2015 CANCER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Physician members**
Radiology – Bobby Walters, MD
Pathology – Ben Coulter, MD; alternate – Jim Cash, MD
Surgery – Caroline Ryan, MD; alternate – Mark Petruzziello, MD
Oncology – Charles Knupp, MD; alternate – Sri Jasthy, MD
Liaison physician – Mark Petruzziello, MD; alternate – Brad Bilicki, MD

**Non-physician members**
Cancer program administrator – Susan Suiter, RN, BSN; alternate – Patrick Heins BSN, MBA
Oncology nurse – Betsy Collins, RN, MSN, AOCN
Social worker – Scott Phillips, LCSW; alternate – Sue Whicker, LCSW
Certified tumor registrar – Jaimie Rovinelli, CTR; alternate – Merrill Bright, RHIA, CTR
QM representative or performance improvement – Bonne Perry BSN, RN, CSSGB
Palliative care team member – Scott Phillips, LCSW, alternate – Julie House, BSW
Dietitian – Roxanne Godley, MS, RDN, LDN; alternate – April Reichmeider, RDN, LDN
Pharmacy – Mandy McCourt, PharmD; alternate – Angela Hardy, PharmD

**Coordinators**
Cancer conference coordinator – Ben Coulter, MD
QI coordinator – Bonnie Perry, BSN, RN CSSGB
Cancer registry quality coordinator – Jaimie Rovinelli, CTR
Community outreach coordinator – Michele W. Cherry, MPA
Clinical research representative – Beverly Trayer, RN, OCN
Psychosocial services coordinator – Scott Phillips, LCSW
Vidant Oncology-Tarboro, the home of cancer care in Edgecombe and surrounding counties
This has been a busy and exciting year for the Vidant Edgecombe Hospital cancer program. It is my pleasure to present our annual report for 2015.

Three-year accreditation, a major achievement
We are proud to be accredited by the prestigious American College of Surgeons (ACS) Commission on Cancer (CoC). This means that Vidant Edgecombe Hospital meets national quality standards, establishes frameworks for, and continually strives to improve, the quality of patient care and outcomes.

Our commitment to quality standards through this accrediting body ensures:

- Comprehensive care, including a complete range of state-of-the-art services and equipment
- A multidisciplinary team approach to coordinate the best available treatment options
- Information about ongoing cancer clinical trials and new treatments
- Access to prevention and early detection programs, cancer education and support services
- A cancer registry that offers lifelong patient follow-up
- Ongoing monitoring and improvements in cancer care
- Quality care, close to home

To maintain our status as an accredited cancer program, we undergo a thorough independent review every three years. On September 15, Dr. Frederick Greene from ACS spent the day with us learning about our cancer-related services. He was very impressed with a number of our accomplishments, and we received six commendations. Along with our three-year accreditation we were given four suggestions for growth and development. We received commendation in the following areas: enroll patients to clinical trials, reporting our outcomes to the community through our annual report, following protocols for pathology reports, nursing care, data accuracy and participation in the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS). The next survey is due in September 2018.

In addition to achieving ACS accreditation, we progressed in key areas. We worked to educate our medical community, lay community and local high school students. This was achieved in numerous ways:

1. Gave presentations by our local cancer specialists on 3-D mammography, low-dose CT lung cancer screening, tobacco use among teens and other topics.
2. Improved support services for cancer patients
   - Scott Phillips and Michele Cherry worked to expand a Lay Health Adviser Program for women with breast cancer.
3. Reduced severity of disease with screening for common cancers in our community
   - Lung cancer
   - Breast cancer
   - Prostate cancer
4. Raised money and community awareness
   - March – Colon cancer talks for Optimist Clubs in Rocky Mount and Tarboro
   - March 30 – Wellness Day at Edgecombe County Health Department
   - April 11 – Latino Health Fair at Vidant Edgecombe Hospital
   - April 16 – Wellness Day in Rocky Mount
   - April 25 - Masquerade Ball to benefit cancer center
   - May 1 – Relay for Life – raised more than $130,000
   - October 31 – Edgecombe Cancer Support Foundation’s Run For Your Life
5. Improved cancer patient care
   - Started a project that encourages each patient in the Oncology Clinic to develop and document Advance Directives, which is now a consistent part of our intake process
   - Updated the way we document pathology reports so every team member has access to the latest state-of-the-art testing and details
   - Taught chemotherapy patients how to maintain magnesium levels throughout treatment
   - Began taking part in ACS’ 80% by 2018 initiative (see below)
   - Continued to expand our Palliative Care Program
   - Created a standardized system for evaluating bone health in patients with prostate cancer along with a multidisciplinary group for identification and treatment of osteopenia and osteoporosis
6. Participated in the cancer registry process to share our local cancer data
   – For 2014, we had a total of 125 cancer diagnoses.
   – Top cancer sites were:
     » Breast (29 patients)
     » Prostate (21 patients)
     » Colon (16 patients)
     » Lung/Bronchus (9 patients)
     » Bladder (6 patients)

