

MCC Tool of the Month
April 2020 is National Minority Health Month



April 2020

Michigan Cancer Consortium – Tool-of-the-Month
April is National Minority Health Month

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- [Article](#) – sample minority cancer awareness article for MCC member and partner organization employee newsletters
 - [Data](#) – quick, ready-to-use minority health stats and sources
 - [Resources](#) – minority health resources for MCC member and partner organizations
 - [Social media](#) – ready-to-use minority cancer awareness Facebook posts and Tweets

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Sample Newsletter Article

Intended use: use this article in your employee newsletters and as the basis for a press release; to promote awareness.

April is National Minority Cancer Month

It is well known that some groups of people are more likely to get, or die from, cancer. We know:

- African Americans have the highest death rate and shortest survival of any racial and ethnic group in the US for most cancers.
- In Michigan, American Indians have the highest rate of cancer compared to other racial and ethnic groups.
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people have risk factors that lead to a greater rate of cancer cases.
- Individuals with a mental illness may have a higher cancer case rate on account of late stage diagnosis and inadequate treatment and screenings. People with mental illness also have a higher death rate due to cancer.
- Overall, the cervical cancer incidence rate among US Hispanic women is about 31% higher than among non-Hispanic whites.

“During National Minority Cancer Awareness Week, it’s important to draw attention to these health disparities and also point out what can be done to narrow these gaps by preventing cancer in the first place,” states [insert name, title, organization here].

“It’s vital for all people to be screened or tested for cancer. Screening tests exist for a number of cancers including breast, cervical, colorectal and lung cancer. With regular screening, cancer can be detected at an earlier stage, often when it is most treatable. People should talk with their doctor about being screened and also discuss any family history of cancer that may put them at higher risk,” [insert person’s name here] says.

“A prime cancer prevention tool already exists for kids. The HPV (human papilloma virus) vaccine can prevent cervical cancer and many other cancers in women and men. It’s most effective if given at the age of 11 or 12, but can be given through age 26,” [insert person’s name here] went on to say.

Depending on your income, you may be eligible to enroll in Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) to receive your cancer screening services. If you are not eligible for the HMP, you may qualify for no-cost screening and follow-up care through the Michigan Breast and Cervical Cancer Navigation Programs – it can help you get cancer screening services. Call 1-844-I-GOT-SCR (1-844-446-8727). Under the Affordable Care Act, most health insurance plans cover recommended preventive services including testing for different cancers at no out-of-pocket cost to the patient. Check with your plan to find out details of what is covered. This is also an opportune time to remind those with health insurance not to put off testing – testing can help save lives. Talk with your doctor.

Sources:

- *American Cancer Society, Cancer Facts & Figures for African Americans, 2016-2018; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National LGBT Cancer Network; National Behavioral Health Network for Tobacco & Cancer Control; American Cancer Society Facts and Figures for Hispanics/Latinos 2015-2017*

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Quick Data and Data Resources – Minority Cancer Awareness

Intended Use: use quick data to help tell the story of minority health burden and disparities.

Michigan

- Cancer Incidence 2016:
 - White: 430.8 / 100,000 , African American: 437.7 / 100,000 , American Indian: 459.0 / 100,000 , Asian: 249.1 / 100,000 , Hispanic 315.0 / 100,000
 - Source: [CDC Cancer Visualization](#)
- Cancer Mortality 2018:
 - White: 160.4 / 100,000 , African American: 181.2 / 100,000 , American Indian: 143.3 / 100,000 , Asian: 69.9 / 100,000 , Hispanic 113.0 / 100,000
 - Source: [CDC Wonder](#)
- *Michigan Cancer Surveillance Program Inquiry System* <http://www.cancer-rates.info/mi/index.php> – for cancer data (county-to-state level, race, etc.), check out the inquiry system.
- [Minority Health Surveys](#) – Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Health Disparities Reduction and Minority Health Section

National

[American Cancer Society Cancer Facts and Statistics](#) (national and state) – including:

- *Cancer Facts & Figures 2020*
- *Cancer Facts & Figures for African Americans 2019-2021*
- *Cancer Facts & Figures for Hispanics/Latinos 2018-2020*
- *Interactive Cancer Statistics Center*

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Cancer Rates by Race/Ethnicity and Sex](#)

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Resources for providers and their staff

Intended use: promote available minority cancer resources to both health care providers and patients

MCC Resources

- Provider Resources <http://www.michigancancer.org/Resources/HlthDispPV.html>
- Health Disparities Data <http://www.michigancancer.org/Data/HlthDispData.html>

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Social Media – Quick Tweets and Posts

Twitter:

Did you know African Americans have the highest cancer death rates? Talk to your doctor about #cancer and [cancer screening](#).

Are you African American? #Cancer takes a heavier toll on African Americans than other populations. Talk with your doctor and [#getscreened](#).

Hispanic & African American women are less likely to be diagnosed with early-stage #breastcancer than White women. Be sure to [get screened](#)

African Americans have the highest death rate & shortest survival of any racial & ethnic group in the US for most cancers. Get your [#cancerscreenings](#).

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people have risk factors that lead to a greater rate of cancer cases. Get your [#cancerscreenings](#).

The cervical cancer incidence rate among US Hispanic women is about 31% higher than among whites. Be sure to get your [#cancerscreenings](#).

Facebook:

If you're African American, be sure to get screened for cancer. Talk with your doctor about cancer screening and also discuss any family history of cancer that may put you at higher risk. [Get information on cancer screening](#).

Individuals with a mental illness may have a higher cancer case rate on account of late stage diagnosis and inadequate treatment and screenings. People with mental illness also have a higher death rate due to cancer. Be sure to get your [cancer screenings](#).