

Framework for Titusville Area Hospital's Health Improvement Plan

On May 12, 2016 the Community Health Committee of the Titusville Area Hospital Board of Directors met to consider the results of the Community Health Assessment conducted in partnership with the Meadville Medical Center and Allegheny College. The Assessment involved grass roots input across the County.

The results of the Assessment were presented to the Committee by Sue McDowell, RN, staff and community educator. Much discussion was generated around the leading causes of death in our region. These causes of death can be traced back to chronic diseases which seem overly prevalent in our county and region. The leading causes of death are:

- Heart Disease
- Cancer
- Other Cardiovascular Disease
- Chronic Respiratory Disease

In a related issue, the top ten reportable diseases are:

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| 1. Chlamydia | 6. Colon Cancer |
| 2. Breast Cancer | 7. Gonorrhea |
| 3. Prostate Cancer | 8. Giardiasis |
| 4. Campylobacterosis | 9. Uterine Cancer |
| 5. Pertussis | 10. Varicella |

A cursory analysis of these ten diseases tells us that screening and immunization would have a significant impact on seven of the ten. Programs to educate and create opportunities for immunizations for Pertussis, Varicella (chicken pox) and HPV must be improved and propagated. Programs to educate and promote screening opportunities for Breast, Prostate, Colon and Uterine Cancers need to be emphasized and made accessible.

As three of these ten are STD-related, younger populations should be targeted for education and prevention. Two of the ten are environmental; Campylobacter and Giardiasis are related to sanitation and water-borne illness.

Strategies

1. Continue screening programs for common concerns
 - The Hospital, through its own resources, community resources and national resources (the Komen Foundation), provides no cost and low cost mammography screenings to those requesting the service.
 - Titusville Area Hospital is working with Meadville Medical Center to expand its Family Planning Services to the Titusville area. This will offer screening, treatment and immunization for HPV and precursor to Uterine and Cervical cancers.

2. Establish Immunization Clinics for childhood diseases.
 - Immunizations for Varicella and Pertussis are available and their efficacy is well-documented.
 - Immunization for HPV is now recommended for young males as well as young females
3. Target high risk populations for education and screening.
 - Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and HPV are preventable with precautions. Programs in conjunction with the local school districts and colleges should be developed to educate students and offer screening and treatment options that may be developed or that are already in place in the community.
4. Continue to partner with community physicians to identify patients who might benefit from chronic disease management programs.
 - Monitoring and frequent assessment of COPD patients, CHF patients as well as past MI patients.
5. Continued partnering with agencies offering smoking cessation.
 - Support access to State and Federal funding for coaching as well as medication.
6. Work with Meadville Medical Center and other community agencies to improve access for Mental Health Services.