



Breast & Cervical Cancer Screening Program

Perinatal and Women's Health



MISSION

Prevent unnecessary disease, disability, and premature death due to cancer of the breast and/or cervix.

HISTORY

- 1991:** WV was one of the first four states chosen to screen low income, uninsured/under-insured women as part of the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program.
- 1996:** House Bill 4181 established the WV Breast and Cervical Cancer Diagnostic and Treatment Fund.
- 2000:** WV was one of the first states to provide coverage of treatment for breast and cervical cancer through Medicaid.
- 2003:** The WVBCCSP began offering HPV testing to clients meeting certain clinical guidelines.
- 2004:** The WVBCCSP was highlighted in the CDC publication, *The National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program 1991-2002 National Report*.
- 2007:** The WVBCCSP transitioned from conventional PAP smears to liquid-based Pap tests.
- 2009:** Integrated WISEWOMAN cardiovascular health screenings into WVBCCSP annual visits at more than thirty provider sites.

October 2010

Program Overview

The West Virginia Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program (WVBCCSP) provides clinical breast examinations (CBEs), mammograms, and Pap tests for eligible women, as well as diagnostic testing for women whose screening outcome is abnormal. Since Program inception in 1991, the WVBCCSP has enrolled over 118,000 women and provided more than 233,000 Pap tests, 152,000 mammograms, and 222,000 breast exams.

While screening services are key to early detection, their existence alone is insufficient to achieve a reduction in the illness and death associated with these diseases. As required by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the WVBCCSP engages in the following activities in order to implement a comprehensive program:

- Program Management
- Screening and Diagnostic Services
- Education and Outreach
- Partnership and Collaboration
- Evaluation (Surveillance, Quality Assurance and Technical Assistance)

The Problem

In 2010, the American Cancer Society estimates that in the United States, 207,090 women will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer and 39,840 women will die from the disease. During the same time period, 12,200 U.S. women will be diagnosed with invasive cervical cancer and 4,210 will die.

Currently, mammography is the best method for early detection of breast cancer. Early detection not only increases a woman's chance of survival, but also increases her treatment options. In terms of cervical cancer detection, research shows that if routine cervical screening (such as Pap tests) is followed, most cases of cervical cancer can be prevented.

Program Impact

- To date, the WVBCCSP has detected 836 cases of invasive breast cancer and 127 cases of invasive cervical cancer.

Program Goals

- To ensure access to breast and cervical cancer screening services for all women who meet income, age and medical eligibility guidelines with an emphasis on older, minority and never or rarely screened women.
- To ensure that all women screened by the WVBCCSP receive appropriate and timely follow-up, diagnosis, treatment, and case management.
- To broaden statewide public education to promote breast and cervical cancer screening in WV with an emphasis on reducing morbidity and mortality from breast and cervical cancer by reaching target populations.
- To determine the educational needs of health professionals involved with breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnosis.
- To offer educational opportunities to health professionals involved with breast and cervical cancer screening.
- To monitor and assess trends in breast and cervical cancer incidence, mortality and screening rates for WV women in order to develop effective health promotion strategies.
- To establish linkages and partnerships with a broad range of stakeholders to bring additional resources to the WVBCCSP.
- To maintain and establish mechanisms through which the state can enhance quality assurance monitoring of screening procedures for breast and cervical cancer.
- To provide access to full Medicaid benefits to women under age 65, with no credible insurance coverage, who are identified through the WVBCCSP and are in need of treatment for breast and cervical cancer or certain pre-cancerous conditions.

Where can I get more information:

(304) 558-5388 or Toll-Free (In WV) 1-800-642-9704
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