

Partners...

**A Newsletter for Partners and Providers of Early Detection Works,
Kansas Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening & Detection Program**

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Director's Message

The week of May 14 is Women's Health Week. Many Kansas communities will be hosting events to highlight the importance of routine cancer screenings, exercise and physical activity, along with a variety of other health issues important to women and those who care about them. Please join others in your community to facilitate or participate in these local events.

Early Detection Works reminds you that the end of this year's grant year is approaching. Please be sure you submit all completed forms as soon as possible. Forms for services between **July 1, 2005 and December 31, 2005 should have been submitted by February 15, 2006**. If you have not submitted forms for this time period, please submit them to your regional nurse today.

Forms for services provided between January 1, 2006 and June 30, 2006 must be submitted no later than August 15, 2006. Forms for services submitted to regional nurses after August 15 may not be paid due to the closure of the grant year in September.

After July 1, 2006, women who have health insurance are no longer eligible for Early Detection Works. If you see a woman who has **only catastrophic**, major medical hospitalization with at least a \$2,500 unmet deductible, she may be eligible. Consult your regional nurse for prior approval. All providers should have received information about changing eligibility guidelines. If you have questions, please call us or review the new guidelines at www.kdheks.gov/edw/ks_provider_patient_eligibility.html

Comprehensive Cancer Program

The Comprehensive Cancer Prevention and Control Program, and the Kansas Cancer Partnership, have received a grant to conduct town hall meetings this summer in order to provide information about tobacco and cancer issues in Kansas. Watch for more information about these meetings to be held in July and August at cancer centers across the state.

In addition to the summer town hall meetings, the Cancer Partnership is creating a Web site, www.cancerkansas.org, with information for both clinicians and the public, as well as information about the Cancer Partnership. Links are provided for the public to sites with accurate cancer information. Please feel free to share www.cancerkansas.org with patients, friends or others interested in cancer as soon as it is available.

*Janet Neff, Director
Cancer Prevention and Control Program*

Outreach Specialist Conducts Educational Activities for Four Tribes Women's Wellness Coalition



Shirley Rice-Henderson, BSW, Four Tribes Women's Wellness Coalition Outreach Specialist

Shirley Rice-Henderson is the Four Tribes Women's Wellness Coalition outreach specialist. Her role includes educating individuals and groups about the basic facts of breast and cervical cancer early detection and prevention. Shirley has a background of working in domestic violence. While the programs and issues are different, Shirley notes that she is still in the role of advocating for women's well-being, a role she finds rewarding.

Shirley is available on a part-time basis to make presentations to community groups on or near the Reservations, addressing issues regarding cancer and explaining the importance of doing self-breast exams, having regular mammograms and Pap tests. Members of the Four Tribes of Kansas may contact Shirley to schedule an individual educational session or group presentation by calling (785) 486-2775.

Up to 80 percent of skin cancers occur on the head and neck. Wearing a broad brimmed hat protects your face, scalp, ears, and neck against skin cancer as well as the aging effects of sun exposure!

Witnessing in the Heartland

To request a Witnessing Program for your Wichita-area organization or for information on the Gospel Health Walk in Wichita contact Gayle Thomas, Witnessing Program Coordinator, at (316)612-6892.

The Witnessing in the Heartland Program is a breast and cervical cancer educational program conducted by African-American role models who have survived breast or cervical cancer and now volunteer their time to help others. Women of all racial and ethnic backgrounds are welcome at Witnessing programs, which are often held in churches. The program is itself modeled after the Witness Project of Little Rock, Arkansas. The central concept is to provide culturally appropriate role models who promote early detection of cancer.

Witnessing in the Heartland is affiliated with the Early Detection Works Program and administered through the Center for Health and Wellness in Wichita. Gayle Thomas is the Program Coordinator.

On July 15, the Witnessing Program will be sponsoring a Gospel Health Walk at the Wichita State University Koch Arena. There will be live gospel music, encouragement to foster health through walking, and free information on many health issues. Approximately 30 community groups are expected to participate, and attendees are encouraged to bring a pair of shoes to donate to charity.

The Gospel Walk will promote the wider health goals of the Witnessing Program while the Witnessing presentations focus on a more specific message: working to dispel popular myths about cancer. As cancer survivors, the witness role models demonstrate:

1. It's okay to talk about cancer.
2. Cancer is not a punishment.
3. God is still with them.
4. There are ways, like mammography, for women to take care of themselves.
5. Women have a right and a duty to take care of themselves.

