

# NYS Cancer Consortium Chronicle

## NYS Cancer Mapping Website

Created by the Department of Health in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Conservation, a website portal has been created, making available to the public an interactive map showing counts of specific types of cancer and certain types of environmental facilities. This new site is the first time that information about cancer is available to the general public on a small geographic level and in an interactive format. Users are cautioned to not draw conclusions about a potential relationship between cancer counts and environmental facilities as cancer risk depends on many different variables. This portal is located at <http://www.nyhealth.gov/environmental-facilities-and-cancer-mapping>.

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## New York State Cancer Consortium

### Are We Pushing Your Buttons? Advocacy in NYSCC

This month, all members of the NYSCC have received a "Push the Button" alert. Recommended by the NYSCC Steering Committee and the Policy Advisory Committee, certain bills being considered by the NYS Legislature and NYS budget issues have emerged that directly affect the goals listed in the New York State Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan. The NYSCC can make a dif-

ference through lobbying, advocating and educating. Here's what you should know:

**Tobacco:** The NYSCC supports the \$1/pack increase in the cigarette excise tax and the ban on flavored tobacco products of all kinds. We also support the retention of tobacco control funding.

- NYS tax would in-

crease from \$2.75 to \$3.75/pack of cigarettes.

- With higher tobacco taxes, the smoking rate has dropped from 25% (2000) to 16.8% (2008)
- There would be an estimated 9.4% reduction in youth smoking, 53,800 adult smokers quit-

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Committee Updates

### Health Workforce Committee:

Logic model creation is underway. Model will be made available on the website after its finalization. Committee will be working on a review of the Healthcare Personnel section of the NYS Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan for the plan revision.

### Policy Committee:

NYS Budget includes proposed items of relevance including the \$1/pack increase on ciga-

rettes and the tax on sugar-sweetened beverages at about 1 penny/ounce. The soda tax revenue would be used to raise an estimated \$400 million to offset Medicaid costs and to pay for other healthcare programs. The Palliative Care Education and Training Act RPs have been released from the Governor's office for public comments. The Family Healthcare Decision Act has passed and has been signed into law.

### Prevention and Early Detection Committee:

There is continued advocacy for the Cancer Services Program. Funding money for this program has dropped, but there has been a surplus in the remaining funding for the last quarter. Screening numbers have been down and there is an increased push for screening in the priority populations. Dr. Leslie Kohman has no-

*(Continued on page 3)*

# May 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 <i>Caring for the Cancer Survivor</i>	8
9	10 <i>Cook for Your Life!</i>	11 <i>Oriental Medicine</i>	12 <i>Walking in our Shoes: Hereditary Cancer...</i>	13 <i>NY HER Meaningful Use Summit—NYC</i>	14 <i>NY HER Meaningful Use Summit—Long Island</i>	15 <i>2010 Ovarian Cancer Survivor's Course Spring Survivorship Symposium</i>
16	17 <i>Holistic Ways to Manage Cancer: Panel Discussion</i>	18	19	20 <i>NY HER Meaningful Use Summit—Buffalo Welcome Back Program!</i>	21 <i>NY HER Meaningful Use Summit—Syracuse Asian American Health Panel</i>	22 <i>NY HER Meaningful Use Summit—Binghamton NBCC's Annual Advocacy Training Conference</i>
23 <i>NBCC's Annual Advocacy Training cont'd</i>	24 <i>NBCC's Annual Advocacy Training cont'd Cancer Advocacy Project</i>	25 <i>NBCC's Annual Advocacy Training cont'd</i>	26 <i>Breast Cancer: The Genetic Connection</i>	27	28	29
30	31					

