

PARTNERS...

A newsletter for the partners and providers of Early Detection Works, Kansas breast and cervical cancer screening and detection program

Director's Message

Dear Partners:

As an Early Detection Works provider many of you also are members of the Kansas Cancer Partnership (KCP). You might also serve on one of the six workgroups of the KCP and graciously donate your time and talent in achieving the mission of the Partnership – to reduce the incidence and burden of cancer in the state.

The Partnership first published a Cancer Plan for Kansas in March 2005. The group has been working for nearly a year on updating that Plan with the goal to publish an update in March 2010. Many of you have contributed your ideas about where and how you want to address cancer issues during the next five years. If you haven't had that opportunity, now is the time to do it. Contact Patrice O'Hara, Cancer Program Manager at pohara@kdheks.gov or 785-296-1228 if you would like to provide input or join the Partnership or one of its workgroups. You might also be interested in learning more by attending the next Partnership meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 27, 2010, in Topeka. The meeting is an excellent way to meet others in the fields of cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment, patient navigation and survivorship. In addition to networking opportunities you can learn more about the specific projects the groups have accomplished, policy issues during the upcoming Legislative session and hear data on recent research projects.

One of the proudest accomplishments of the KCP was the establishment of a website dedicated to cancer issues in Kansas. The site (www.cancerkansas.org) serves as a reliable portal to other cancer resources, eliminating the sites that might be unreliable or give out false information about cancer. The site also houses the information and resources for the Partnership itself including meeting and workgroup minutes. You will also find that the home page is updated regularly to bring forth issues on cancer. For instance, currently posted is the latest information from CDC about the flu, including H1N1, for cancer patients and survivors. I urge you to visit the site to see for yourself!

You might also note the information on page 3 of this newsletter about the upcoming colorectal cancer awareness and education project which is sponsored by the Kansas Cancer Partnership.

Again, I urge you to join the Partnership and become involved in this very important effort.

*Janet Neff, Director
Cancer Prevention and Control Program*



Help us "GO GREEN"! If you still receive a paper copy of this newsletter, please send your e-mail address to bvancortlandt@kdheks.gov so future copies of this newsletter may be sent to you electronically!

www.preventionworkskansas.org



Regional Nurses

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785-832-1701

North Central

Karla Schmidt, RN
785-827-9639

South Central

Sherry Heinel, RN
316-660-7332

Southeast

Stephanie Thompson, RN
620-235-7136

West

Shelly Nelson, RN
Toll-Free
1-877-275-5302

Early Detection Works

Toll-Free Hotline
1-877-277-1368

Early detection can save your life.