Lay health advisors accompany the witness role models to presentations. These are women who are not necessarily cancer survivors themselves, but who want to work with the project to organize and publicize programs, network with community people, answer questions about services, and teach breast self exam.

Updating the Attachment B for Providers and Subcontractors Just Got Easier

You can now go online to complete the document by using this link:
www.kdheks.gov/edw/ks_provider_reimbursement_schedule.html

The form is simple and easy to complete by tabbing through and entering the appropriate dollar amounts for services. By hitting the submit button when you have completed the form, it will come directly to the Cancer Program Manager and will be included in the contract file.

A PDF file of the Attachment B is still available to download and complete manually if preferred.

The Attachment B is a very important part of the contractual agreement between the Early Detection Works program and the service providers. This attachment is used to identify all usual or customary services that are provided either directly by the provider or through subcontractors. Attachment B forms are a required document for a complete contract. The Early Detection Works program requires the Attachment B to be updated each July.

Remember, the Early Detection Works program continues to reimburse providers according to the Reimbursement Fee Schedule (Attachment C). A new Attachment C Reimbursement Fee Schedule based on the latest Medicare rates will be sent to our providers and effective July 1, 2006.

Skin Cancer Awareness Month!

May is skin cancer awareness month and the time to think twice before stepping out into the beautiful spring sunshine without protection against the sun's harmful rays.

Every year as many as 12,000 new cases of skin cancer are diagnosed in Kansas, according to the Kansas Comprehensive Cancer Control and Prevention Plan. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has created a skin cancer awareness and prevention campaign called Sun Wise.

The campaign includes a tool kit with educational activities such as quizzes and word games appropriate for children. It can also be used to educate

students about skin cancer and ways to protect their skin. The kit includes posters to remind students to use caution in the sun and a UV meter to involve the students in making smart sun choices. The tool kit can even be downloaded to your computer for use at any time. Any elementary or middle school may participate and signing up is easy. Go to www.epa.gov/sunwise for more information and to order a free tool kit for your school.

The majority of a child's lifetime sun exposure occurs before the age of 18, so remind the young people in your life to cover up!

Karla Schmidt, RN, New Regional Nurse for North Central Kansas



Karla Schmidt, R.N., has joined the Early Detection Works Program as the Regional Nurse for North Central Kansas.

With 27 counties and 23 providers in North Central Kansas, it may take a while for Karla Schmidt, RN, to meet all of the Early Detection Works providers, but she has intentions of doing that very thing. Formerly an obstetrics nurse, Karla is excited about working for the EDW program. She joined the EDW staff in April.

She is married with two active children, an 8 year old son and an 11 year old daughter. Her evenings and weekends are devoted to family activities and attending her children's games. She has identified scrapbooking as a "someday" hobby – someday when she has some free time.

Paget's Disease

Due to recent interest in dermatological symptoms of the breast, we are printing some information from the National Cancer Institute regarding Paget's Disease of the breast.

Paget's Disease of the nipple, also called Paget's Disease of the breast, is rare type of cancer that forms in or around the nipple. It was named after Sir James Paget, a scientist who associated changes in the nipple's appearance with underlying breast cancer. More than 95 percent of people with Paget's Disease of the nipple also have underlying breast cancer; however, Paget's disease of the nipple accounts for less than 5 percent of all breast cancers. Most patients diagnosed with Paget's disease of the nipple are over age 50, but rare cases have been diagnosed in patients in their 20s.

Scientists do not know exactly what causes Paget's Disease of the nipple, but two major theories have been suggested. One theory proposes that cancer cells, called Paget cells, break off from a tumor inside the breast and move through the milk ducts to the surface of the nipple, resulting in Paget's Disease. More than 97 percent of

patients with Paget's Disease also have underlying invasive breast cancer or ductal carcinoma *in situ* (DCIS). The other theory suggests that skin cells of the nipple spontaneously become Paget cells. This theory is supported by the rare cases of Paget's disease in which there is no underlying breast cancer, or the underlying breast cancer is found to be separate from the Paget's disease.

Symptoms of early Paget's Disease include redness and mild scaling and flaking of the nipple. Improvement in the skin can occur spontaneously but does not mean that the disease has disappeared. More advanced disease may show more serious destruction of the skin and the symptoms may include tingling, pain, itching, increased sensitivity and burning. There may also be discharge from the nipple, which can appear flattened against the breast. In approximately half of patients with Paget's Disease of the nipple, a lump or mass in the breast can be felt upon physical examination.

From <http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/factsheet/Sites-Types/pagets-breast>, as accessed April 27, 2006.

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