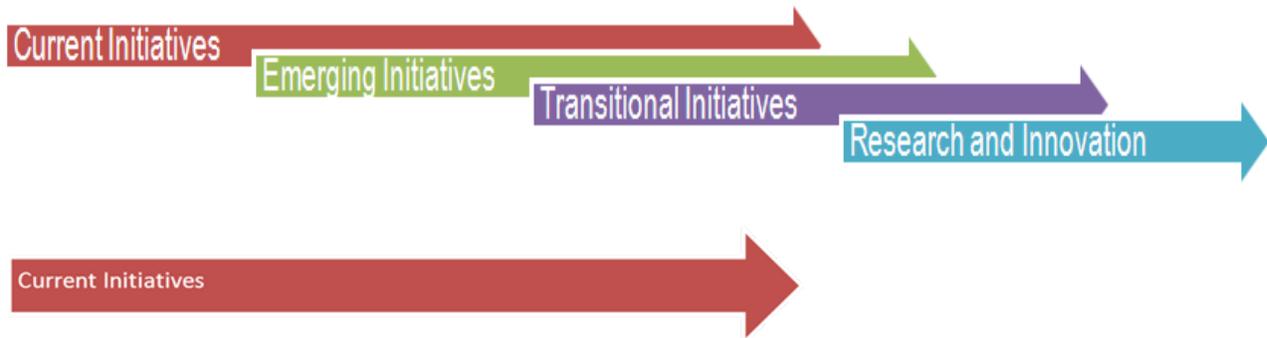


Cancer SCN Core Committee Project Updates – October 2016

The Cancer Strategic Clinical Network is committed to providing its Core Committee and Stakeholders with timely and relevant updates related to its projects and activities. For more information about any of the updates below, please contact Angela.Estey@ahs.ca.



Rectal Cancer Pathway:

- An audit and feedback system has been established to provide individual physician feedback on performance and outcomes.
 - The first set of individual Surgeon feedback reports cards are being distributed to 15 Surgeons, with more planned in October.
 - Feedback reports for Radiologists, Pathologists and Oncologists are in development.
- A website with clinical pathway education materials and resources is being developed. This will be housed on the Cancer SCN website with launch planned for October.
- A Radiologist education session was held in September with invited guest speaker Dr. Gina Brown from the United Kingdom.
 - Over 80 Radiologists from across the province attended workshops held in Edmonton and Calgary to review optimal pre-operative staging practices for rectal cancer.
- An economic analysis is being planned to assess incremental cost-effectiveness of the clinical pathway as a complex intervention.

Provincial Breast Health Initiative:

- Over 25 clinicians and patients from the breast health / cancer community in Alberta assembled on October 5th 2016 to:
 - Validate an end-to-end breast health pathway
 - Identify and prioritize opportunities for future improvement over the next 1-3 years
 - Discuss mandated priority initiatives supported by the Cancer SCN for 2016/2017 that address shortcomings with breast cancer diagnostic assessment and perioperative care
- A steering committee meeting has been convened with medical and administrative leadership to provide oversight to the provincial Breast Health Initiative supported by the Cancer SCN with first meeting planned on October 26th 2016.
- Engagement of Surgery and Diagnostic Imaging clinical and operational leads and patient advisors is underway with plans in October to establish 3 working groups for the breast cancer diagnostic assessment pathway, breast cancer perioperative care pathway, and breast cancer measurement and reporting.

Provincial Breast Reconstruction Pathway:

- In partnership with Surgery SCN and CancerControl, the Cancer SCN supported the Alberta breast reconstruction community (patients, administrators, clinicians) to develop a business plan to identify actionable ways of improving access, efficiency and quality of breast reconstruction for women in Alberta.
- Working groups included patients, clinicians and administrators from across the province came to consensus on solutions that could be implemented to address gaps, waste and variations in educating women on breast reconstruction, getting women to appropriate breast reconstruction care provider teams, delivering appropriate pre-, peri- and post-operative care for breast reconstruction, and providing timely access to surgery.
- Focus groups in Edmonton and Calgary, as well as individual patient interviews, were conducted to help inform the business case.

Palliative and End of Life Care:

- A workshop on Advanced Care Planning (ACP) for SCNs and teams developing clinical care pathways is being planned to stimulate thinking and collaboration on embedding ACP into routine clinical practice across the continuum of care, including cancer care.



Transitional Initiatives are projects and partnerships that are currently close to completion or have been successfully transitioned to operations by the Cancer SCN and its stakeholders.

Head & Neck Cancer Pathway:

- An automated monthly dashboard report has been developed to monitor key outcome measures of head & neck cancer patients. The first release is expected to occur in November 2016.
- Discussions with CancerControl Alberta are underway to determine a solution to embed quality management for the pathway (including manual data collection) in operations.
- A project closure report has been developed highlighting early results, lessons learned, and clinical care pathway development and implementation methodology.

Other Work Underway:

- The Cancer SCN Transformational Roadmap will be updated based upon the discussions at the October 13 2016 Cancer SCN Core Committee meeting. We aim to seek feedback from key stakeholders and finalize the document in Winter 2016.
- The Cancer SCN website (www.ahs.ca/cancerscn) is regularly refreshed with monthly news updates, project information, and other relevant material.

Research and Innovation

Cancer Strategic Clinical Network – Research and Innovation Updates

The Cancer Strategic Clinical Network is committed to providing its Core Committee and Stakeholders with timely and relevant updates related to the research and innovation agenda, projects, and activities.

NEW work in the area of research and innovation is described below.

For full list of projects and initiatives or for more information about Cancer SCN research and innovation, please contact Assistant Scientific Director, Melissa.Shea-Budgell@ahs.ca.

3rd Annual Seed Grant competition (preannouncement):

Big thanks to CancerControl Alberta for partnering on the 2nd annual seed grant competition focused on Choosing Wisely. Congratulations to Drs. Giese-Davis, Lupichuk, Pituskin, and Quon on receiving funding. Planning is underway for the 3rd annual seed grant competition.

- Planned focus: ***Clinical care pathways, Choosing Wisely, and Precision Medicine***, within the activities of generating new knowledge or applying knowledge
- Anticipated launch date: Late fall 2016
- Core Committee Review: February 21, 2017 (location TBD)

CIHR Project Scheme competition:

Congratulations to Dr. Karen Kopciuk, Dr. Lorraine Shack, Dr. Paula Robson, Dr. John Spinelli, and team on receiving CIHR funding.

- Title: ***Determinants of Cancer Stage at Diagnosis***
- The Cancer SCN was a named collaborator on the grant and will support Dr. Kopciuk's team with knowledge dissemination opportunities and end-of-grant knowledge translation strategies.

Futile Treatment in Cancer Care:

The Cancer SCN is funding a small project to examine futile radiotherapy (i.e., use of more than 1 fraction of radiotherapy in painful bone metastases) in metastatic cancer.

- Title: ***Futile Radiotherapy at the End of Life: Examining the Impact of a Sustained Knowledge-Based Intervention (FutRE)***
- Investigative team: Dr. Marc Kerba (PI), Dr. Jackson Wu, and Dr. Alys Fairchild
- Protocol development is underway.