

## **Report to the Community – THAM Cancer Program**

In 2017, the THAM Cancer Committee remained dedicated in our efforts to provide exceptional care to patients in our community. We continue to participate in the American College of Surgeons, Commission on Cancer as an accredited Comprehensive Community Cancer Program. To help reduce the risk of community members developing cancer, we have provided educational programs touching over 150 community members. We have the only American Cancer Society approved Cancer Resource Center in Arlington. Our Cancer Resource Center is open Monday through Friday and is staffed by trained volunteers who can assist community members, patients and families to obtain answers to their cancer-related questions or concerns. In addition, books and brochures on a variety of cancer-related topics, as well as supplies such as wigs and head covering are available through the Cancer Resource Center to those who have lost their hair to cancer treatment. All of these services are provided at no charge.

We have provided 38 at-risk women in our community with free mammograms through our partnership with the Texas Health Mobile Mammography Unit and our physicians provided 16 clinical breast exams to at-risk women in the community. Women with positive findings on their exam were assisted by an R.N. navigator and provided with education, emotional support and assistance in obtaining follow-up care. Our Nurse navigation program continues to grow. The nurse navigator provides support and assistance to individuals with a new cancer diagnosis. The nurse navigator answers questions, assists the patient in coordinating appointments for treatment and provides emotional support and resources to our patients. Originally focused on providing support to breast cancer patients, the nurse navigator program has been expanded to assist patients with breast, lung, colon, pancreas and kidney cancers.

A “Being Well” - Breast Health Awareness program was provided to 24 community members in October 2017. During this program, a panel of physicians provided education to the attendees regarding breast health, prevention strategies and early detection of breast cancer. This program included a session where community members were able to ask the physician panel specific questions and obtain information to address their concerns and questions related to breast cancer prevention, early detection and treatment.

For those patients being treated for cancer, we have implemented programs to improve management of lymphedema, to assist patients to improve the timely completion of diagnostic mammogram and breast biopsy for women having abnormal findings on breast exams. We have implemented a program for patients experiencing signs of psychosocial distress through a multidisciplinary team of trained professionals who are available to respond and assist those in distress. We continue to offer programs to provide support and encourage wellness to those fighting cancer including the Look Good...Feel Better program, the HOPE (Healthy Options and Physical Exercise) program and Breast Cancer Support Group. In 2017, we had over 60 active participants in these programs.

We hosted our annual Cancer Survivorship Celebration Day in June. We had over 40 cancer survivors and their families attend this year’s celebration. In addition to food, fun and prizes, education regarding cancer survivorship and community resource information was provided.

Texas Health Arlington Memorial retains our recognition by the American Nurses Credentialing Center as a Magnet designated hospital. This designation recognizes healthcare organizations for quality patient care, nursing excellence and innovations in professional nursing practice.

The hospital retains recognition for our Breast Center program through the awarding of accreditation by The American College of Surgeons’ National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC).

THAM Breast Center is committed to breast health care and to improving the quality of care available at the Center through the development and advancement of various breast-related programs. These programs include prevention, early detection, diagnosis, pre-treatment evaluation, staging, optimal treatment, rehabilitation, surveillance for recurrent disease, support services and end-of-life care. The availability of a full range of medical services, along with a multidisciplinary team approach to patient care, facilitates the provision of continuity of care for women with diseases of the breast.

The breast program strives:

- To provide access to information, education and support regarding breast cancer
- To continually improve the care and service provided to people with diseases of the breast. We have 3D mammography to provide advanced technology for the detection of abnormalities during mammogram procedures. We have designation as a Breast Imaging Center of Excellence by the American College of Radiology
- To provide information to individuals with breast cancer on applicable clinical trials and new treatment options.

We continually monitor aspect of cancer care identified by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer as important in the delivery of evidence-based cancer care often exceeding national benchmarks. The most recent available data, indicated performance above the national benchmark for key indicators of quality cancer care including:

- 100% compliance with appropriate surgical treatment for lung, colon and gastric cancer patients

Additional information related to cancer patient care is available on the Texas Health Resources web site.