

*Maryland  
Cancer  
Collaborative*



# Maryland Cancer Collaborative

Guide to Cancer Survivorship and Resources  
for Cancer Patients

# MCC Goal

- ▶ To work with individuals and organizations throughout the state to implement the Maryland Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan. The Collaborative brings together existing groups and new partners from across the state to collaborate on a common goal: to reduce the burden of cancer.

# Maryland Cancer Plan

- ▶ Each state receives funding from the CDC to prepare a state Cancer Plan.
- ▶ Maryland's current plan identifies initiatives for:
  - Primary Prevention—Worksite Wellness and Tobacco Initiatives
  - Early Detection and Treatment—Patient Navigation Network
  - Survivorship—Guide for Cancer Care and Resources
  - Palliative Care and Pain Management—Palliative Care Survey

# Survivorship Workgroup

## Goal:

*To utilize partners and collaborate with local health departments, community health coalitions, support groups, and other community-based organizations to assist with the dissemination of survivorship care plan materials to their respective policy and decision-makers, physicians, community leaders, and local educators*

# Scope of Survivorship

As oncology service practitioners and program directors, we reviewed the scope of **Survivorship**.

- ▶ Commission on Cancer (CoC) mandates 2015 **Survivorship** as part of Psychosocial Patient Care.
- ▶ A **survivor** is now defined from the time of diagnosis forward.
- ▶ **Survivorship** encompasses many things.
- ▶ Oncology is just beginning to mobilize regarding **Survivorship**.



*A focus on **Survivorship** is critical, in its nascent stage, and requires further definition.*

# Goals Consensus

- ▶ We will concentrate on developing a template to identify what each cancer survivor can expect in comprehensive quality cancer care from diagnosis on.
- ▶ We will develop a comprehensive Maryland Resource Guide for many practical needs that patients and caregivers so often require to cope as well as possible throughout cancer care.

# Behind The Scenes—Developing the Documents

- ▶ Reviewed existing materials and care plan templates to identify the necessary minimum elements of a survivorship care plan.
- ▶ Created a document of key elements to include in the comprehensive care template.
- ▶ Compiled lists of resources for Maryland cancer survivors.
- ▶ Linked the resource lists to the components of the care plan template.

# Focus Groups

- ▶ Patient and Caregiver:

Professionally facilitated focus groups were held in the Baltimore metro area and various counties to vet the patient resource guide.



# Oncology Professionals' Feedback

- ▶ Key professionals were emailed the documents for assistance in providing feedback and identifying any missing resources in the guides.

# The Final Product

*Guide to Cancer Survivorship and Resources for Cancer Patients*

# Components of the Guide

## *1. Introduction*

- ▶ Recommends that the patient communicate with the treating physician and other members of the cancer care community regarding elements of his/her care plan.
- ▶ Suggests for the patient to recruit a family member or friend to attend appointments.

# Components of the Guide (cont'd)

## ***1. Introduction*** (cont'd)

- ▶ All the programs and services listed are no cost, reduced cost based on income, or government assistance programs unless otherwise indicated.
- ▶ In addition to resources listed, patients should check with their health care provider, social worker, or patient navigator for programs and services offered through the hospital or cancer treatment center and for local resources that may be available in addition to the resources included in the lists.

# Components of the Guide (cont'd)

## ***2. Glossary***

- ▶ Explains terms as simply as possible

## ***3. Guide to Cancer Survivorship Care***

- ▶ Explains the 3 phases of care and identifies key components of comprehensive care in each phase

## ***4. Resources Guides***

- ▶ Links components of care to resources

# Guide to Cancer Survivorship Care

## ▶ 3 Phases of Care

- Phase 1: Treatment Planning Phase—covers diagnostic tests and treatment planning
- Phase 2: Active Treatment Phase—covers active treatment from the first treatment visit through completion
- Phase 3: Post Treatment Phase—covers the remainder of life after treatment is completed

# Resource Guide

- ▶ Resources in the guide include non-profit organizations, foundations, government programs, and educational institutions that serve regions within Maryland and offer free, sliding scale, or government assistance services directly to patients.

# Guide Dissemination

- ▶ Launched on DHMH website in May 2014:  
[http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/cancer/cancerplan/SitePages/SurvivorshipGuide\\_PatientResources.aspx](http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/cancer/cancerplan/SitePages/SurvivorshipGuide_PatientResources.aspx)
- ▶ Currently in the process of disseminating the materials to oncology professionals working in direct patient care, professional oncology organizations and coalitions, cancer center executives, and administrators