7. Assured regular review and treatment of cancer patients within nationally recognized guidelines
   – We held well-attended monthly cancer conference meetings in which we discussed a total of 57 patients in a prospective fashion with a multidisciplinary group. Prognostic indicators, AJCC staging and evidence-based guidelines were used to help plan treatments. Specialty areas including pathology, surgery, oncology and radiology were represented at the conferences.
   – We verified that 100 percent of Vidant Edgecombe Hospital pathology reports adhere to the College of American Pathologists (CAP) guidelines.
   – Our cancer committee met quarterly with 75 percent or greater attendance by each member or their designated alternate.
   – We reviewed quarterly data for the following programs: CP3R, Cancer Quality Improvement Program (CQIP), National Cancer Data Base (NCDB).

Special highlights

Breast cancer
Breast cancer is diagnosed frequently in our community. We underwent a specific, in-depth evaluation of our breast cancer patients with special attention to evidence-based outcomes.

Drs. Mark Petruzziello and Charles Knupp reviewed all breast cancer patients from 2014 to determine if their care adhered to ACS/CoC/NCNN guidelines for breast cancer treatment. Of 29 patients, 66 percent were African-American and 33 percent Caucasian. Diagnoses were:
   • Infiltrating ductal carcinoma – 24
   • Ductal carcinoma in situ – 3
   • Neuroendocrine – 1
   • Cribriform CIS – 1

Most breast cancer patients were diagnosed at Stage 2. The stage of disease at the time of diagnosis was as follows:
   • Stage 0 – 3
   • Stage 1 – 5
   • Stage 2 – 15
   • Stage 3 – 4
   • Stage 4 – 2

With respect to surgical treatment:
   • 97 percent had surgery.
   • 71 percent underwent breast-conserving surgery.
   • 29 percent underwent mastectomy.
   • All patients who had surgery underwent sentinel node biopsy.
   • All but one received a needle biopsy prior to surgery.
   • 85 percent of needle biopsies were positive.

All patients were offered chemotherapy or had oncotype testing to determine efficacy of chemotherapy added to anti-hormonal therapy.
   • Two patients declined chemotherapy.
   • One patient wanted chemotherapy despite a low oncotype diagnosis suggesting no additional benefit.
   • Three patients received chemotherapy elsewhere after diagnosis at Vidant Edgecombe.
   • Adhering to national guidelines, all patients who would benefit received radiation and/or anti-hormonal therapy.
   • 100 percent of patients were treated according to guidelines.

Colon cancer
Vidant Edgecombe Hospital is partnering with Vidant Medical Center on an initiative from the American Cancer Society, called 80% by 2018, in which we will focus on getting 80 percent of our community screened. A new member of our committee, Dr. Brad Bilicki, is championing this endeavor.

Prostate cancer
There is widespread debate within the medical community regarding which patients are best suited for prostate cancer screening. We worked to optimize prostate cancer screening in Tarboro to reach mainly high-risk men at a screening on September 12. We screened 76 individuals, two of whom were diagnosed with and treated for high-risk prostate cancer.
Over the past year, the Cancer Committee at Vidant Edgecombe Hospital met quarterly to advance the cancer center and to benefit patients. This is a summary of the year.

