

Rural Cancer Survivorship Project ECHO & Patient Navigation Component

Hanna Snyder, Coalition Coordinator, VTAAC

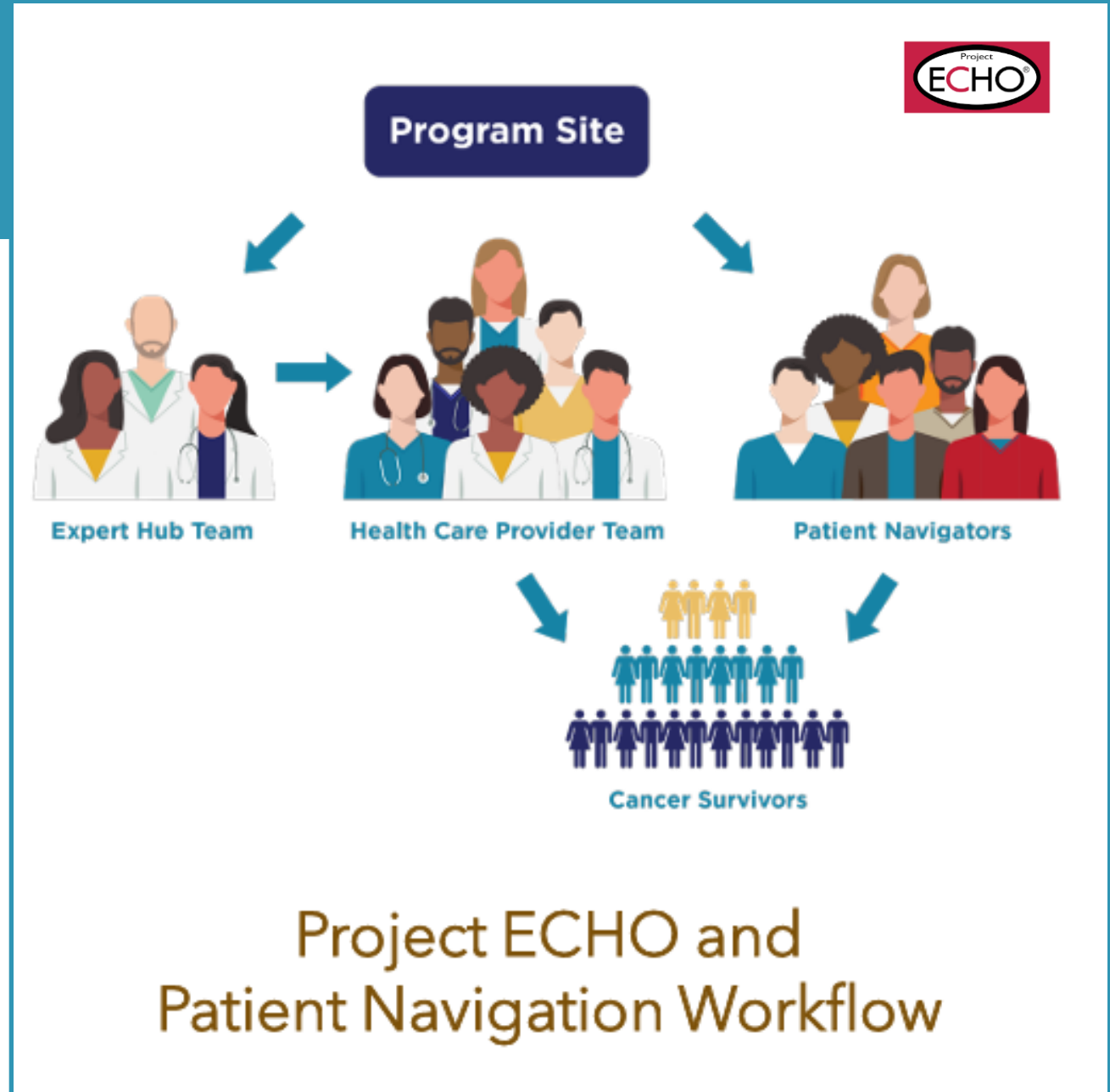


Survivorship Supplemental Project

- Received supplemental funds to go towards a specific survivorship-related project for Year 3 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025)
- Quality of Life Taskforce and other VTAAC partners decided to put that money towards using **Project ECHO** and **Patient Navigation** to Improve the Health and Wellness of Cancer Survivors in Rural Communities.
- Next few slides will cover brief overview of both of these components.

Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes)

- Goal to improve and increase medical and social support to survivors in rural areas.
- Work with UVM AHEC to plan & conduct tele-mentoring sessions with provider teams (primary care).
- Provide education on the needs and issues faced by rural cancer survivors.



PROJECT ECHO

Moving Knowledge, Not People

Project ECHO Survivorship Example

Survivorship ECHO Series: January 11 – June 13, 2024

FREE Educational Series, CME Credits

NYS Cancer Consortium, NYS Survivorship Action Team

Supported by CDC Grant and SUNY Upstate for CME Credits

WHO CAN JOIN?

Primary care teams providing care to rural and underserved/under-resourced populations in NYS

Any **multi-disciplinary teams** who care for cancer survivors in NYS

All sessions in this series will be held on the 2nd Thursday of the month

Session 1: Introduction and Survivorship 101	
January 11, 2024 12-1:00pm	Maureen Killackey, MD, FACS, FACOG Tessa Flores, MD Sylvia K. Wood PhD, DNP, ANP-BC, AOCNP Facilitator: Christina Crabtree-Ide, PhD, MPH
Session 2: Survivorship Teams	
February 8, 2024 12-1:00pm	Tessa Flores, MD Gregory P. Rys, NP Maura Abbott, PhD, AOCNP, CPNP-PC, RN Facilitator: Maureen Killackey, M.D.
Session 3: Medical Issues in Survivorship	
March 14, 2024 12-1:00pm	Craig D Hametz, MD, FACC, FASE, FASNC Tessa Flores, MD Facilitator: Maureen Killackey, M.D.

Session 4: Survivorship Lifestyle Behaviors	
April 11, 2024 12-1:00pm	Mara Ginsberg, Esq. Timothy Korytko, MD Facilitator: Christina Crabtree-Ide, PhD, MPH
Session 5: Survivorship and Sexual Health	
May 9, 2024 12-1:00pm	Kristin Sobieraj, PA Facilitator: Tessa Flores, M.D.
Session 6: Supportive Care in Survivorship	
June 13, 2024 12-1:00pm	Anne Moyer, PhD Robin Eggeling Facilitator: Christina Crabtree-Ide, PhD, MPH

Rural Cancer Survivorship Project ECHO: Current Plans

Start Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2025

End Date: Tuesday, May 27, 2025

- 12 – 1 PM
- Every other week for 2 months
- 6 sessions total

Planning Team:

- Sharon Mallory, VDH
- Hanna Snyder, VTAAC
- Rebecca Hewson-Steller, Oncology Nurse Navigator, SVMC
- Kathy McBeth, Retired Clinical Psychologist, UVMHC
- Rebecca Reynolds, Steps to Wellness, UVMHC
- Mark Pasanen, UVMHC
- Patti Smith Urie, UVM AHEC

Rural Cancer Survivorship Project ECHO: Current Plans

DRAFT TOPIC LIST

- 1) Cancer Survivorship: Overview
- 2) Care Coordination: Transitions from Oncology to Primary Care
 - 1) Models of Care/Access to Care
- 3) Psychosocial needs and support for cancer survivors
 - 1) Community Resources
 - 2) Spiritual support
 - 3) Fear of recurrence/2nd malignancy
- 4) Management of long-term effects of cancer treatment
 - 1) Neuropathy
 - 2) Lymphedema
 - 3) Cancer screening
 - 4) Sexual health
- 5) Health behaviors in cancer survivors (panel)
 - 1) Nutrition/diet
 - 2) Exercise
 - 3) Sleep
- 6) Long-term follow-up (panel)
 - 1) Sexual health
 - 2) Young adult/adolescent cancer survivors
 - 3) Financial toxicity

