

Breast Health Program

R.N. Specialist, Breast Health

Qualifications: BSN and Breast Health Specialist certificate. Experience in Women's Health.

Position Summary – To maintain and coordinate the Breast Health Program. Serve as a patient advocate by providing support and acting as a liaison between patients and specialists. Work with multidisciplinary services to coordinate patient education, diagnostics, treatment and follow-up of breast cancer patients.

Patient Advocate

- Contact all patients who have an abnormal mammogram.
- Provide information, comfort and support.
- Answer any questions the patient or family may have.
- Explain in detail upcoming procedures, based on previously determined protocols defined by Breast health Task Force.
- Assess patient upon arrival for procedures (vitals).
- Stay with patient throughout procedure.
- Assess patient prior to discharge and provide instructions.
- Expedite results to referring physicians.
- Follow-up with patient after results are available.
- Able to discuss basics of breast pathology.

Diagnostics

- Coordinate booking of stereotactic and ultrasound biopsies and follow-up as needed.
- Provide educational material about the procedures.

Treatment

- Act as a liaison between patients and referring physicians, surgeons, oncologists, etc.
- Assist with a second opinion if necessary.
- Coordinate participation in the Multidisciplinary Breast Clinic at the Cancer Center.
- Coordinate scheduling appointments once treatment has been determined.

Breast Health Education

- Coordinate the availability of patient education materials at all sites, as well as be familiar with resources available in the community (i.e., support groups, prostheses centers, VNA, etc.).
- Teach breast self-exam and promote annual screening.

- Provide counseling for high-risk patients, newly diagnosed patients and outpatients with questions regarding their diagnosis.
- Provide guidance for genetic testing if desired.
- Encourage yearly screening.

Education for Patients Prior to Surgery

- Develop a patient Breast Cancer Class that would be offered to all women at the time of diagnosis.
- Develop a binder to be given to each patient with information including:
 - Breast cancer treatment options
 - Facts about surgical procedures
 - What can be expected after surgery
 - Exercise options (P.T., O.T.)
 - Lymphadema treatment and support
 - Sexuality changes
 - Drug therapy (Tamoxifen, HRT)
 - Coping
 - Support groups – Social Work Services (coordinated with the Cancer Center)
 - Information about wigs and prostheses
 - Information about “Reach to Recovery” and “Look Good, Feel Better”
 - Educational information about Radiation and Chemotherapy if needed.

Collaboration with Multidisciplinary Breast Health & Breast Cancer Team

- Attend Cancer Committee
- Attend Breast Health Task Force Meeting
- Attend Monday afternoon cancer conference, 5:00 – 6:00 PM, Cancer Center
- Attend monthly Tumor Board Multidisciplinary Team

Committee Support/Outreach

- Breast Health education
- Health Fair participation