**Continuing Medical Education**

Staying abreast of the latest developments in cancer treatment is critical to the ongoing success of our program. For this reason, we featured vital presentations from experts on various topics related to cancer of the lung, cervix and other organs. Our Tumor Board continues to meet monthly at our hospital to present cancer patients for evaluation by oncology, radiology, surgery, pathology and other services.

**National cancer data base**

During the year, the cancer liaison physician discussed data provided by ACS NCDB online tools.

NCDB’s CQIP data were reviewed in the February meeting. The only low score was with breast in 2012 for needle biopsy. Image or palpation-guided needle biopsy (core or fine-needle aspiration) is performed for the diagnosis of breast cancer at 76.5 percent. As part of Standard 4.6, a review of ASCCoC/NCCN guidelines for Breast Cancer Surgery was conducted for our 2014 patients. All but one patient received a needle biopsy prior to surgery. It was noted that 85 percent were positive. These were discussed in Cancer Committee meetings, with representation from radiology and surgery. The goal is that more than 90 percent be biopsied and reviewed in three years for improvement. All other measures were met.

As part of the CoC’s quality guidelines, CP3R, our program scored 100 percent on all breast measures, including a more than 80 percent breast conservation surgery rate for women with American Joint Committee on Cancer clinical stage 0, I or II. This was higher than the state and all CoC-approved programs.

Our program also scored 100 percent on adjuvant chemotherapy considered or administered within four months of diagnosis for patients under the age of 80 with AJCC stage III lymph node positive colon cancer.

We continue to present RQRS data at all meetings with email alerts sent monthly.

**New radiology services**

A new service of 3D mammograms was added to our radiology services this year and presented to the hospital staff on May 5. Low-dose CT chest screenings are also new this year in order to detect lung cancer in early stages.

**Screening programs**

Two screening programs were provided this year. In September, a Prostate Screening Day was held at the clinic by Dr. Caroline Ryan. Free PSA and physical exams were provided to 75 men. At the Edgecombe Events Center in October, there was a Women’s Wellness Program offering free breast exams, risk evaluation and mammogram scheduling. It was well attended, with more than 200 women participating. During this event, nine clinical exams were provided and mammograms ordered. As a result, five appointments were scheduled and two women were referred to the Edgecombe County Health Department. General surgery and radiology techs provided expertise for this event.

Also this year for the first time, a Latino Community Health Fair was held in April 2015 which included cancer screening information. There were other Edgecombe Area Wellness Days in March, April and October. Cancer screening was among the valuable information provided to participants.

**Physician presentations in the community**

- **Bosom Buddies Breast Cancer Group** – Dr. Laura Jacimore, radiation oncologist, UNC Nash Health Care, and Dr. Petruzziello at Edgecombe Cancer Support Foundation
- **Optimist Club Rocky Mount** – Dr. Petruzziello offering colon cancer screening
- **Optimist Club Tarboro** – Dr. Petruzziello speaking on cancer in Edgecombe County
- **Cancer Survivorship Celebration** – featuring Dr. Petruzziello
- **Lions Club Pinetops** – Dr. Petruzziello speaking on cancer in Edgecombe County

**Events supporting cancer programs**

- **Masquerade Ball**, April, Vidant Edgecombe Hospital Development Council
- **Relay for Life** for American Cancer Society, May, Southwest Edgecombe High School
- **Lotus Foundation Walk for Breast Cancer**, September, Vidant Edgecombe Hospital
- **Run For Your Life 5K and Fun Run** – October, supporting Edgecombe Cancer Support Foundation, with our hospital as premier sponsor.
CANCER NAVIGATION

Scott Phillips, LCSW
Oncology Patient Navigator
Vidant Oncology-Tarboro

Vidant Edgecombe Hospital is dedicated to helping cancer patients and their caregivers find answers and feel supported throughout their journey. For this reason, our navigator, Scott Phillips, works side by side with physicians as an integral part of the health care team.

