

PEI Cancer Strategy Progress Update

2018 - 2019

Health PEI
One Island Health System





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Strategy in Action

Throughout the life of this strategy a number of collaborative opportunities have arisen, special initiatives were undertaken and opportunities for new learning has advanced cancer control and care in PEI. Like any system or organization, health care faces competing demands for time and resources, and the amount of new research and evidence that guides clinical care and planning is growing at an enormous rate. Commitment and efforts on a number of recommendations remain underway and will continue.

Key Progress – Year 3

CANCER CONTROL CONTINUUM

- A provincial awareness campaign was launched to inform youth, parents, teachers and public about the health harms of electronic smoking on young people. (www.peitobacco.com/vape)
- The Department of Health and Wellness collaborated with the Canadian Cancer Society and Health PEI to promote the Smokers' Helpline to healthcare professionals and people who want to quit smoking.
- A Provincial Smoking Cessation Advisory Committee was formed to bring together stakeholders from healthcare, community and multiple government departments to establish goals, share information and collaborate to reduce tobacco use in PEI.
- In response to recent evidence in colorectal cancer screening, the guidelines are being reviewed by the action group to ensure Islanders have access to early detection and care.
- Initial work is underway to develop decision aides to support men and clinicians in determining what approach is best in detecting and managing prostate cancer.
- Marketing campaign was developed for cancer screening in an effort to increase participation in breast, colorectal and cervical screening programs. "I stopped cancer before it stopped me" included TV, newspaper and online materials.
- Work continued to build consensus and measure targets for the pathway to diagnosis and treatment of lung, breast and colorectal cancers. Information tools and education will be developed to support patients and their physicians when undergoing a diagnosis and planning treatment.
- Additions to the provincial drug formulary included a recommendation by the oncology sub-committee of the Provincial Drugs and Therapeutics Committee.
- The new TrueBeam linear accelerator was opened for service providing advanced radiation therapy in PEI.
- Physicians from a number of specialties have started to come together to discuss best practices in diagnosis and treatment of cancers. The approach, known as building communities of practice, is informed by local and national reports and is being led by our pathologists to help reflect on how care is being provided and what we can do to improve.
- As part of the cancer care plan framework, patients at the PEI Cancer Treatment Center now receive a new Passport to Care which helps to organize information about diagnosis, treatments, support services and resources available.
- Additional training in the palliative care approach and advance care plans is underway across the Island for physicians, nurse practitioners and other clinicians with an aim to enhance skills and allow for earlier integration of the approach by those working in primary care, home care, oncology and long term care.

RESEARCH AND SURVEILLANCE

- The Chief Public Health Office released the Children's Report 2017: Investing in our Future which explores the relationship between the social determinants of health, health equity, health behaviors and outcomes in Island children. (https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/sites/default/files/publications/pei_childrens_report_web_2017_2.pdf)
- The Information Management Working Group has been working to identify key indicators to measure the cancer system performance in PEI. This monitoring will help to demonstrate the strengths and areas for improvement across the continuum.
- A special statistical report has been prepared for colorectal cancer so that Islanders, government and health care providers understand the burden of the disease in PEI. This is the third report in a series. (<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-pei/cancer-research-and-surveillance>)
- Research initiatives including:
 - Canadian study on real world evidence for the value of cancer drugs.
 - Economic study on the cost of cancer in Canada and PEI led by Chief Public Health Office
- A report that evaluates all aspects of the PEI Breast Cancer Screening Program will be completed Fall 2019
- The development of a new PEI Cancer Trends Report is underway which will provide an updated overview of cancer incidence, mortality, stage and survival. Information will be shared in Fall 2019.
- Grade 6 girls and boys continue to have one of highest rates of HPV vaccination in Canada. This is important in reducing risk of developing cervical, anal and oral cancer related to HPV. The Adult Immunization Program also provides HPV vaccine.



Going Forward

The Provincial Cancer Coordination Steering Committee continues to guide the implementation and monitoring of the strategic recommendations. With the conclusion of this strategy key areas to consider when identifying the next priorities include:

- Continue to support efforts to standardize clinical care plans and develop care plan tools that better inform cancer patients, their families and other care providers of the treatment plan, supportive services and long term outcomes.
- Continue to work with government in the effort to provide comprehensive tobacco cessation services and support for all Islanders.
- Seek opportunities to support investment and planning for an integrated electronic medical record for PEI.
- Consult with stakeholders to determine if the strategy structure is effective as an organized approach to cancer control and care in PEI or what other models should be considered to address gaps.
- Continue to be innovative in ways to increase participation in breast, cervical and colorectal screening in PEI.
- Monitor evidence and begin developing plans for the advancement of cervical cancer screening and management in PEI, which includes the role of HPV testing and a colposcopy program.
- Continue planning and evidence-monitoring for lung cancer screening in PEI.
- Establish a Prostate Cancer Action Group.
- Collaborate with primary care, acute care, cancer care and palliative care to further advance the understanding and integration of the palliative care approach early in care planning.
- Review and update policy and procedures for the use of advance care plans, healthcare directives and goals of care to support province-wide standardized implementation.
- Monitor and support the renewal of a national cancer control strategy. Seek opportunities to align provincial priorities.
- Complete a review of the current strategy and identify new priorities for future consideration by leadership.

For more information on cancer care in PEI and the PEI Cancer Strategy go to www.healthpei.ca/cancercare or call 902-368-6717.



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