The Commission on Cancer (CoC) is a nationally recognized multidisciplinary accreditation program. Through collaboration with several national partners, the CoC has developed comprehensive, patient-centered standards for cancer programs. Programs, including Silver Cross, seeking accreditation from the CoC are committed to providing high quality cancer care and demonstrate their compliance with a rigorous evaluation and review of cancer care performance including diagnostic, treatment and supportive services. There are currently more than 1,700 CoC-accredited cancer programs in the United States and Puerto Rico, representing 20 percent of all hospitals that provide care to more than 70 percent of newly diagnosed patients annually.

With strong physician and administrative support, Silver Cross Hospital continually prepares for CoC-accreditation. Silver Cross Hospital’s Cancer Program was surveyed by the CoC in October 2017 resulting in a three-year Accreditation as a Comprehensive Community Hospital Cancer Program. The program also received five CoC commendations in: Clinical Research; Cancer Registrar Education; Public Reporting of Outcomes; Oncology Nursing Care; and Data Submission and Accuracy of Data.

**Cancer Committee**

In 2017, the Silver Cross Cancer Committee established specific goals and provided oversight to the cancer program. Key areas of the program were monitored including prevention and screening programs, accountability and quality improvement measures, compliance with evidence-based guidelines, studies of quality, and achievement of patient care quality improvements. The Committee met quarterly with specific committee members appointed to aid in the coordination of important aspects of the cancer program.

These members are to be recognized for their time and effort to the cancer program and include:

**David Cziperle, M.D.**  
*Cancer Committee Chair*

**Brooke Phillips, M.D.**  
*Cancer Conference Coordinator*

**Laura Ragauskaite, M.D.**  
*Cancer Liaison Physician*

**Rita Morris, R.N.**  
*Cancer Program Administrator*

**Lakita Scott, R.N.**  
*Quality Improvement Coordinator*

**Alida Wagner**  
*Cancer Registry Quality Coordinator*  
*Certified Tumor Registrar*

**Tracy Simons**  
*Community Outreach Coordinator*

**Kristin Kipping-Johnson**  
*Clinical Research Coordinator*


Committee Members

Mary Bakken, Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer
Darlene Bergman, Nurse Educator
Mary Brenczewski, Nursing Administration
Samir Dola, M.D., Pathologist
Andre Edwards, M.D., Diagnostic Radiologist
Cagatay Ersahin, M.D., Pathologist
Daniel Golden, D.O., Radiation Oncologist
Peggy Gricus, Vice President of Patient Care/Chief Nursing Officer
Raquel Gutierrez-Clark, Social Worker
Barb Jansa, R.N., Oncology Nurse Manager
Joann Orr, Social Worker
Gabriela Rodriguez, Oncology Nurse Educator
Mary Shanahan, Nursing Administration
Michael Sweany, Pharmacy
Jeffrey Tyler, M.D., Diagnostic Radiologist
Marci Vasiliades, Imaging Director
Danielle Villari-Swets, American Cancer Society Representative
Mary Ellyn Witt, Survivorship Coordinator
Liz Zavala, Cancer Center Practice Manager
Neda Zelehovitis, R.N., Certified Breast Nurse Navigator/Oncology Nurse

Cancer Program Experience

During 2017, 864 new cases were abstracted by the Silver Cross Hospital Cancer Registry staff. Breast cancer is the number one primary site of cancers with 186 cases reported. There were 71 colon cancers during this same period.

These cases are reviewed at the various cancer conferences at Silver Cross Hospital.

You mean, I can have all my Breast Care at Silver Cross?

Nice!


Silver Cross Hospital has brought together

• Advanced technology
• Leading-edge therapies
• Highly trained doctors
— all under one roof, so you can receive comprehensive, coordinated breast care close to home.

Experience Silver Cross. Schedule an appointment at (815) 300-6350 or visit IMatter.silvercross.org.
Multi-Disciplinary Cancer Conferences

Multi-disciplinary cancer conferences are meetings where specialists from various departments come together to discuss cancer cases in a timely manner so patients can begin treatment as soon as possible. Discussion points for each case include but are not limited to input regarding diagnostic work-up, prognostic factors, treatment planning, national treatment guidelines, available clinical trials, and patient follow-up options.

Radiographic imaging and pathology slides are reviewed for each case presented. Brooke Phillips, M.D. served as the Cancer Conference Coordinator and provided regular reports to the cancer committee on conference activities.