- May 13— 8:30am-4pm— NY Electronic Health Records Meaningful Use Summit in NYC. (see page 4)
- May 14— 8:30am-4pm— NY Electronic Health Records Meaningful Use Summit in Long Island (see page 4)
- May 15— 8am-4pm— 2010 Ovarian Cancer Survivor's Course. Free full day course for cancer survivors, friends, family members and others at NYU Langone Medical Center, New York, NY.
- May 15— 10am-3:30pm— Spring Survivorship Symposium. All cancer survivors and guests are invited to attend. \$10 registration fee. Located in Lake George, NY.
- May 17—6pm— Holistic Ways to Manage Cancer: Panel Discussion: Complementary alternative medicine discussion, etc.
- May 20— 8:30am-4pm— NY Electronic Health Records Meaningful Use Summit in Buffalo (see page 4).
- May 20—9:39am-1pm— Welcome Back Program! Educating school personnel and parents on the cognitive and late effects of childhood cancer treatment in Uniondale, NY.
- May 21— 8:30am-4pm— NY Electronic Health Records Meaningful Use Summit Syracuse (see page 4).
- May 21—1pm-3pm— Asian American Health Panel discussing less visible factors faced by immigrants.
- May 22— 8:30am-4pm— NY Electronic Health Records Meaningful Use Summit in Binghamton (see page 4).
- May 22-25— NBCC's Annual Advocacy Training Conference. Taking place in Washington, DC for advocates of all experience levels. Registration is \$200/members and \$245/non-members. For more information visit <http://takeaction.stopbreastcancer.org/site/PageSec>
- May 24— 6pm-8pm— City Bar Justice Center's Cancer Advocacy Project, providing cancer patients and survivors with pro bono legal information and advice in Manhattan. For more info go to our website.
- May 26— 7pm-8pm— Breast Cancer: The Genetic Connection in Garden City. Registration required.

Calendar events are fully posted on our website, so check it out for more information! Go to: <http://nyscancerconsortium.org/calendar/calendar.aspx>. Have events? Send information to [nyscccp@cancer.org](mailto:nyscccp@cancer.org) for posting.

- May 7— 9:30am-12:30pm — After Treatment: Caring for the Cancer Survivor. Melville, NY. Free event to educate social work and nursing professionals on the current post treatment issues faced by cancer survivors. 3.0 contact hours offered.
- May 10— 6pm-8pm— Cook for Your Life! Nutrition and cooking class for young breast cancer survivors at Teachers College— Columbia University.
- May 11— 7pm-8:30pm— Oriental Medicine. See OM modes of treatment demonstrated to help improve the quality of life for people undergoing conventional medical treatments for breast cancer at Adelphi University, Garden City, NY.
- May 12— 12pm-1:30pm— “Walking in our Shoes: Hereditary Cancer from the Patient's Perspective” webinar. Go to [www.nysna.org/ce/webinars.htm](http://www.nysna.org/ce/webinars.htm) for more information. Registration is \$25/members of NYSNA and \$35/non-members.

## Committee Updates Cont'd

tified all Cancer Liaison physicians in her region that the county cancer services programs need new clients. The CLPs will help to facilitate this. This group has also activated a “push the button” on some important advocacy issues that the NYSCC supports. These include the: \$1 increase per pack of cigarettes, ban on flavored cigarettes, retention of tobacco funds, and the sugar sweetened beverage tax. For more information on these issues and the NYSCC stand, see “Are We Pushing Your Buttons? Advocacy in NYSCC” on the front page.

### Tobacco Committee:

Attempts to convene this group have brought up questions of unnecessary replication. To address this, the Tobacco Committee will become part of the Prevention and Detection Committee.

### Steering Committee:

The Steering Committee has approved the creation of two new AdHoc Committees to become the primary reviewers of the Treatment and Palliative Care sections of the NYSCCCP. Steering Committee will also be creating a logic model to guide and measure the process and activities for the coming year.

### Membership Committee:

Membership is currently up to 268. To view more on the distribution of members in the state, please see the purple box below.

### Evaluation Committee

Evaluation has created a member distribution report and is currently working with other committees to finalize logic models. Surveys are anticipated on Plan Usage, where members will be surveyed on whether or not they use the plan, what they use it for, etc. A survey on Plan Revision comments will also be created.

## Are We Pushing Your Buttons? (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

ting, and a generated \$200 million in 2010-2011 that would be used for the NYS Health Care Reform Act Resources Fund.

### Cancer Screening in the State Budget:

The NYSCC supports the retention of Cancer Screening funds at last year's appropriation of \$21 million.

