A WORD FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

We are proud to bring you the 2014 Annual Report highlighting some of the work and accomplishments of our team at Roper St. Francis Cancer Care. Our flagship Cancer Center on the campus of Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital has been operating for four years, and feedback from our patients, families and physicians indicates the Cancer Center is offering exactly what we hoped – a place of healing where patient convenience and comfort is paramount. We extend deep gratitude to our dedicated colleagues whose hard work and caring attention, every day, transforms our Cancer Center from a clinical environment to a healing community.

This 2014 edition of our Cancer Care Annual Report includes outcomes from our community outreach programs offered to the public. We are proud to serve the Lowcountry by providing cancer prevention, education and screening services. In addition, our comprehensive and multidisciplinary Cancer Care program offers support groups, survivorship education, legal services, exercise and nutritional classes and health fairs.

In 2014 Roper St. Francis Cancer Care was awarded full three-year Accreditation with Gold-level Commendation from the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC). Gold-level Commendation is the highest level of achievement offered by the CoC, with only seven percent of accredited programs nationally receiving this level of achievement. In addition to CoC accreditation, RSF Cancer Care maintains accreditation by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC) for breast cancer services.

RSF Cancer Care remains committed to delivering the most advanced evidence-based medicine within a multidisciplinary framework. To this end, we are developing multidisciplinary cancer care teams that deliver coordinated state of the art care. For example, lung cancer care is delivered by a team that includes pulmonologists, interventional radiologists, thoracic surgeons, medical and radiation oncologists and pathologists. Technological advances available for diagnosis and treatment include low dose CT scan screening, navigational bronchoscopy, robotic thoracic surgery, stereotactic body radiation therapy using the Cyberknife platform and (starting in 2015) molecular pathologic analysis of tumor samples that includes next generation sequencing.
During 2014, RSF Cancer Care continued to develop its affiliation as a Charter Member of the Levine Cancer Institute (LCI). The LCI is a network of cancer programs at 12 hospitals across the Carolinas Healthcare System (CHS) network. System-wide, the LCI treats approximately 14,000 newly diagnosed cancer patients each year, placing it among the largest cancer care networks in the US. Our priorities for development of the collaboration include:

(1) a significant focus on clinical trials and research, resulting in access for Lowcountry residents to new cancer-fighting drugs well before they become commercially available;

(2) clinical linkages to centers of specific clinical expertise throughout the LCI system that offer Lowcountry cancer patients advanced treatment options, e.g., radical cystectomy with ileal loop or neo-bladder reconstruction for patients with muscle invasive bladder cancer;

(3) co-enhancement with LCI of our navigation, supportive care and survivorship programs.

World-class cancer care involves more than just the most advanced therapies. During 2014, the Donna Fielding Cancer Wellness Institute became operational, helping us expand our capabilities to address all of our patients’ needs – mind, body and spirit. The Wellness Institute coordinates resources available throughout Roper St. Francis and the community to deliver a full range of integrated care, focusing around the pillars of prevention, nutrition, exercise and education.

Steven A. Akman, MD
Medical Director, Roper St. Francis Cancer Care
Program Outcomes: Prevention and Screening

2014 Community Outreach

In 2014, Roper St. Francis Cancer Care participated in 23 community events reaching 6,952 participants from Charleston, Dorchester, Berkeley, Hampton and Colleton counties. Community members participating in events received education on cancer prevention and early detection for many disease sites, such as breast, prostate, skin, colorectal and lung cancers. In addition, RSF Cancer Care provided monthly wellness activities such as for nutrition, resiliency skills, exercise and massage classes; survivor writing workshops; survivor, breast and bladder cancer support groups; and free legal clinics.

In 2014, RSF Cancer Care offered cancer screening events throughout the year with the assistance of physician volunteers. Screenings included skin, lung, and breast for a total of 271 participants. All abnormal findings result in participant referrals to physicians for further intervention or follow up.

