

Goals of this Position:

1. Decrease detection to diagnosis time of suspected breast cancers.
2. Offer increased information and a single point of contact for patient questions and concerns.
3. Provide coordinated, consistent scheduling and care for all women with suspicious mammogram finding that leads to further diagnostic workup.

Qualifications:

1. Registered nurse licensed in the state of Idaho.
2. A minimum of 2 years experience in oncology nursing and/or breast screening clinic.
3. Organizational and computer skills that facilitate data gathering and interpretation.
4. A high level of communication skills.

Performance Standards:

1. Receive and triage referrals from physicians (radiologists) and/or mammography technologists. Serve as a resource for DI scheduling personnel to help define differences in screening and diagnostic mammography. Consult with and write protocols for decision-making based on radiologist's recommendations.
2. Coordinate outpatient mammography scheduling to allow for quickest turnaround of follow-up ultrasound and/or biopsy, in one appointment if indicated.
3. Coordinate scheduling of appointments for surgical consults to include plastic surgery, if requested, within 48 hours of the diagnostic radiology visits.
4. As indicated by referring physician (surgeon or primary physician), perform a preliminary assessment of demographic and health status data for potential referrals to Social Services, Nutrition Services, Support Groups, Reach to Recovery or other appropriate agencies.
5. Act as a liaison for patient in interfacing with hospital/clinical services.
6. Assess patient's understanding of their diagnosis and therapeutic options, intervene with teaching, handouts, and audiovisual materials or make referrals as necessary.
7. Assess patient satisfaction with program framework, processes and outcomes.
8. Collaborates with physicians and ancillary services regarding coordination of treatments and procedures to facilitate timely and cost-effective care.

9. Provide coverage for the breast-screening nurse (breast exams) when needed.

Professionalism:

1. Demonstrates and maintains competence in clinical areas.
2. Contributes to development of professional practice standards.
3. Participates in and contributes to organizational and departmental quality improvement activities.
4. Analyzes variances from patient care goals relative to own and program performance.
5. Identifies educational needs of related staff (including physician associates) and provides input to develop an educational plan.
6. Provides public education programs related to breast cancer and/or mammography as requested. Assist with marketing of breast cancer related programs as requested.
7. Functions as the patient's advocate, verbalizes the patient's concerns when patient unable or unwilling to speak for self.

Orientation issues:

1. Spend "a day" with radiologists reading and reviewing mammograms.
2. Spend time in diagnostic mammography, ultrasound, SDS, pathology, surgeons' office with the goal of familiarizing self with processes.
3. Become a certified breast exam nurse by completing training through the state health department program.