call to see if you qualify for a free screening

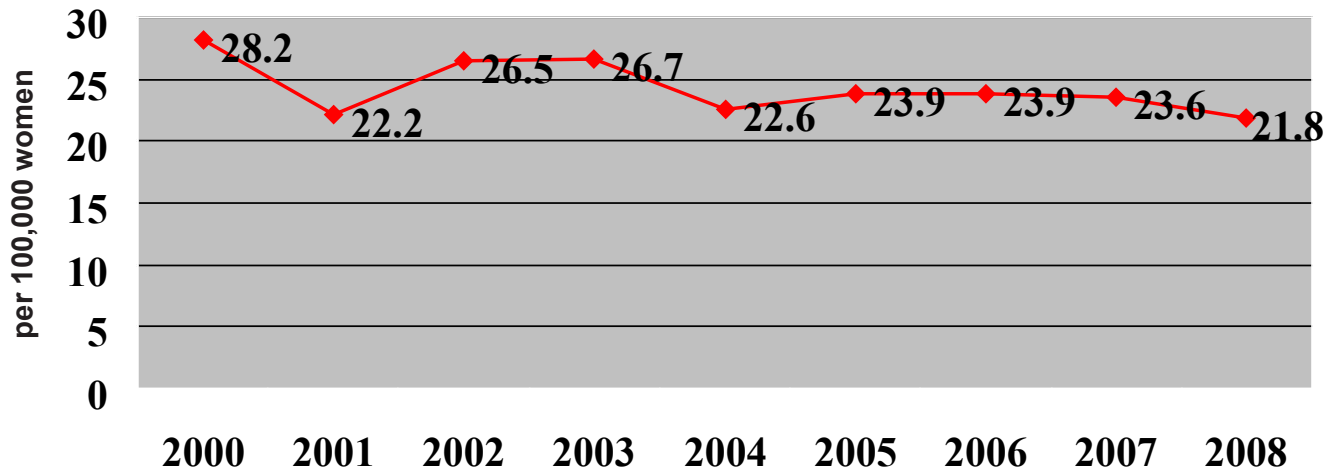
early
detection works

Toll Free:
1-877-277-1368
www.preventionworkskansas.com

Breast Cancer Statistics

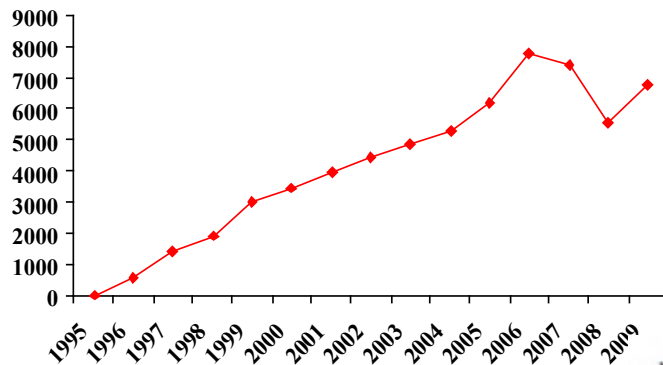
Female breast cancer mortality has been decreasing in Kansas. From 2000 to 2008 there has been almost a 23% reduction in the incidence rate of the disease (28.2 to 21.8 per 100,000 women).

Female Breast Cancer Age-Adjusted Mortality Rate, Kansas 2000-2008



The 95% confidence intervals around the 2000 and 2008 rates showed a statistically significant difference. The Early Detection Works (EDW), a program designed to increase screening in high risk populations, has shown a considerable increase in the number of uninsured, low-income women screened for breast cancer around the same period. It is probably safe to say that EDW has contributed to some extent to this decline in mortality observed in the total population of women in Kansas. It would be interesting to further assess this decline by age groups to identify which group benefitted the most.

Number of Women Served by Fiscal Year
Early Detection Works!



Source: Early Detection Works! screening services database



K A N S A S

comprehensive
cancer

control &
prevention

Kansas Cancer Information
www.cancerkansas.org

This website is dedicated to bringing Kansans current, scientifically accurate information to simplify the search for cancer resources.

Kansas Cancer Information

For more Kansas cancer resources and information, please visit www.cancerkansas.org. If you have suggestions of sites that should be added or would like to order business-card tents or magnets to advertise the website, please contact Barbara VanCortlandt at bvancortlandt@kdheks.gov.



Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

Cervical cancer is the easiest female cancer to prevent, with regular screening tests and follow-up. According to American Cancer Society estimates, in the United States in 2008, 11,070 women were diagnosed with cervical cancer and 3,870 died from the disease. In Kansas in 2005 (the most recent year for which statistics are available), 107 women were diagnosed with cervical cancer. In its early stages, cervical cancer usually does not cause signs and symptoms, so regular screening with the Pap test is very important. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends women start getting regular Pap tests at age 21 or within three years of first having sex. The main cause of cervical cancer is infection with the human papillomavirus (HPV), which is commonly passed from one person to another during sex. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved Gardasil, a vaccine to prevent the most common HPV infections that cause cervical cancer, for use in females aged 9 - 26. Young women are encouraged to talk with their physician to discuss if the vaccine is appropriate for them, and for parents to talk with their daughters' physician to discuss if the vaccine is appropriate for her. More information about cervical cancer may be found from CDC at www.cdc.gov/cancer or the National Cancer Institute at www.cancer.gov. Click here to view and download a CDC brochure on cervical cancer: http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/cervical/pdf/cervical_facts.pdf

Kansas Cervical Cancer Screening* Five-Year Summary, 1/2003 to 12/2007

Pap tests provided - 19,539; Abnormal Pap tests - 445 (2.3%);

Cervical cancers/precursor lesions detected - 262 (CIN-1 or LSIL - 161; CIN-2 or worse - 101)

*NBCCEDP-funded Pap tests. An additional 557 women were diagnosed with LSIL, HSIL, CIN-1, CIN-2, CIN-3, CIS, or invasive cervical cancer through the NBCCEDP following a Pap test funded through another source.

