

Minutes

DHEC Cancer Control Advisory Committee

Conference Call – February 17, 2011

Members Present: Debbie Seale (Chair), Tony Alberg, Judy Bibbo, Karen Brooks, Natalie Copeland, Lynn Erdman. Steve Gresham, Lynn Ivey, Drew Monitto, David Rice, John Ureda, Jan Viars (for Lathran Woodard)

Members Not Present: Margaree Crosby, Spencer Disher, Jr., John Funke, Bz Giese, Bill Gilchrist, Stephen Madden, David Rice, Nancy Windham

Announced Absences: James Maynard, Linda Morphis

DHEC Staff Present: Susan Bolick, Lou-Ann Carter, Tom Gillette, Susan Jackson, and Sonya Younger

Welcome and Introductions

Debbie Seale, Chair, welcomed the participants and recognized three newly appointed CCAC members: Natalie Copeland, representing the SC Cancer Registrars Association, Lynn Erdman, representing the American Cancer Society, and Linda Morphis, representing BCN providers. Debbie also noted for the record that this meeting had been postponed for one week so it would not conflict with the SCCA meeting planned for the same date.

Minutes

Last Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved as amended. There was an incomplete sentence noted. Tom will change in the file minutes.

Surveillance Subcommittee

Dr. Alberg reported the subcommittee met earlier this month via conference call. Three new applications for release of SCCCR data were reviewed. Dr. Alberg noted that two of the applications were tabled pending additional information from the researchers. These were from the Medical University of South Carolina requesting data comparing lupus and lymphoma and from the Arnold School of Public Health requesting cervical cancer data. Dr. Alberg advised that the subcommittee would be reviewing their guidelines for requesting data and updating them. The subcommittee has to return too many requests that do not include enough information to make an informed decision on data release. The subcommittee approved the third request from WTC Medical Monitoring and Treatment Program for data on fire fighters responding to the World Trade Center disaster that had moved to South Carolina and subsequently received cancer treatment. This is part of a national study on health effects of first responders to that incident. That request was approved.

Central Cancer Registry

Susan Bolick provided the report. We just submitted our Interim Progress Report and Workplan for Year 05 of this 5-year cycle along with BCN and Comp Cancer. We expect to receive level funding from CDC.

Every five years CDC National Program of Cancer Registries, the funding agent of the SCCCRC, conducts a Data Quality Audit of each state central cancer registry. Our audit will be held in March. The focus of the audit this time is to measure completeness of full 1st course treatment information. CDC's contractor has randomly selected ten hospitals and the auditor will spend one day at each facility to re-abstract the source medical records. That information will then be compared to the information housed in the SCCCRC database. Collecting full 1st course of treatment is difficult since treatment is given beyond the hospitals in freestanding treatment centers. Hospital registrars try to gather all the treatment information in multiple ways.

We are being asked by DHEC to justify state FTEs that are vacant. Our abstracting positions are state-funded because CDC will not support direct data collection from hospitals. SC state cancer registry law indicates cancer reporting cannot be a financial burden on small community hospitals; therefore we take the responsibility to collect the data (which yields high quality data collected by experienced staff). These vacancies are due to retirement of two CTRs from our staff.

Cancer Division Update

Lou-Ann Carter announced several pending staff changes in the Division. Tom Gillette will be retiring the end of March and Dr. Ginie Daguise will serve as acting Comprehensive Cancer Control Program Director. Sonya Younger will be moving from the SCOPE SC program coordinator position due to those funds ending and will work with the CCC program to support the regional cancer plan implementation through the DHEC regions. Sonya will also provide staff support to the CCAC. She will also provide support to WISEWOMAN and BCN to assist in coordinating those programs with the primary care center providers. Lou-Ann announced that the Cancer Division has learned that the state funding for BCN and for the SCOPE SC program, will not be renewed for this fiscal year. BCN will continue with the federal CDC funds, but screening for women aged 40-46 has stopped. SCOPE SC has funds remaining and will provide services until they're exhausted, probably by April or May. At that time, the program will end. Although DHEC has requested these funds be reinstated in the state budget beginning July 2011, we are not optimistic that they will be reinstated due to economic conditions. Lou-Ann also reported that BCN and CCC submitted their continuation CDC applications in the same package as the Registry. Those two programs also expect level funding.

Susan Jackson reported on the Medicaid Treatment Act statistics for the current year. As of September 30, 2010, there were 593 active patients enrolled through Option 1 and 985 active cases enrolled in Option 3. The Act continues to provide a valuable resource for covering treatment of women diagnosed with breast cancer. DHHS has not indicated that they will discontinue these programs due to issues related to match.

Sonya Younger reported on SCOPE SC colorectal screening numbers for the first year of the project and for the second year to date. She reported that 407 colonoscopies have been performed since July 1, 2010. We anticipate completing an additional 250 procedures prior to funds being exhausted. There are now seven centers providing services.

SCCA Update

Dr. Ureda provided the report. The SCCA Coordinating Council continues to meet monthly under the direction of Council Chair, Peggy Baxter. In December the Council announced a call for proposals to fund cancer implementation activities consistent with the newly updated South

Carolina Comprehensive Cancer Plan. Proposals requesting up to \$12,000 are being accepted up until March 1, 2011 at 5 PM. Additionally, three proposals were received requesting funding for continuing 2010-11 projects on February 4, 2011. \$6000 in funding remains from 2010-11 implementation funds, which will be distributed based upon these three requests. The Council met in conjunction with SCCA staff and Board in Columbia for an all day retreat on January 25, 2010 and the winter meeting of the SCCA was held in Columbia on February 10, 2011. The topic was "Taking Action for Cancer Prevention; Healthy Eating and Active Living". A reception was held the evening before this conference at USC's Cancer Prevention and Cancer Control program facilities. About 125 individuals attended this conference, which also welcomed the USC President and his wife at the day's luncheon. The next SCCA-wide conference is scheduled for June 17, 2011, in Greenwood, SC. The conference topic is "It's all Relative: The importance of family history and your cancer risk".

The SCCA Board of Directors has also been very busy. The SCCA executive director resigned in December, and two other staff also left this year. A search committee has been convened and a search for a new director is underway. The Board has also been working on a re-branding of the SCCA and a new, more powerful and user-friendly Web page. More concise and poignant descriptions have been developed. The intent is to launch a newly updated comprehensive cancer control plan and the re-branding effort this spring.

Much work is underway to revise the SC Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan. Kathleen Cartmell is heading up the Cancer Plan committee. A draft version of the plan was finished in January, and a completed draft is expected soon. To make it easier to measure progress in achieving plan objectives, information, ideas and recommendations from the past year's SCCA evaluation efforts have been incorporated into this plan.

Other Business

Membership

Debbie noted that two vacancies remain on the CCAC, one for a cancer program administrator and one for the DHEC representative. Dr. Waddell wants to wait to appoint the DHEC representative until the vacant position for the DHEC Bureau of Community Health and Chronic Disease Prevention is filled. Debbie asked others to think about someone for the cancer administrator position and let her or Sonya Younger know. Debbie also announced that no one expressed interest in running for CCAC chair so she will remain in the position through the coming year. Elections will be held in September 2011. Debbie thanked Tom for his service to the CCAC and DHEC and wished him well in retirement.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM. The next meeting will be held via conference call on May 12 at 2 p.m.