Patient Navigation Component

- Goal to remove barriers to physical and emotional health care for survivors.
- Work with rural clinics (FQHCs, PCP, etc.) to connect survivors with survivor patient navigators.
- Support/promote survivorship patient navigators to refer cancer survivors to wellness supports and programs.

RN-Driven Survivorship Program – Current Plans

- Based off an RN-Driven Survivorship Program based at Upstate Cancer Center in Syracuse, NY
- **Led by:** Rebecca Hewson-Steller at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center
- **Purpose:** Ease the survivor transition period and provide improved support and direction to cancer survivors as they evolve past treatment and back into their everyday life.
- **Serves:** Specific populations of cancer patients (TBD - likely breast and prostate)
- Follow-up calls to patients within 6 weeks of treatment completion, 6 months later and 1 year later.
- Creating an EMR change to track these patient phone calls.
- Primary Care Providers of patients will be notified of this project and its timeline.
- SVMC plans to create a pre- and post-survey. Working with PDA, VT's external evaluators, on what this will look like.
- Roll out is February 2025.

RN-Driven Survivorship Program – Current Plans

SVMC RN-Driven Survivorship Program Process Planning				9/26/24		
Overall Step	Upstate Cancer Center Plan	Upstate Cancer Center Notes	SVMC Plan (include how it differs from current protocol, if any)	Activities/needs/who	Process Timeline (when activity/ies to be completed)	Project Timeline (Expected start date 2/1/2025)
Referral Process	Encounter documentation created: EMR change to add "SVS" (for Survivorship) to track the follow-up telephone visits	Previously the RN navigator would enter the visits as telephone encounters. RN noted a need for a specific survivorship assessment in the EMR system. Take place of recreating and avoid typing a thorough survivorship telephone encounter.	SVMC will build an encounter into the Athena EMR	Katharine & Rebecca. Met to discuss already. Approved by internal team SVMC, Meeting again 10/9. (questions - how often are the reports run to identify appropriate patients?, Which subset of SVMC cancer patients will be piloted first?)	11/1/24 (EMR Change complete)	2/1/25 (Initiation of program referrals)
Referral Process	Patients are triggered to be appropriate for survivorship after the completion of specific treatment plans.		SVMC will build in an appropriate trigger into Athena, ability to pull a report to identify patients to be contacted by Katharine	See above (encounter documentation step)	11/1/24 (EMR Change complete)	2/1/25 (Initiation of program referrals)
Referral Process	Referrals are place by care team providers to survivorship program.		TBD	See above (encounter documentation step)	11/1/24 (EMR Change complete)	2/1/25 (Initiation of program referrals)
Referral Process	Patients are all internally referred by their primary medical oncology, radiation oncology, or surgical oncology teams.		SVMC will create a referral in Athena	See above (encounter documentation step)	11/1/24 (EMR Change complete)	2/1/25 (Initiation of program referrals)

Discussion Questions

Project ECHO:

- What input do you have on the ECHO Topic areas?
- Do you have suggestions for speakers for the ECHO (or other similar opportunities)?

PA Rx Project:

- Do you have suggestions for continuing/improving the PA Rx project? How can we better integrate this into health systems?

Collaboration between PA Rx and ECHO:

- What overlap is there between the Physical Activity Rx work and the ECHO?
- How can we use the structure/content of the ECHO to increase provider conversations about PA/Nutrition with cancer survivors?

Patient Navigation:

- What opportunities are there to support and promote the upcoming SVMC patient navigation project?



Thank you!

Let's stay in touch.

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