

Next Steps in Preventive Cancer Care

Transforming Risk Assessment in Cancer program extends to second phase

In January 2015 Kettering Health Network launched a cancer risk stratification program called Transforming Risk Assessment in Cancer (TRAC). The first of its kind in the country, the program tests patients for 28 genes that have been identified to detect eight types of cancers including breast, ovarian, uterine, pancreatic, gastric, melanoma, and prostate cancers.

By the numbers

Since TRAC's introduction more than 200 patients have been identified as carriers of at least one of the genes associated with causing cancer. All patients who tested positive have been flagged for enhanced screening and monitoring along with surgical procedures and hormone blocking agents for the prevention of hereditary cancer.

In addition 16% of patients have been determined to be at an elevated lifetime risk for developing breast cancer based on family history. These patients have been encouraged to have an annual breast MRI along with their annual mammogram to achieve closer surveillance, based on the National Comprehensive Cancer Guidelines. Patients who are identified for an elevated colon cancer risk, are also placed under a personalized screening program for the prevention of colon cancer.

The TRAC program is also leading the way in identifying males who are carriers of hereditary cancer genes. In the two years since TRAC's inception 186 male patients have been tested, compared to no males tested prior to 2014.

Through the network's TRAC program, thousands of patients have been tested and treated, placing Kettering Health Network as the number one health system in the United States to offer this type of program for risk assessment and cancer prevention.

Next steps

TRAC is moving to a new phase, which will expand the reach of the cancer risk assessment tool.

All patients receiving screening mammograms at Kettering Health Network's 13 Kettering Breast Evaluation Centers—a projected 70,000+ in 2017—will be offered the cancer risk assessment tool. The program plans to expand to Kettering Health Network colonoscopy and GI centers to identify high risk patients for gastric, pancreatic and colon cancers.

"We're changing the standard of care with the goal of risk stratification, genetic screening and prevention becoming part of every person's preventive care," says **Caroline Peterson, DO**. "Physicians participating in TRAC have been integral in achieving this goal. They've attended training sessions as well as quarterly meetings with educational updates and review of progress and data."



Caroline Peterson, DO

Education sessions for physicians and their staff are being scheduled for 2017 and will focus on program guidelines, interpreting results, and available resources for high-risk patients.

"The TRAC program has seen immense success so far, but we are only just beginning," Dr. Peterson says. This cancer prevention program illustrates our commitment at Kettering Health Network to our patients and our community to be proactive in cancer prevention."

Attend an upcoming information session:

May 2 - Dean Amphitheater at Kettering Medical Center - 6 pm

May 9 - Austin Landing Learning Center - 6 pm

June 13 - Kumar Conference Center at Soin Medical Center - 6 pm

RSVP: www.ketteringhealth.org/trac

For questions or further information call: (937) 558-3714

