

Executive Summary: 2014

Certifications, Reporting and Transparency

The UNM Cancer Center strongly commits to external validation of its clinical programs and to transparency in reporting of its quality measures. To demonstrate this commitment, we seek and have received:

- ☞ designation from the National Cancer Institute
- ☞ certification from the American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer
- ☞ certification from the American Society of Clinical Oncology Quality Oncology Practice Initiative
- ☞ accreditation from the American College of Radiology

During the course of each year, we report our quality outcomes to several entities representing the public, including (but not limited to) the following:

- ☞ The office of the Governor of New Mexico
- ☞ The New Mexico state legislature
- ☞ The National Cancer Institute
- ☞ The New Mexico Higher Education department

In addition, we also report to the UNM School of Medicine and the American Association of Cancer Institutes. The table below summarizes some important statistics about the UNM Cancer Center's service to the people of New Mexico. These statistics appear in previously-published reports or online.

FY11	FY12	FY13	
11,555	9,647	13,691	Patients Seen
57.30%	59.40%	60%	Patients from Bernalillo County
\$ 4.9	\$ 4.5	\$ 6.8	Uncompensated Care (in millions of dollars)
112,212	73,230	83,302	Ambulatory Clinic Visits
14,141	32,456	31,507	Chemotherapy Infusions
16,984	14,662	14,509	Radiation Treatments
733	1,150	905	Total Clinical Trial Enrollment
376	360	375	Cancer Clinical Trials conducted at UNM
380	380	375	UNM Cancer Center Patients participating in cancer screening, prevention, and treatment trials

FY11	FY12	FY13	
323	173	254	Cancer Control Research Program Clinical Trial Participation (total)
158	158	158	Cancer-related Health Care Professionals Trained and Practicing in New Mexico
431	431	164	Community Presentations & Educational Programs Provided
85	83	102	UNM Cancer Center Board Certified Oncology Physicians
126	124	132	UNM Cancer Center Research Faculty

2014 Significant Events and Updates

UNM Cancer Center research scientists work in four NCI research programs:

- ☞ Cancer Control;
- ☞ Cancer Genetics, Epigenetics and Genomics;
- ☞ Translational Cancer Biology and Signaling; and,
- ☞ Cancer Therapeutics: Technology, Discovery and Targeted Delivery.

The newly-refocused Cancer Control Research program focuses on uncovering the factors that underlie the significant cancer health disparities among the different ethnic and cultural populations in New Mexico. UNM Cancer Center leadership recently refocused and renamed this program to encompass cancer prevention and control.

The Cancer Control Research program garnered over \$18 million in annual research funding this past year. They perform several large population studies and publish numerous papers each year in collaboration with peers within the research group, with peers in the other research groups at the UNM Cancer Center, and with peers at other institutions. Among the program's achievements this year are:

- ☞ Novel Discovery that American Indian Ancestry is Inversely Associated with Methylation in Lung Cancer-Related Genes Among Hispanics.
- ☞ Telehealth Strategy Overcomes Geographic Barriers through Personalized Family Cancer Risk Assessment and Evaluation (CARE)
- ☞ Endometrial Cancer and Ethnic Disparities: The higher risk for endometrial cancer-specific death in Hispanics was mostly explained by tumor factors, but the higher risk for other causes of death in Hispanics was related to co-morbid conditions, particularly diabetes.

The Cancer Control Research program will be focusing on the following areas for translational and clinical research in the coming year:

- ☞ Preventing Cancer Through School-Based Interventions for Childhood Obesity and [through] Community and Policy Interventions to Promote Physical Activity in Northern New Mexico (Randomized Trial)
- ☞ Project ECHO®: Expanding Capacity for Delivery of Best Practices & Monitoring Outcomes in Rural/Underserved Areas
 - Hepatitis C/Liver Cancer (Randomized Trial)
 - Enhancing Cancer Care Delivery: Project ECHO Cancer Control (Family History, Guideline-Concordant Prevention, Addressing Disparities Via Community Health Worker Training) (NCI R01 Under Review)
- ☞ Family CARE Project: Colorectal Cancer Awareness and Risk Education (Randomized Trial)
- ☞ New Mexico Colorectal Cancer Screening and Decision Making (Randomized Interventional Trial in Hispanic and Low Literacy Populations)
- ☞ Colorectal Disease Prevention Study (Risk Factors and Screening History in Hispanic and Non-Hispanic White New Mexicans with Colorectal Cancer) (INST# 1207)
- ☞ Laboratory/Population Studies Underlying Risk and Disparities in Breast, Ovarian, Colorectal, Melanoma, Lung, and Hepatobiliary Cancers
- ☞ Population Studies Related to Environmental Exposures (UV, Arsenic, Uranium), DNA Repair, and Cancer Risk (in collaboration with the Cancer Genetics, Epigenetics, and Genomics Research Program)

The UNM Cancer Center also received an NCI Minority National Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP) grant to continue to administer clinical trials throughout the state. The UNM Cancer Center has a strong partnership with the New Mexico Cancer Care Alliance through which it can offer access to clinical trials to every New Mexican. Melanie Royce, MD, PhD, and Carolyn Muller, MD, serve as co-Principal Investigators for the 5-year, \$7 million grant.

Finally, the UNM Cancer Center opened an outpatient pharmacy in May. The outpatient pharmacy stocks prescription and over-the-counter drugs and also carries many cancer-treating drugs that most pharmacies do not stock. UNM Cancer Center oncology-certified pharmacists work closely with patients for consultation and follow-up as required. Patients may get their prescriptions filled or refilled while they attend appointments at the Clinical Research and Treatment Facility. They may also order refills online and can transfer their prescriptions from other pharmacies to consolidate all their prescriptions.