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BREAST SCREENING</th>
<th>LUNG SCREENING</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Participants</strong></td>
<td>97</td>
<td>68</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Normal Exams</strong></td>
<td>86</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Had findings that warranted referrals to appropriate physicians for care</strong></td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SKIN SCREENING</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Had findings that resulted in follow-up CTs and referrals to appropriate physicians for follow up care</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Participants</strong></td>
<td>106</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Normal Exams</strong></td>
<td>59</td>
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<td><strong>Had findings (33 for Basel cell; 3 suspicious for Melanoma; 11 other) that warranted referrals to appropriate physicians for care</strong></td>
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The Multidisciplinary Thoracic Oncology Program (MTOP) has made great strides in 2014, bringing Roper St. Francis to the Lowcountry’s forefront in thoracic oncology care. Each week, new patients are discussed in a round table multidisciplinary fashion by more than 15 subspecialty physician and ancillary providers. Each patient has an individually structured day at the MTOP clinic such that testing is complete, results are reviewed in conference, and all appropriate subspecialty and ancillary appointments are made to produce a treatment plan that meets the patient’s unique needs. Coordination is assured by the Cancer Center’s Thoracic Oncology Navigator, Elizabeth Strojny, MSN.

The most recent addition to the array of services is the Lung Nodule Clinic, a weekly collaboration between interventional pulmonary medicine and thoracic surgery. This allows any patient with an abnormal chest image to be evaluated first in the weekly conference, and then in the collaborative clinic which includes tobacco cessation counseling. Each of our patients is currently evaluated for the various components of the Wellness Program, including nutrition, psychological and social support, exercise and tobacco cessation counseling.

Our patients now have access to two new cutting edge technologies: robotic thoracic surgery and navigational bronchoscopy. Robotic surgery is the newest iteration of minimally invasive surgery, offering superior visualization and remarkable dexterity to the surgeon, translating to a superior operative product for the patient. Navigational bronchoscopy offers high risk patients a safer avenue for lung biopsy compared to conventional methods, and allows biopsy of all areas of the lung and airways, beyond the reaches of all current methods.

Plans for 2015 include maturation of the chemotherapy clinical trials which are in process now, introduction of multidisciplinary quality goals, and collaboration with both supportive care and rehabilitative medicine.
Low Dose CT Lung Cancer Screening

Steven Akman, MD – Medical Director, Roper St. Francis Cancer Care

The availability of low dose CT screening protocols has enabled the evaluation of CT screening as a tool to identify early stage lung cancers while substantially reducing the amount of X-ray exposure, in comparison to traditional diagnostic CT scans. The National Lung Screening Trial observed a significant reduction in lung cancer mortality among 30 pack-year smokers aged 55-74 years old, attributable to annual screening with low dose CT scanning. In response, organizations such as the American College of Chest Physicians, the United States Preventive Task Force and the American Cancer Society have issued recommendations supporting the implementation of annual low dose CT scan screening programs in the high risk smoking population. In June 2013, RSF Cancer Care implemented such a program, offering annual low dose lung CT screening to individuals between the ages of 55-80 with a current or former (quit less than 15 years ago) 30 pack-year smoking history.

Eligible individuals are requested to first discuss the pros and cons of entering a screening program with their primary care providers. Such discussions help in weighing the pros and cons of entering a screening program, including risks of screening, possible outcomes and psychological and financial issues. An order for low dose CT screening must be placed by the primary care provider prior to enrollment, and output reports are sent directly to the primary care provider for presentation to the enrollee and for arrangement for further evaluation if necessary.

Roper St. Francis Cancer Care assembled an expert group that included representatives from radiology, pulmonology, thoracic surgery, primary care, medical oncology and radiation oncology to establish our low dose CT screening protocol, as well as a recommended follow up and evaluation of nodules observed in the screening CT exam. This expert group carefully reviewed available data to make sure that the screening, follow up and evaluation protocols meet national guidelines. These protocols insure that screened individuals will receive the maximum possible benefit of screening, while minimizing the possibility of untoward outcomes, e.g., false positive identifications, unnecessary diagnostic imaging studies or biopsies.