Commission on Cancer

Standard 4.2 - Screening Programs

Need Identified: Bellin Medical Group (BMG) Breast Cancer Screening

Through our Community Needs Initial Data Assessment from January 2015 BMG records indicate in 2014 the total patients eligible for Breast Cancer Screening were 29,653; of this total, 14,529 need screening. This indicates BMG screening rate is at 51%. Through our 2014 Community needs assessment it was reported 71% of brown county woman were screened for breast cancer within the past year.

Due to the fact that not all eligible patients are having screenings, Bellin Health has invested in activities to see improvements. Bellin Health, in its mission to have the healthiest population in the nation, strives to increase screening rates for their patient panels.

Breast Cancer Outreach Program

Guideline used: US Preventative Services Breast Cancer: Screening

Bellin identified several avenues that would help get patients in to screenings earlier, in order to prevent late stage disease. These included the following:

Use of Care Manager at every visit to identify patient needing Breast Cancer Screening:

Care Manager is a software tool that helps to identify patients in a registry that are coming due or overdue for various healthcare gaps. Today, Bellin has implemented the point of care (POC) solution and registry function. The POC feature is imbedded in each patient’s electronic health record. It is a colored dashboard which shows all health maintenance items applying to a patient supported by evidence based guidelines. The health maintenance item appears red, green or yellow depending on due date or applicability. The registry function allows the ability to pull a list of patients (population) based on varying filtering capability. Example: it allows us the capability to pull a list of patients that are coming due in a certain time period or overdue for their breast cancer screening.

The Care Team addresses any patients overdue. At the time of the visit, the Care Team Coordinator (person who rooms the patient) access the POC dashboard to see which services are overdue and schedules the patient if patient agrees. For patients who refuse, the Care Team Coordinator notifies the provider and they follow up to reinforce the importance of the health maintenance item.

Outreach Team uses the registry function to identify patients who are coming due or overdue for various health maintenance items. An outreach process is then applied for each outreach
strategy. For breast cancer screening, a reminder letter was generated over a six month course (Jan-June 2015) for each patient due in 2015.

Letters to patients needing Breast Cancer Screening:

The Care Manager registry identifies patients who meet the criteria for breast cancer screening and also meet the following criteria:

- Overdue for breast cancer screening – greater than one year since last screening
- Coming due for breast cancer screening – between 9 and 12 months since last screening

Between January and July, letters were sent to all patients who were overdue for breast and/or colorectal cancer screening.

Every 3 months (February, May, August, and November) letters were sent to patients who were coming due for breast cancer and/or colorectal screening within the next 3 months.

A total of 20,998 screening letters were sent out to patients who were overdue for cancer screening. Another 10,673 letters were sent out to patients who were coming due for cancer screening tests within the next 3 months.

*Letter sample attached*

**Preliminary screening results:**

For 2015, we have screened 1087 more patients from January through August than we have done in 2014. Total number of patients screened in 2015, January through August equals 15,494 patients YTD. Thus far we have seen an improvement of 6% screening rate September 2014 through August 2015.

**Mammography processes**

Mobile and Hospital Mammography:

Mammography is performed with digital radiography (DR)

Breast Health Nurses provide results and/or coordinate further follow-up per Providers preference. Written results are also provided to patient and referring physician.

Mobile Mammography: Mammography screening close to home for patients in our rural communities

Currently serves 6 communities-Marinette, Oconto, Brillion, Algoma, Manitowoc and Denmark. Patients from BMG clinics can be referred for screening on the mobile unit if they choose this over our hospital location.
Mammograms are interpreted by Bellin Hospital Radiologists either the same day or the next day and all results are called to the patient within one business day. Mobile patients who require additional diagnostic work up; additional views or ultrasound, are contacted by a breast health nurse and the appropriate appointment is scheduled at the Bellin Hospital Campus or a diagnostic facility of their choice.

Mobile started December 19th, 2014 and 19 patients were seen. Year to date, over 1,900 women have been screened on the mobile coach and 10,800 at the Hospital Campus.

**Positive Findings**

Both screening and diagnostic patients at the Bellin Health Hospital Campus get a complete workup. Patients get results and any additional tests that the Radiologists recommend before they leave the appointment. If a biopsy is recommended our Breast Health Nurses help facilitate that appointment according to the patient’s primary care physician’s preferences.