

IMPROVING THE PRACTICE OF CANCER SCREENING

HOW YOUR PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY CAN HELP

SCREENING SAVES LIVES. Detecting cancer early when treatment works best is critical to saving lives. And yet, far too many Americans are not being screened as recommended.

[Health systems and public health agencies have a shared goal to increase screening rates and save lives.]

SCREENING IS ALSO A KEY MEASURE IN TODAY'S VALUE-BASED CARE MODELS.

As health systems increase the quality, efficiency, and rate of cancer screenings, they also will maximize reimbursements.

[Public health agencies can offer resources that improve the practice of screening.]

WHAT PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES HAVE TO OFFER

For decades, cancer prevention programs have provided screening to uninsured and hard-to-reach populations. With the increase in the number of insured Americans, programs can offer expertise to health systems on reaching various populations with the potential to multiply impact.

EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS

An independent task force was established in 1996 to study various disease prevention interventions and determine effectiveness, cost, and, when possible, return on investment. The result is a **set of thoroughly studied and tested intervention strategies for a variety of health issues.**

The good news is that previously implemented and verified interventions for increasing the rate and quality of cancer screening already exist.

These practices can be incorporated into everyday workflows, sustained, and replicated across disease programs to improve return on investment.

Your public health agency also has locally and regionally relevant **interventions, data, and lessons learned.**

**Working in
partnership, health
systems and public
health agencies
can dramatically
increase screening
rates and lives
saved.**



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

In addition to information about evidence-based interventions, cancer prevention and control programs can provide technical assistance with implementation, policy and procedure development, data use, service delivery, and education.

We can also share best practices for stakeholder engagement, process improvement, and data management as they relate to building the most efficient and effective disease prevention programs.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Public health agencies have extensive experience working across sectors to advance cancer prevention. Our efforts to improve population-level screening have included partnerships with policymakers, practitioner networks, medical societies, quality-improvement organizations, and other stakeholders. Whether your desire is to gain or share expertise, we can help you engage the right people in the right conversations.

SPOTLIGHT ON CANCER SCREENING AND PREVENTION

Just one example
of how your public
health agency
can help improve
performance

As health systems look to improve the quality and rate of cancer screenings, increase their performance score, and save more lives, public health agencies can help. We offer assistance implementing **evidence-based interventions** developed through decades of experience in this arena.

These include:

- Patient reminders and education to **increase community demand.**

- Provider assessments, feedback, and reminders to **improve delivery.**
- Strategies for reducing structural barriers and out-of-pocket costs to **improve access.**

Your public health agency may also support health systems in meeting requirements for advancing care information and coordination. Talk to your public health agency about how it can help you achieve your goals.