

Race, Ethnicity, and Breast Cancer Workshops

Strategies to Address Disparities in Screening, Diagnosis & Treatment



IMPROVE SCREENING:



Enhance the role of primary care providers

- ✿ Provide clear guidance on frequency of screening
- ✿ Identify women at high risk
- ✿ Encourage screening
- ✿ Communicate results to patients



Reach women in the community

- ✿ Hold community events
- ✿ Encourage communications from leaders and clergy
- ✿ Use mobile mammogram units



Identify resources for patients

- ✿ Arrange transportation to appointments
- ✿ Provide meal vouchers

IMPROVE TIME TO DIAGNOSIS



Enhance the role of nurse navigators

- ✿ Involve them early, at the time of an abnormal mammogram
- ✿ Improve communication at every level to ensure that patients aren't lost to follow up



Use patient health management tools

- ✿ MyChart
- ✿ eClinicalWorks
- ✿ athenaCommunicator

OVERCOME TREATMENT BARRIERS



Proactively identify patients who may face barriers

- ✿ Involve a nurse navigator early
- ✿ Alert the larger interdisciplinary team



Address any barriers during group meetings (ie, tumor board, morbidity and mortality conferences)

- ✿ Lack of family support
- ✿ Transportation issues
- ✿ Access to care or therapy
- ✿ Use a scheduling navigator to ensure that women are seen in a timely manner

These strategies were derived from a series of workshops organized as a component of a quality improvement program "Leading the Way: Improving Breast Cancer Disparities for Minority Patients in Chicago" led by Olufunmilayo Olopade, MD, FACP, studying the effectiveness of targeted interventions in improving breast cancer care for African American women treated in Cook County.

Track the journey and its progress at fightingBCdisparities.com