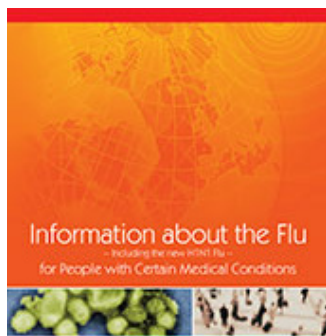
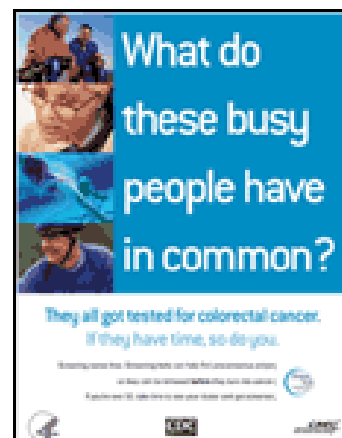


Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

For information about the 2010 Colorectal Cancer Campaign, please contact Patrice O'Hara, Cancer Program Manager at pohara@kdheks.gov or 785-296-1228.

Colorectal cancer has the second highest incidence and morbidity rate in Kansas for men and women, behind only lung cancer. Yet it is highly preventable and treatable if found in its precancerous or early stage. From 1997-2005, more than 13,400 individuals in Kansas were diagnosed with colorectal cancer. During that same period 4,937 died of the disease. Colorectal cancer can be detected through a number of tests including:

- Fecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT) - detects blood in the stool
- Flexible Sigmoidoscopy - checks the lower part of the colon
- Colonoscopy - checks the entire colon and if a precancerous polyp is found the doctor can remove the polyp during the procedure
- Virtual colonoscopy - a type of advanced CT scan of the colon



Information about the Flu for People with Certain Medical Conditions

The flu season continues to be a heightened worldwide concern this year. CDC has created a document for people with special medical conditions. Visit the home page of www.cancerkansas.org to read or download the document. CDC also has a new web page: What Cancer Patients and Survivors Should Know About the Flu, <http://cdc.gov/cancer/flu/>.

SISTER SONGS: A SCREENING EVENT FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN

Following the October 2008 Early Detection Works (EDW) and Susan G. Komen for the Cure Mid Kansas Affiliate conference (which presented successful experiences in increasing numbers of African American women screened), a workgroup from EDW, Komen, state and county health departments, Witnessing in the Heartland, Center for Health Disparities, American Cancer Society, Cancer Information Service, breast cancer survivors and other interested partners met to develop an outreach plan.



A client gathers health information.

The group created "Sister Songs," an event to offer free breast and cervical cancer screenings in Wichita on Saturday, October 17, 2009, through the E.C. Tyree Clinic (Pap, pelvic exam and CBE) and the Cypress Radiology Clinic (mammograms). In addition, information booths featuring health topics such as tobacco use cessation, arthritis, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, exercise and physical activity were provided by ACS, state and local health departments and other local entities. The event provided screening services to 32 women who were new to EDW. Of these, 22 were rarely or never screened; three were referred for additional views based on screening mammograms; and 19 were African American, 7 were Caucasian, and 2 were Hispanic (data was incomplete for four women). Susan G. Komen for the Cure Mid Kansas Affiliate provided funding for incentive items which included pink totes and small personal items. This was truly a diverse group which came together to focus on increasing the numbers of African American women screened for breast and cervical cancer.

"Sister Songs" received national recognition at the November NBCCEDP 2009 Program Directors and Data Managers Business Meeting at CDC. ***Thank you to everyone who helped make this event successful!***

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