

Ascension Health, St. Louis, Missouri

4600 Edmundson Road
St. Louis, MO 63134

www.ascensionhealth.org



- Anthony R. Tersigni, Ed.D., FACHE, President and CEO, Ascension Health
- David Pryor, MD, Physician Director/Chief Medical Officer and Senior Vice President for Clinical Excellence, Principal Investigator/NCCCP Pilot Leader

Ascension Health is the largest Catholic and nonprofit healthcare system in the United States. The system operates 65 acute care hospitals nationally, including 10 critical access hospitals, in 35 community-based health ministries in 20 states and the District of Columbia. Three Ascension Health hospitals are participating as pilot sites in the NCCCP: St.Vincent Indianapolis Hospital in Indianapolis, Indiana (lead site), Columbia St. Mary's in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Brackenridge Hospital, in Austin, Texas. All three hospitals have rural affiliates as part of their networks and extensive outreach to both rural and urban areas of underserved and minority populations.

St. Vincent Indianapolis Hospital, Indianapolis, Indiana St. Vincent Oncology Center

www.indianapolis.stvincent.org

- Patricia A. Maryland, Dr.PH, President, St.Vincent Indianapolis Hospital
- Michael Wiemann, MD, Principal Investigator/NCCCP Pilot Leader

Background

St.Vincent Indianapolis Hospital is a major referral center for cancer care and other specialties throughout Indiana. The hospital reaches out to nearby communities through St.Vincent Health, the regional system of 16 hospitals of which it is a founding member. St.Vincent Health's service area spans over 45 urban, suburban, and rural counties in central Indiana, making it the state's largest hospital system. The 16 hospitals in the St.Vincent Health system saw a total of 2,897 new cancer patients in 2005. The 56,000 square-foot St.Vincent Oncology Center, located at St.Vincent Indianapolis Hospital, has relationships with the Indiana University Medical Center's NCI-designated Cancer Center, and other academic research institutions.

Patient Service Area

Indianapolis, with over 9 million people, has the largest population in the state. The county has a growing minority population, with African Americans representing a quarter of the population, and Hispanics representing 5 percent. Nearly 9 percent of families in the county live below the poverty level.

Access and Outreach Initiatives

St.Vincent's oncology network extends throughout central Indiana to provide on-site care to patients in all St.Vincent Health system facilities as well as at facilities that have no affiliation with the system. The oncology program works with the Suburban Hospital Organization, which includes several smaller, rural hospitals in the counties that ring Indianapolis, on several outreach initiatives, including a partnership with the radiation

oncology department at Witham Hospital of Lebanon, Indiana, to provide radiation services to patients who otherwise would have to travel 40 miles or more to receive daily radiation therapy.

Columbia St. Mary's, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Columbia St. Mary's Cancer Center

www.columbia-stmarys.com

- Leo P. Brideau, President and CEO, Columbia St. Mary's
- Brian Cramer, Executive Director for Cancer Services, Principal Investigator/NCCCP Pilot Leader
- Carl Olson, MD, Physician Director/Medical Director, Cancer Program

Background

Columbia St. Mary's is comprised of four hospitals (three acute care and a rehabilitation hospital) and 30 clinics that serve patients throughout Southeastern Wisconsin. In 2006, Columbia St. Mary's broke ground on a new 40,000 square-foot Cancer Center, to be completed in January 2008. The Cancer Center, on the Milwaukee campus of Columbia St. Mary's Hospital, will bring together cancer services offered through the other system hospitals. All three hospitals share information technology and electronic health records, and have a single cancer registry providing services to each facility. The organization saw 1,630 new cancer patients in 2005.

Patient Service Area

Within the metropolitan Milwaukee area, there is a significant and growing Hispanic population. Milwaukee County has 18 percent of the state's population, or 940,000 people, and ranks fourth highest among U.S. cities in its rate of child poverty. The county reports higher than expected levels of colon and prostate cancer. More than a quarter of Milwaukee residents fall below the poverty level.

Access and Outreach Initiatives

The hospital owns 30 clinics, most of them primary care, and six free clinics that routinely identify hundreds of patients who require follow-up oncology services. The hospital has a relationship with the Medical College of Wisconsin that operates the Saturday Free Clinic to serve uninsured and underinsured adults four times a month.

Brackenridge Hospital, Austin, Texas

Shivers Center

- John Brindley, President and CEO, Seton Medical Center Austin
- Jesus Garza, President and CEO, Brackenridge Hospital
- T. Samuel Shomaker, MD, JD, Cancer Program Medical Director

Background

Brackenridge is one of four hospitals in the Seton Family of Hospitals, serving Central Texas, that offer a continuum of cancer services. Through its Shivers Center, Brackenridge Hospital offers the broadest range of cancer service in the network. It houses the Seton Family's clinical research program and Seton's only Internal Review Board (IRB) focusing on cancer-related studies. The Shivers Center offers patients access to clinical research

through its affiliation with the Scott and White Community CCOP. The Shivers Center refers patients to the University of Texas' MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Patient Service Area

All 10 counties in Brackenridge Hospital's service area are designated medically underserved for their entire county or census tract. The Shivers Center has a 60 percent minority patient population. The state of Texas has the highest percentage of uninsured in the nation, at 25 percent (some estimates are as high as 30.7 percent). The state estimates that more than half (53 percent) of the entire Texas population will be Hispanic by 2030, with 30.3 White, 9.2 percent African American, and other. In both men and women, the service area has particularly high rates of melanoma. For this reason, the network supports an annual community skin cancer screening and awareness campaign.

Access and Outreach Initiatives

As part of the Seton Family of Hospitals, Brackenridge Hospital led the formation of the Indigent Care Collaboration, which includes all the major healthcare providers in Austin and is nationally recognized as a model for its community-wide efforts to meet the needs of the uninsured. The collaborative project focuses on providing medical homes, developing IT linkages among providers, and offering a care management program.