members in Action page!](#)

[Having an event? Send us the details to post on the MCC Calendar of Events page!](#)

[MCC Calendar of Events](#)

The Cancer Causes and Control Journal Published a Special Issue Highlighting Comprehensive Cancer Control: Twenty Years of Progress

A new Special Issue of the journal *Cancer Causes and Control* (Volume 29, Number 12, December 2018) features work from around the United States, including articles about Michigan Programs.

These articles celebrate the accomplishments of the National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program (NCCCP) and comprehensive cancer control (CCC) coalitions’ efforts and progress in advancing cancer control in the United States. The NCCCP currently supports cancer control planning and implementation in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, eight tribes or tribal organizations, and seven U.S. Territories.

The CCC approach brings partners together to address the cancer burden in a community by assessing the use of existing resources and identifying and focusing on cancer-related issues and needs.

This Special Issue highlights the progress made over the past twenty years in addressing the cancer burden through the CCC approach and looks at how CCC programs and coalitions have changed over the years, and how they can affect change through policy, systems and environmental approaches in areas such as liver cancer prevention, lung cancer screening, and addressing cancer survivors’ wellness. The importance of these strong and effective partnerships are featured in a collection of articles including those by CDC authors and co-authors.

To read this issue visit the [Cancer Causes and Control Volume 29, Issue 12 website](#).

Michigan Journal of Public Health Releases Special Issue Highlighting the Work of the MCC

The Michigan Journal of Public Health released a Special Issue which highlights the MCC’s work and celebrates its 20th Anniversary. To read this issue visit the [Michigan Journal of Public Health Volume 9: Issue 1 Website](#).



Declining Cancer Death Rates in Perspective

January 2019, Commonwealth Fund

The death rate from cancer in the United States has declined 27 percent since its peak in 1991. This drop translates into approximately 2.6 million fewer cancer deaths than would have been expected if death rates had remained at 1991 levels.

The data, published in the [American Cancer Society's journal](#), show a 48 percent decline in lung cancer death rates from 1990 to 2016, and a 40 percent decline in breast cancer death rates from 1989 to 2016. These and other findings are attributed to reductions in smoking and advances in early detection and treatment. The study also finds the difference in cancer death rates between black and white Americans has narrowed: the cancer death rate in 2016 was 14 percent higher in blacks than in whites, down from its peak of 33 percent higher in 1993.

While this progress is cause for hope, it must be taken in context with other findings from the study. Cancer is still the second-leading cause of death — 22 percent of deaths in the U.S. in 2016 were from cancer. In 2019, more than 1.7 million new cancer cases will be diagnosed, and rates of new liver cancers are rising faster than any other.

The study also finds that while racial disparities in cancer death rates are decreasing, socioeconomic disparities are increasing. The overall cancer death rate was approximately 20 percent higher among residents of the poorest counties compared with the most affluent counties from 2012 to 2016. This growing geographic health disparity reflects the national distribution of poverty.

Other public health data also convey a more sobering message. Life expectancy in the U.S. declined in 2017, to 78.6 years, from 78.7 years in 2016. This is the third consecutive year in which expected life span fell, and the longest sustained decline in a century. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention considers soaring death rates from drug abuse and suicide the driving forces behind the decline in life expectancy.

Obesity is another public health crisis that may affect national life expectancy rates. Nearly 40 percent of American adults were obese in 2015–16, up from 34 percent in 2007–08. While obesity's links to diseases like diabetes are well known, few may realize excess body weight leading to cancer causes about 7 percent of cancer-related deaths, or 40,000 deaths each year. The new cancer study finds that incidence rates continue to increase for cancers of the liver, thyroid, uterus, and pancreas, all of which are associated with obesity. These increases suggest that rising obesity could influence cancer death rates in the future.

Cancer death rates are also colored by socioeconomics. Residents of the poorest counties experience a disproportionate burden of the most preventable cancers, in part because of because of state/territory differences in Medicaid expansion and other initiatives to improve access to health care. Addressing such social and public health issues should be an urgent priority to halt and perhaps reverse the disturbing trend of shorter life spans in the United States.

For the complete article visit [Declining Cancer Death Rates in Perspective](#).



ACS CAN Update

February 2019, Andrew Schepers

In 2019, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is:

- Continuing to work on the issue of oral chemo parity.
- Working to raise Michigan's tobacco purchasing age from 18 to 21.
- Working with policymakers to improve capacity for tobacco prevention efforts.

Michigan's Day at the Capitol is April 24th, for more information contact [Andrew Schepers](#).

If you have any questions on the work ACS CAN is doing, please contact Andrew Schepers at Andrew.schepers@cancer.org.



2019 MCC Meetings

Board Meetings (12pm - 3pm):

Wednesday, March 27

Wednesday, June 26

Wednesday, September 25

Just Announced! 2019 Annual Meeting (Lansing):

Thursday, October 24

*If you are interested in being a part of the Program Committee
please contact Amy Stagg at StaggA@michigan.gov.*

MCC Website

Be sure to visit the [MCC website](#) to find provider and patient resources

Health Equity Corner

Health Equity's Speakers Bureau

The MCC Health Equity Speaker's Bureau is a resource for individuals and organizations. This directory includes content experts accessible to MCC members for consideration in planning educational sessions/conferences. For more information about the available speakers visit the [MCC Speakers Bureau website](#).

If you would like to be added to the MCC Speakers Bureau, please contact Beth Trierweiler at Trierweilrb@michigan.gov.