Services provided by Phillips include:
- Guidance through the health care system
- Patient advocacy to enhance communication
- Local and national resources for emotional support and financial issues
- Help for patients and their families in learning to live and cope with cancer
- Educational information about cancer treatment and symptom management
- Assistance in arranging treatment closer to home when available
- Education about screening, early detection and prevention

CANCER REGISTRY

The role of the cancer registry

A cancer registry is a systematic collection of data by cancer registrars for the management and analysis of data related to people diagnosed with cancer. Vidant Health cancer registrars accession more than 100 cases annually for Vidant Edgecombe Hospital; all eight Vidant Health facilities have a combined annual accession rate of more than 3,500 cases. The top cancer sites diagnosed and treated at Vidant Edgecombe Hospital in 2014 were breast, prostate, colon, lung and bladder.

Vidant Heath transition

In 2014, the cancer registry successfully restructured all of Vidant Health’s cancer registry services under one roof. Data for all Vidant Health entities are now collected and reported from one registry. The registry team consists of a supervisor and assistant supervisor, both credentialed as certified tumor registrars (CTRs), four oncology data abstractors, three of whom are also CTRs, and one follow-up analyst.

CTRs are highly specialized data information experts who are the heart of a cancer program. They review, interpret and capture a complete summary of a cancer patient’s medical history, diagnosis, stage, treatment and health status. These details provide essential information to researchers, hospitals, health care providers and public health officials to determine community needs related to cancer prevention, diagnosis and treatment services.

Data usage

Annually, the cancer registry reports to the NCDB and monthly to the North Carolina Central Cancer Registry (NCCCR). This information is used to evaluate patient outcome and quality of life in addition to calculating survival rates, allocating resources at regional or state levels, and evaluating efficacy of treatment.

It is also compared to that of other hospitals to gauge our cancer program’s performance on a programmatic, state and national level. Data reported to the NCDB is used in the CP3R, established to monitor compliance with national treatment guidelines for cancer care.

Participation in ACS’ RQRS, used by accredited cancer programs, is a tool used to evaluate compliance with four national quality performance measures for breast and colon cancer and two surveillance measures for colon and rectal cancer. A monthly alert generated for individual cases is provided through a notification system for which treatment has not been reported through the registry database as being administered. RQRS alerts help to ensure the highest quality of care is provided to patients in a timely manner.

In 2014, there were more than 100 data requests for research and outcome studies. These include county-based data, follow-up and annual case-load statistics. Treatment-related data requests such as the number of patients who received radiation as well as many breast, lung, GI and prostate cancer correlated study requests were fulfilled. Nurse navigation studies analyzed length of time to treatment as well as barriers to care.

Education

The Vidant Health cancer registry serves as eastern North Carolina’s host site for the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR) webinar series. Throughout the year, on a monthly basis, a site-specific webinar geared toward educating cancer registrars on updates to abstracting, coding, treatment modalities and statistics is offered at the Eastern Area Heath Education Center on Vidant Medical Center’s campus.
### Cancer incidence by primary site and gender

<table>
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<th>Primary site</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>%</th>
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<td>Palate</td>
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<td>Colon</td>
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<td>Prostate gland</td>
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<td>18.92</td>
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<td>Urinary bladder</td>
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<td>66.67</td>
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<td>Lymph nodes</td>
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<td>UNK primary</td>
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<td>1.8</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td><strong>Total cases</strong></td>
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<td><strong>51</strong></td>
<td><strong>61</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
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### Comparison to national norms

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>USA male*</th>
<th>Vidant male**</th>
<th>Total new male cases</th>
<th>USA female*</th>
<th>Vidant female**</th>
<th>Total new female cases</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prostate</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>855,220</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>820,320</td>
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<td>Lung/bronchus</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>Lung/bronchus</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colon/rectum</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>Colon/rectum</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bladder</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>Uterine corpus</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Melanoma of skin</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Thyroid</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kidney/renal pelvis</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Non-Hodgkin lymphoma</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Hodgkin lymphoma</td>
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<td>0%</td>
<td>Melanoma of the skin</td>
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<td>0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral cavity &amp; pharynx</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<td>Kidney/renal pelvis</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Leukemia</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Pancreas</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liver &amp; intrahepatic bile duct</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Leukemia</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total males and females</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,665,540</strong></td>
<td><strong>112</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total new cases</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,665,540</strong></td>
<td><strong>112</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total new female cases</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>
NEW EXPERTISE

New oncologist strengthening our services
Dr. Sri Jasthy has brought new expertise to our community, joining Dr. Charles Knupp in Vidant Oncology-Tarboro. Dr. Jasthy completed residency training in internal medicine and fellowship training in hematology and oncology, both at Western Pennsylvania Hospital in Pittsburgh. She manages the diagnosis and treatment of patients with cancer and blood disorders. Her areas of interest include infusion and injection therapy, PICC line insertions, IV fluid administration and other services that will reduce the need for cancer patients to travel far from home for treatment.

