

Mammogram Referral and Screening Rates in Montgomery County Safety-Net Clinics

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ABSTRACT

Through a Susan G. Komen Community-Academic Partnership Grant, the Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County, in collaboration with the Montgomery County DHHS and Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, is striving to ensure that low-income and uninsured women in Montgomery County receive high quality breast health care at the primary care level. This goal will be met through conducting a clinic wide needs assessment, patient navigation and provider training to increase breast cancer referral and breast cancer screening rates at the participating Montgomery Cares safety-net clinics. The purpose of the chart abstraction is to provide baseline breast health data for the program.

Methods: The chart abstraction was conducted at three participating Montgomery Cares clinics, records for all women ≥ 40 years of age who had at least one clinic visit during the previous year (June 1, 2006-May 31, 2007) were reviewed. A list of patient names was generated using CHLCare, a shared electronic medical record, for each clinic. A chart abstraction tool used to abstract data on Clinical Breast Exam (CBE), CBE results, referral for breast cancer screening, completed breast cancer screening, breast cancer screening results, and documented follow-up. The results will be used as baseline data to evaluate the Susan G. Komen Community Academic Partnership program at the participating Montgomery Cares safety-net clinics.

The total number of charts reviewed for the study was 1198 patient records:
 Clinic #1 having 569 patient records
 Clinic #2 having 420 patient records
 Clinic #3 having 209 patient records

Montgomery Cares Safety-Net Clinics

Montgomery Cares is a public/private partnership providing health services to low-income and uninsured Montgomery County, Maryland adult residents. The Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County administers Montgomery Cares and is responsible for coordinating the services of the participating health care providers who share a common mission and work collaboratively toward the goal of providing primary health care services to 40,000 uninsured adults. These providers include the community HealthLink Clinics and other independent non-profit health care organizations.

Montgomery Cares patient population demographics:
 Age: 68% ≥ 40 years of age
 Gender: 69% Female; 31% Male
 Race: 35% Other; 23% White; 21% African American; 13% Asian;
 3% Unknown
 Ethnicity: 56% Hispanic/Latino; 38% Not Hispanic/Latino; 6% Unknown

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METHODS

Chart abstraction tool created

Study team hired and trained

List of patient names generated from CHLCare, shared EMR, for all women ≥ 40 years of age with one visit between 6/1/06 – 5/31/07

Charts identified and documented data abstracted:

- Clinical Breast Exam (CBE)
- Clinical Breast Exam (CBE) Result
- Mammogram Referral
- Mammogram Completion
- Mammogram Result

Data elements analyzed based on standard of care and United States Preventative Task Force Guidelines:

- CBE annually
- Mammogram every 1-2 years

Results shared with participating clinics for discussion and as a basis for developing patient navigation program.

RESULTS

Graph 1: Baseline Mammogram Referral Rates - Mammogram referral documented in patient chart for all women who did not have a mammogram in the past two years. (June 1, 2006-May 31, 2007)

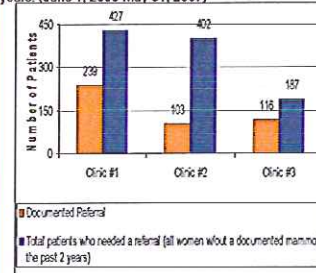


Table 1: Mammogram Referral Rate

Clinic #1	60%
Clinic #2	25%
Clinic #3	73%

Graph 2: Baseline Mammogram Screening Rates - Mammogram result documented by radiology report in patient chart within the past two years. (June 1, 2006-May 31, 2007)

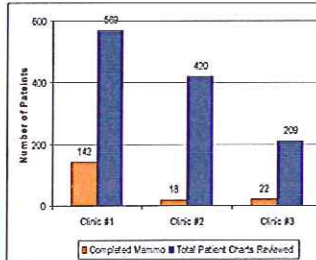


Table 2: Mammogram Screening Rate

Clinic #1	25%
Clinic #2	4%
Clinic #3	11%

SIGNIFICANT LEARNINGS

The Montgomery Cares safety net clinics participating in this program strive to provide high quality primary care to the low-income and uninsured patients of Montgomery County. This chart abstraction illustrated that there is still need for more work in the area of breast health care. Some of the preliminary findings from the chart review and discussion of results with the clinics are as follows:

- Women ≥ 40 years of age are not being consistently referred for mammograms at all clinic sites.
- Women who are referred may or may not obtain a mammogram.
- Women who are referred receive mammograms through a number of mammogram providers, including but not limited to, the free mammogram programs available in Montgomery County.
- Due to the large number of providers who volunteer at two of the clinic sites, providers may not all be referring for preventative care services based on evidence based guidelines.
- Patients may or may not receive a Clinical Breast Exam prior to a mammogram referral.
- Based on clinic reports, the number of mammogram self reports documented in patient charts, and the copies of patient mammogram results in the chart, mammogram reports are not sent back to the clinics once a woman has completed a mammogram screening.
- The rate of mammogram screening at all three participating clinics is below the mammogram screening benchmark of 70% set by Healthy People 2010.

NEXT STEPS

The chart abstraction served as a first step in a program with multiple components. Moving forward the next steps that are currently underway are as follows:

- ✓Needs Assessment at all 8 Montgomery Cares safety net clinics.
- ✓Development and provision of a 1 credit online CME training for providers and clinical staff - A Review of Breast Cancer Screening: The Role of Culture.
- ✓Development of a culturally competent patient navigation program that supports patients in receiving breast cancer screening and follow up services.
- ✓Work with clinics to implement the patient navigation program and streamline workflow to ensure that women are being appropriately referred for breast cancer screening/diagnostic services.
- ✓Development of tracking tools in CHLCare the electronic medical record to support clinics in tracking patients that they have referred for preventative care.
- ✓Collaboration with community groups that work in breast cancer through out Montgomery County to identify gaps and work towards solutions.

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