
Director's Corner...

It doesn't seem possible that Fall is here – and so is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. If your facility is celebrating Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we'd love to hear about it – just send us an e-mail, or ask your Regional Nurse/Case Manager to let us know about your activity.

Many of you are interested in the progress of the new direct payment system. It's in the 'testing' phase right now, and as soon as we've corrected any problems, it will be available in your area. Your Regional Nurse/Case Manager will answer your questions – remember that the new system is voluntary, and if you do not want to change how you presently conduct your business, you don't have to! Under the new system, subcontractors can submit a HCFA form describing services provided directly to KDHE. **For proper review and payment of services, subcontractors will need to continue reporting to providers as in the past.** Providers then submit their forms, as usual, to the Regional Nurse. As soon as the client information form is correlated with the HCFA form from the Subcontractor, the bill will be paid directly to the subcontractor, without going through the Provider first. In addition, you'll now have the option of an electronic payment (direct deposit). Subcontractors should receive their payments faster and directly from KDHE rather than through Providers, with a direct deposit ensuring even faster reimbursement.

In addition to a faster reimbursement, the new system should reduce problems with missing documentation. HCFA forms will be placed in a 'pending' file until reconciled with client information forms – this file will be checked routinely to ensure that all payments are made promptly. Should a HCFA form remain in the pending file for over a month, staff will look for missing client forms. Staff sincerely hope that this new payment system will be convenient and fast.

We are excited to announce that the Department of Health and Environment Cancer Prevention and Control Program has received the Comprehensive Cancer Planning Grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The new grant provides funds to develop a cancer plan for Kansas including colorectal, lung, skin, prostate, breast and cervical cancers with the partnership of many Kansas stakeholders – the insurance industry, physicians, businesses and many others.

Janet Neff, Director

Cancer Prevention and Control Program

Cancer Coalitions

Bringing together medically underserved women with free screening services is not as easy as it might seem. Lack of information and mistaken beliefs can lead to a failure to connect with needed services. Sometimes arranging a screening for a woman takes the effort of many dedicated people, and often those people are volunteers in one of many cancer coalitions that serve Kansas communities.

Clara Reyes chairs the Coalition of Hispanic Women Against Cancer, based in Kansas City. Mrs. Reyes is a breast cancer survivor and an outspoken advocate of regular screening. With her husband Manuel, she publishes the bilingual *DOS MUNDOS* weekly newspaper and has been generous in her coverage of screening programs.

Ms. Reyes speaks eloquently of the young children of a breast cancer patient who were shunned by a neighbor's children. The reason? The neighbor mother feared she might "catch" the breast cancer. The belief that cancer is contagious is just one of the erroneous beliefs the Coalition is seeking to correct through a series of radio messages designed to reach Spanish-speaking

audiences.

Another Kansas City area coalition is the American Indian Heartland Cancer Network. Virginia Eaves, member of the Creek Nation and Kansas Cancer Institute Outreach Coordinator, works with this coalition. Ms. Eaves tells of an American Indian woman who had a mastectomy but, having no access to further services, resorted to using a rock as a prosthesis.

This coalition has found that American Indian women are best reached through activities involving the whole family. Thus, the Coalition held a back-to-school picnic with donated school supplies and backpacks for the kids, cancer information for adults and food for all. One hundred fifty people attended.

We want to thank all of the organizations and individuals whose efforts combine to make FREE to Know a success.

Focus On...

Western Kansas... Welcome to Shelly Nelson, B.S.N. She comes to FTK from a background in pediatric nursing and hospital work. She is located in Garden City and will cover the 31 counties in Western Kansas.

Questions? Call the Regional Nurses

Northeast - Vacant
785-573-6733
North Central - Lynette Blomberg, ARNP
785-452-6361
South Central - Carmillia Adams, RN
316-660-7332
Southeast - Paula Gilmore, RN
620-235-7136
West - Shelly Nelson, BSN
620-275-5302
or
Breast and Cervical Cancer toll free hotline -
1-877-277-1368

Provider Notification

If, as a FTK provider, you change names, relocate, or find that you can no longer offer services through FTK, please notify program staff within 30 days, as agreed upon in your provider contract. This information is essential to maintaining a high quality of patient care and insuring timely and accurate reimbursement for services. We appreciate your help in keeping our records accurate and up-to-date.

FTK On Line

Information about the FREE to Know program can be found at www.kdhe.state.ks.us/ftk/. Reimbursable services and rates are available at the web site. If you have a correction or addition to the provider list, please email this to Dorothy Frager, dfrager@kdhe.state.ks.us.

Currently 60 women diagnosed by the FREE To Know

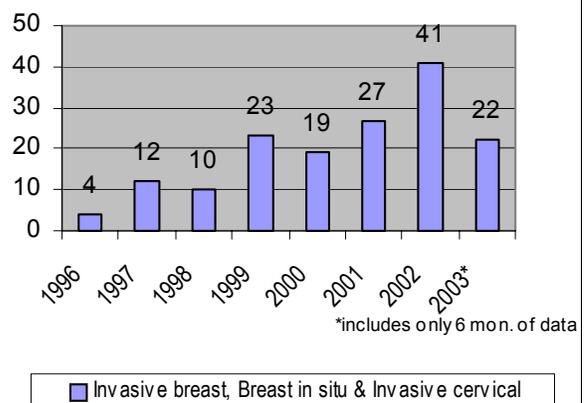
Focus on Professional Education

One of the many resources available on-line is the National Cancer Institute (NCI) website. This is an invaluable resource for looking up information, with materials for both the public and the health care professional.

The NCI's www.cancer.gov/ web site provides online access to information on cancer treatments, clinical trials, and other web sites and organizations that offer support and resources for cancer patients and their families. There are sections describing types of cancer, cancer causes and prevention, cancer statistics and research. The Physicians' Data Query (PDQ) section offers current information about cancer treatment, screening, prevention, genetics, and supportive care, plus clinical trials.

There are also many off line places where patients and professionals can locate information about cancer treatment and services, such as Cancer Information Service's 1-800-4-CANCER, with information in English and Spanish.
Cindy Hasvold RN, BSN

Number of Breast Cervical Cancers Diagnosed through the FREE to Know Program by Year



program are receiving cancer treatment through the Medicaid Treatment Act.

Cancer Prevention and Control Program

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