Sri Jasthy, MD

AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

Cancer Care at Vidant Edgecombe Hospital is developing its outreach program to provide the necessary education and screenings to the underserved and at risk populations in our community. It is crucial that we provide our community members the cancer information they need so they can make sound choices when it comes to behaviors related to prevention and detection.

Lay Health Advisor Program – To help address the enormous task of preventing and detecting breast cancer, we initiated our Lay Health Advisor (LHA) program in 2009. Our Lay Health Advisors are trained volunteers who work with regional health care providers, survivors, faith-based organizations, civic groups, local government agencies and businesses to provide breast cancer education and encourage timely screening. The LHA program reaches audiences through attending local health and resource fairs, doing speaking engagements, presentations and other awareness events.

2015 Lay Health Advisors (left to right): Hilda Morris, Dr. Evelyn Johnson, Frances Wright and Gloria Brown
Vidant Edgecombe Hospital and Vidant Oncology-Tarboro are committed to ensuring that all residents in the community have access to high-quality health care. This includes providing various supportive services to patients and families.

**Support Groups**

**Bosom Buddies** – A support for women with any type of cancer. The group meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7 pm in the Vidant Edgecombe Hospital Classroom. For more information call 252-823-8277 or 252-823-2525.

**Look Good, Feel Better** – A support group that helps patients confront and deal with changes in physical appearance resulting from cancer treatment. For more information call the American Cancer Society toll free at 866-227-8837.

**Survivorship Programs**

Cancer survivors are living longer with the physical, psychological and social effects of cancer and treatments, which can extend years beyond the end of their acute diagnosis. Cancer Care has survivorship programs that are designed to assist patients on their road toward survivorship and improve overall quality of life.

**Lotus Survival Foundation Retreat** – Vidant Edgecombe Hospital partners with the Lotus Survival Foundation to provide weekend retreats for breast cancer survivors in our community. Participants receive a wealth of information and support during these retreats which provide complementary therapies that focus on improving a patient’s physical, emotional, social and spiritual well-being during and after treatment.

**Walk for Hope** – A community event for raising awareness about breast cancer and cancer survivorship issues. The Walk for Hope is held annually in September in partnership with the Lotus Survival Foundation. People who are survivors of any cancer type are invited to attend.

**Lymphedema Therapy**

Vidant Edgecombe Hospital’s Outpatient Rehabilitation Services has a certified lymphedema therapist. The goal of lymphedema therapy is to restore function, reduce physical and psychological suffering, and prevent the development of infection. Our lymphedema therapists work with local agencies to provide lymphedema sleeves and other supplies. For more information, call 252-641-7715.

**Nutrition Programs**

Most cancer survivors want to understand how to stay healthy after diagnosis and treatment and, most importantly, how to prevent cancer from recurring. Eating a healthy, balanced diet is a key component to staying healthy. Nutritionists and dietitians are available to work with cancer survivors as they develop new, healthier eating patterns.

**Peer Connect**

The Peer Connect program links patients being seen in our cancer clinic to a volunteer trained in motivational interviewing who can assist with examining psychosocial problems and identifying solutions. Our Peer Connect volunteer can meet with patients one-on-one in the clinic or conduct a phone interview. For more information, call 252-641-8313.
Vidant Edgecombe Hospital remains the premier sponsor for the Run 4 Your Life 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run in Tarboro benefiting local cancer patients.

The Women’s Wellness Fair and Fashion Show featured clinical breast exams, local exhibitors sharing health information and a fun fashion show.

Mamie McCullough, known as the “I can” lady, spoke at our annual Pink Power breast cancer awareness event, inspiring attendees to overcome stress with grace and humor.
Vidant Edgecombe Hospital is accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer.