



# Cancer

## The Role of State Public Health in Cancer Prevention and Control

### Determine Community Need and Capacity

- Estimate and identify populations at risk for certain cancers, using statistical and epidemiological models based on current and projected data on cancer occurrences.
- Develop targeted strategies to increase cancer screenings for at-risk populations.
- Identify barriers to cancer screening and treatment.
- Categorize public and private providers that screen for and treat cancer.

### Outreach and Education to Encourage Cancer Screenings

- Provide information to targeted individuals and groups on the risk factors for certain cancers, the importance of being screened for cancer, and provide information on where and how to be screened.
- Work with state legislatures, insurance commissioners, and employers to ensure public and private health plans provide coverage for evidence-based cancer screenings and other preventive measures.
- Create and distribute culturally relevant educational materials.
- Conduct marketing and educational campaigns.
- Develop relationships with community groups (churches, businesses, senior centers, etc.) to educate high-risk individuals.

### Outreach and Education to Inform and Prepare Providers

- Develop relationships with primary care providers and specialists who are in contact with targeted groups.
- Educate providers to ensure appropriate practices, including the importance of primary prevention and addressing risk factors during routine office visits.
- Inform healthcare providers about the most recent recommendations to screening schedules and evidence-based interventions.

### \* Delivery of Recommended Screenings and Treatments

- Work with patients and families to identify risk factors (e.g., tobacco use, obesity, poor nutrition, lack of exercise), and make recommendations for behavioral changes.
- Screen for cancer, either by patients' primary care provider or appropriate specialists.
- Provide suitable cancer treatment in accredited facilities.

### Follow Up, Tracking, Reminder, and Recall

- Help providers track patients to ensure timely screenings and follow-up and support reminder/recall efforts to reach targeted individuals.
- Track screenings and maintain electronic records of disease rates through cancer registries.

- **Detect and investigate patterns of cancer occurrences.**

\* Carried out by Medical Care System.

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Officials

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