

CANCER FACTS*

- African Americans are more likely to die of cancer than people of any other racial or ethnic group.
- The number of new cancer cases and cancer death rates for MEN are highest among African Americans.
- The number of new cancer cases for WOMEN are highest among whites.
- Cancer death rates for WOMEN are highest among African Americans.
- Among MEN, the number of new cases of lung cancer is more than 2 times higher among African Americans than among Asian/Pacific Islanders.
- Among WOMEN, the number of new cases of lung cancer is more than 2 times higher among whites than among Asian/Pacific Islanders.

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

National Minority Cancer Week is April 13 – 19, 2008 and is an opportunity for health care providers, community organizations, and state and local agencies to:

- EDUCATE the public about the importance of detecting cancer early among ethnic minority groups
- IMPROVE cancer control and prevention within minority and underserved populations
- SUPPORT programs aimed at reducing racial and ethnic disparities in cancer incidence and survivorship

RESOURCES

American Cancer Society
www.cancer.org

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Health Disparities
www.cdc.gov/cancer/minorityawareness/index.htm

Intercultural Cancer Council
www.iccnetwork.org

Michigan Cancer Consortium
www.michigancancer.org

Michigan Department of Community Health – Office of Minority Health
www.michigan.gov/mdch

National Cancer Institute – Center to Reduce Health Disparities
<http://crchd.cancer.gov>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Closing the Health Gap Campaign
www.omhrc.gov/healthgap/index.htm

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Office of Minority Health
www.omhrc.gov

University of Michigan School of Public Health – Studying and Improving Minority Health in Michigan
www.sph.umich.edu/cbph/programs/simhim

Here are some programs in Michigan that are dedicated to improving minority cancer awareness:

ACCESS

ACCESS Community Health Center works closely with the Karmanos Cancer Institute to provide culturally sensitive public education on breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer to Arab Americans in the Dearborn and Detroit area. Outreach efforts target mosques, English as a Second Language classes, and home visits to encourage breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screening. For more information, please visit www.accesscommunity.org.

Healthy Asian Americans Project

The Healthy Asian Americans Project (HAAP) reaches out to members of seven Asian ethnic groups (Chinese, Korean, Filipino, Japanese, Vietnamese, Asian Indian, and Hmong) to encourage health promotion, disease prevention, and access to care. HAAP promotes breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screening to Asian women. HAAP's efforts are primarily focused in Southeastern Michigan. For more information, please visit www.nursing.umich.edu/haap/.

Improving Cancer Outcomes of African Americans in Michigan

The overall goal of this project is to improve cancer outcomes in African Americans by increasing 1) community awareness and understanding of cancer and the importance of cancer prevention, screening, treatment, and cancer clinical trials; 2) participation in cancer screening programs; and 3) participation in clinical trials among African Americans. Coordinated by Faith Access to Community Economic Development in Flint, this project involves African American communities in Detroit, Flint, Lansing, Pontiac, and Saginaw. For more information, please visit www.facedcorp.org/icoaa.htm.

Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc.

The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc. (ITC) works to coordinate health promotion and disease prevention activities with Michigan's twelve federally-recognized Native American tribes. ITC strives to support and enhance the working partnerships between local health departments and the Michigan tribes. In addition, the ITC assists with development of effective public education messages and effective recruiting strategies to promote access to breast and cervical cancer screening and follow-up services for Native American women. For more information, please visit www.itcmi.org.

Michigan Multicultural Network

The Michigan Multicultural Network is comprised of five agencies that service African Americans, Arab/Chaldean Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanic/Latino Americans, and Native Americans. Funded by the Michigan Department of Community Health, this network aims to promote awareness about tobacco use and its impact on people of color. For more information, please contact Sonji Smith Revis at 517-335-9898 or smithsl@michigan.gov.