- In the Executive Budget, 15 line items addressing cancer programs have been consolidated into two and federal changes to health care will not take effect for several years.
- The CSP is a cost-effective program resulting in nearly \$46 million in annual savings due to early detection and treatment of

cancer.

### Sugar Sweetened Beverage Tax:

The NYSCC supports the passing of the sugar sweetened beverage tax in an effort to prevent obesity. The NYSCC encourages that the revenue from said tax will be spent on public health, specifically obesity prevention, nutrition and physical activities programs.

- One-third of kids in NYS are overweight or obese. 25% of NY adults are obese and another 35% are overweight.
- Obesity currently costs NYS an estimated \$7.6 billion annually.
- This tax is expected to: increase the cost of included beverages

by 17%, decrease a minimum of 10% in consumption, improve nutrition, and raise revenue for health programs.

- Revenues could be spent on public health, specifically obesity prevention efforts, including reimbursement for school food, ensuring compliance with school physical education standards and other nutrition/physical activity improvements in schools, etc.

For more information on these issues, you can find summaries and toolkits on our website. Go to [http://nyscancerconsortium.org/committees/committees\\_advisory.aspx](http://nyscancerconsortium.org/committees/committees_advisory.aspx) and scroll down to “Documents”.

## Where We Stand With the Plan

As the New York State Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan has goals to be reached by 2010, the Consortium is hard at work revising the Plan with goals to be realized by 2018. A Plan AdHoc Committee has reviewed the current plan, making changes to the format and focusing on creating goals that are measurable. Format changes currently include the change from nine goal areas to six. Data and surveillance, research and public policy have all been removed as individual areas, but are being incorporated in

all other areas as appropriate.

Throughout the month of May, Program Committees, along with two new adhoc committees (Quality of Life and Treatment), will be reviewing goal areas pertaining to their particular specialty. Goals used in Healthy People 2020, recommendations from the CDC and new or altered information offered by data sources will be used to create/amend objectives.

In order to ensure Plan usability,

sections will include a list of resources where further information can be accessed. There will also be links provided for websites/web portals relating to each section.

Members of the NYSCC will be involved in the revision of the NYSCCCP. A survey will be going out asking for member feedback on changes. More information on this will be provided in the coming months. Stay tuned and please be sure to respond when necessary.

## Are You Being Represented? A Membership Issue

The Evaluation Committee of the NYSCC has recently created a report that is intended to show regions of the state that are underrepresented in our membership. Members were mapped according to their location and separately by their regional reach. (Many members work for organizations that cover the whole state, numerous counties, etc.)

Three regions in the state are underrepresented in the general membership of the NYSCC. These regions include: Hudson Valley, Long Island and New York City.

Though New York City members equal about 23% of total membership in the Consortium, the census population of the region is about 43% of the state's population. Similarly, Hudson Valley accounts for about 6.5% of NYSCC membership and about 12% of the state's population while Long Island accounts for about 9% of NYSCC membership and about 15% of the state's population.

The vision of the NYSCC is; "People concerned about cancer will work collaboratively to implement the NYS Comprehensive

Cancer Control Plan, while respecting and embracing the cultural, demographic and geographic diversity within NYS." One way to ensure that this happens is to ensure the diversity of our membership. Please continue to encourage involvement in the NYSCC, especially from those located in the underrepresented areas.

Membership distribution will continue to be viewed, including distribution by organizational type. Stay tuned.

### New York Electronic Health Records (EHR) Meaningful Use Summit

Sponsored by the New York eHealth Collaborative, NYC REACH, and the New York Chapter American College of Physicians, this free full-day program addresses Meaningful Use incentives for physicians. This includes: how the meaningful use criteria for EHRs translate to better quality care for patients and improved public health; who qualifies for incentives and how to meet the federal criteria; and where to get assistance selecting, implementing and using EHRs. This program will be given throughout NYS (see calendar entries on the previous page. Also in Albany on June 2 and Tarrytown on June 4). Pre-Registration is free and can be done at [www.nyacp.org/EHRForm](http://www.nyacp.org/EHRForm).



"Working Together, Reducing Cancer, Saving Lives"

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