

Bringing together oncologists and family physicians to improve cancer services to patients in Alberta

Opportunity

Provide better cancer services to patients



Disconnect between physicians and oncologists:

- ❖ Lack of dialogue
 - ❖ Inconsistency in oncology practices
 - ❖ Some physicians were unaware of updated clinical best practices
- Risk: cancer patients not receiving proper care



Let's bring together physicians and oncologists!

Education event

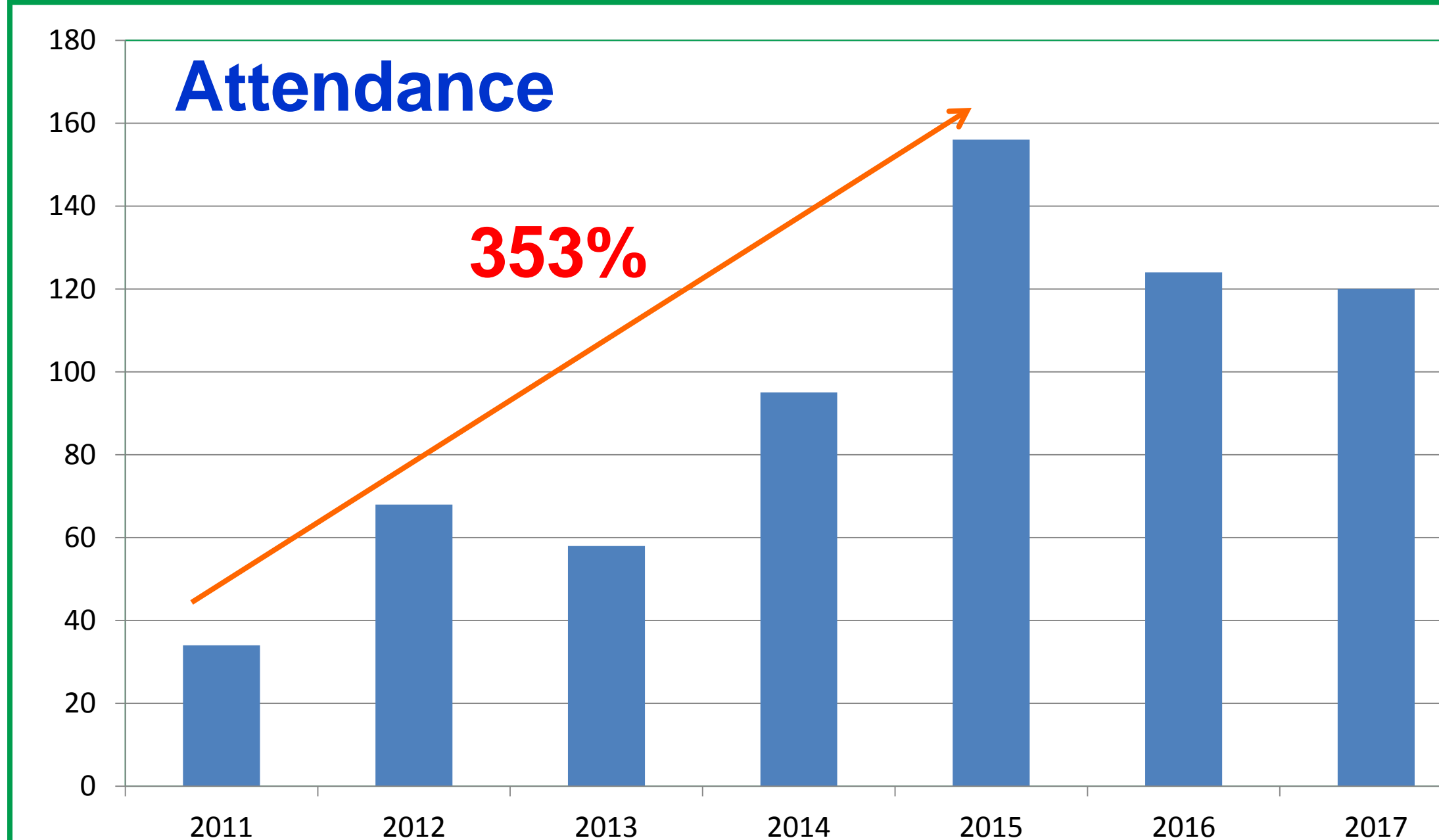
Family Physicians & CancerControl: Strengthening Linkages Workshop



Create a workshop enhancing dialogue:

- ❖ Planned and delivered by physicians and oncologists
- ❖ Speakers are oncology specialists
- ❖ Topics: cancer prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up
- ❖ Held annually in-person at 2 Tertiary and 4 Regional Cancer Centres
- ❖ Resources on AHS website: <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/cancer/Page13947.aspx>

SUCCESS!



- ❖ Environmental scan showed cancer as a priority according to 40+ Primary Care Networks who provide services to 3.5 million Albertans
- ❖ Evaluations show highly satisfactory feedback with request to continue providing workshop
- ❖ Workshop discussions enhanced sharing and learning
- ❖ All 7 events were Mainpro+ certified by College of Family Physicians, Alberta Chapter

Physicians' feedback on workshop

- ❖ "More at ease dealing with cancer patients"
- ❖ "More confident with discussing screening guidelines".
- ❖ "I value your programs very much. The information and guidelines are important in family practice. I hope you can promote the program widely to have more family practice drs. to participate."
- ❖ "More aware about cancer treatment side effects and dealing with the treatment urgently."
- ❖ "As I deal with a lot of patients with cancer, I appreciated being brought up to speed with new developments, etc. I also appreciated the comments regarding the attention shown towards palliative care. Excellent CME!"

Lessons Learned

- ❖ **Continue dialogue** between physicians and oncologists
- ❖ Continue to achieve successful results by designing the agenda based on **patient needs**
- ❖ Explore opportunities to engage with broader primary health care teams

