Competency 5

Available Resources for the Low-Income and Uninsured Patient

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Competency 5 Objectives

• Generate a list of available resources for dissemination.

• Relate how resources could increase access to quality healthcare services and improve healthcare outcomes for indigent and uninsured Texans.
Increasing Access to Quality Healthcare Services

• It is essential that low-income and uninsured Texans are aware of local cancer prevention, screening and treatment resources available and how to access them.

• Information about providers and facilities that deliver care to the uninsured and underserved and the entities that provide financial support for needed services is available through the following sources.
To find out if there is a Primary Care clinic in your area where you might be able to receive cancer screening, please go to the following Web site of the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and select Texas, then your city, and click on Find Health Centers:

http://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/Search_HCC.aspx
Hill-Burton

Hill-Burton is a program in which health care facilities (hospitals, nursing homes, etc.) that received construction and modernization funds from the Federal Government must provide a reasonable volume of services for free or at low cost to people who meet eligibility guidelines.

For Women:

Women who want to get checked for cervical cancer or breast cancer, you may be able to get help through a special program called the **Breast and Cervical Cancer Services (BCCS)** at the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Eligibility requirements and locations can be found on the BCCS website:

http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/bcccs/eligibility.shtml

To find a clinic, please go to the following BCCS Locator website:

http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/bccscliniclocator.shtml
The National Cancer Institute (NCI) has named four cancer centers in Texas as leaders in cancer research. Two centers are in Houston, one is in Dallas and one is in San Antonio. These centers focus on finding new treatments for cancer through clinical trial testing. To find out more, please visit the websites or call the numbers below:

**Cancer Therapy and Research Center at the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio**
1-800-340-2872 or (210) 450-1000

[http://www.ctrc.net/](http://www.ctrc.net/)
Cancer Centers:

The Dan L. Duncan Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine
(713) 798-1354
http://www.bcm.edu/cancercenter/

Harold C. Simmons Cancer Center at UT Southwestern Medical Center
(214) 645-HOPE (4673) or (800) 460-HOPE (4673)
http://www.simmonscancercenter.org/index.html

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
1-877-MDA-6789 (1-877-632-6789)
http://www.mdanderson.org/contact_us/
The following University of Texas state hospitals may offer programs for low income, uninsured Texas residents. Please call for eligibility requirements:

The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
Access Center 1-800-917-8906 or (409) 772-2222.
http://www.utmbhealthcare.org

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler
http://www.uthct.edu/patientcare/

Other hospitals and physicians in your area may also treat low-income or uninsured patients. You would need to contact them directly for more information.
For U.S. Military Veterans:

U. S. military veterans may be able to be seen at a VA (Veterans Affairs) clinic. To find out more about veteran’s benefits, please contact:

Veterans Affairs
1-877-222-8387
http://www.va.gov
You may be able to find local facilities in or around your county that may possibly be able to screen or treat a low-income or uninsured cancer patient.

For information on services or programs in your area, please dial 2-1-1 or visit the website:

https://www.211texas.org/211/search.do

Type in cancer detection in the Service You Need box and the county where you live in the or County box.
The following not-for-profit legal aid organizations offer professional legal help for elderly and/or low income patients who cannot access health care because they have been denied Medicare, Medicaid or health care benefits by a county agency or a hospital district. Please visit the websites or call the numbers below for more information:

Legal Aid of Northwest Texas
http://www.lanwt.org
Dallas: (214) 748-1234
Fort Worth: 1-800-955-3959 or 817-336-3943
Outside Metroplex Area: 1-888-529-5277
Legal Aid Organizations:

Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid
http://www.trla.org
1-888-988-9996

Lone Star Legal Aide
http://www.lonestarlegal.org
1-800-733-8394
(Serves Angleton, Beaumont, Bellville, Belton, Bryan, Conroe, Galveston, Houston, Longview, Nacogdoches, Paris, Texarkana, Tyler and Waco)

Heart of Texas Legal Services
1-888-756-7066
There are many groups that help cancer patients. These groups may offer financial assistance, support services or free information about cancer. You can get a list of these groups from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) by clicking on or typing in the following link:

http://supportorgs.cancer.gov

For more information, you may also call the National Cancer Institute’s Cancer Information Service at 1-800-4-CANCER (1-800-422-6237).
Other Resources:

The **American Cancer Society (ACS)** also has support groups and information about cancer. You may call 1-800-227-2345 or go to the website:

http://www.cancer.org

**LIVESTRONG** has information about financial assistance and support groups. Please call 1-877-236-8820 or visit the Web site:

http://www.livestrong.org
Other Resources:

**Susan G. Komen for the Cure**, is a breast cancer helpline. Please call 1-877-456-6636 (1-877-GOKOMEN) or visit the website:

http://www.komen.org

**Lone Star Association of Charitable Clinics**
Search for a LSACC Clinic by county, name, or zip code. Keep in mind that clinics offer different services and have different eligibility requirements. Check with the clinic in your area to determine eligibility. LSACC supports Texas charitable medical and dental clinics in their work to serve the underserved in Texas.

http://www.tx-lsacc.org/
Other Resources:

National Association of Free & Charitable Clinics
The National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics (NAFC) is the only nonprofit 501c(3) organization whose mission is solely focused on the issues and needs of the more than 1,200 Free and Charitable Clinics and the people they serve in the United States.

http://www.nafcclinics.org/
TexCare Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
The TexCare Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is designed for families who earn too much money to qualify for Medicaid healthcare, yet cannot afford to buy private insurance.

http://www.chipmedicaid.org/en/Apply-Now
The Access to Cancer Care for Low-Income and Uninsured Patients database is intended to reach low-income or uninsured Texans seeking free or low-cost cancer screening or treatment. Texas Cancer Information staff investigated procedures, contacts and clinic locations for screening and treatment for every Texas county.

Information on how to obtain cancer care services in each of these counties is now available in English and Spanish. Social workers or volunteer organizations can also print out this information to give to their clients.

http://www.texascancer.info/access
TCI also provides information about:

- Physicians and other health care providers

- Cancer risk factors, screening, early detection, treatment and continuing care

- Health care facilities and services, including hospitals, cancer centers, mammography services, colorectal cancer screening services and hospice care
TCI also provides information about:

- Survivorship resources
- Support resources
- Community cancer resources
- Cancer statistics and population demographics
- Links by cancer topic and type
- Comprehensive cancer control resources
Texas Cancer Information
Access to Cancer Care Demonstration

www.texascancer.info/access