During 2017, a total of 121 cancer conferences were conducted and 612 cancer cases were presented for review. This represented a 19% in cancer case reviews.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cancer Type</th>
<th>When:</th>
<th>Where:</th>
<th>Co-Chairs:</th>
<th>Specialists Involved:</th>
<th>Follow-up:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breast Cancer</td>
<td>Every Tuesday @ 7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Cancer Center Conference Room</td>
<td>Mark Danielson, MD Grace Sub, MD</td>
<td>General Surgery Radiology Medical Oncology Pathology Plastic/Reconstructive Surgery Radiation Oncology Nurse Navigator</td>
<td>You are welcome to join the conference or will be notified with the consensus recommendations to facilitate the coordination of care within 24 hours of the Conference. Ultimately, you and your patient will decide in the best course of action.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung Cancer</td>
<td>Every Tuesday @ 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Cancer Center Conference Room</td>
<td>David Cziperle, MD</td>
<td>Interventional Radiology Medical Oncology Pulmonology Radiation Oncology Thoracic Surgery Nurse Navigator</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Cancer</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Wednesdays @ Noon</td>
<td>Cancer Center Conference Room</td>
<td>Brooke Phillips, M.D.</td>
<td>Diagnostic Radiology General Surgery Medical Oncology Pathology Radiation Oncology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Cancer Conferences | 87 | 34 |
| Cancer Cases       | 420 | 192 |
| Refer a Case/ Patient: | (815) 300-6364 | (815) 300-LUNG | grodriguez@silvercross.org |
Prevention and Screening Programs

Based on the needs of the communities served by Silver Cross Hospital, the Cancer Committee designed its 2017 prevention and screening programs to help reduce certain kinds of cancer and to decrease the number of patients with late-stage disease.

According to the 2017 Community Health Needs Assessment for the County of Will Report, cancer is the second leading cause of death in Will County. Lung cancer is the most common cause among both females and males accounting for approximately 27% of all cancer deaths in Will County. The county’s breast cancer mortality rate is lower than the state of Illinois and Health People 2020 target. Mortality from breast cancer can be reduced substantially if the tumor is discovered at an early stage, and mammography is the most effective method for detecting these early malignancies.

Colorectal cancer is the third most commonly diagnosed cancer among men and women, as well as the third leading cause of cancer deaths in Will County. While the colorectal cancer mortality rate for the county is decreasing, it is still higher than the Illinois colorectal cancer mortality rate and the Healthy People 2020 target. According to the 2010-2014 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 69.9% of men in Will County have reported ever having a colonoscopy/sigmoidoscopy.

In addition, lack of health insurance was identified as being an area of opportunity for accessing health care services.

CT Low Dose Lung Cancer Screening

Smoking is a major risk factor for developing lung cancer. As of November 1, 2017, Silver Cross Hospital began offering a quick, painless, non-invasive low does CT scan which can detect nodules or spots on the lung which might be early indicators of lung cancer. It takes just one-minute to have a scan which can potentially save a life. The screening is covered by Medicare and most insurance plans.

Eleven patients were screened between November and December 2017. One patient had a nodule detected with referral to physician for follow-up and one patient was referred for re-evaluation in six months to confirm no change to a suspicious area.

Colorectal/Gastro Intestinal Cancer

Colonoscopy/Birthday Mailing

- Postcards were mailed to 6,390 individuals in the Silver Cross Hospital service area a month prior to their 50th or 60th birthday as a reminder telling them it is time to get a colonoscopy
• Education on the importance of screening, when to have a colonoscopy and how to schedule an appointment

• June 8 – Dr. Kamran Ayub, gastroenterologist and Medical Director of the Advanced Endoscopy Center at Silver Cross Hospital discussed recent advancements in the endoscopic management of heartburn and reflux including the Transoral Incisionless Fundoplication (TIF) procedure performed through mouth leaving no scars and can be reversed if needed

• 45 attendees

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**Heartburn & GERD**

**FREE SEMINAR:** Thursday, June 8, 6:30–7:30 p.m.
Silver Cross Hospital Conference Center
Register to attend at [www.silvercross.org](http://www.silvercross.org).

Dr. Kamran Ayub, Medical Director of the Advanced Endoscopy Center at Silver Cross, will discuss recent advances in the endoscopic management of heartburn and reflux such as the TIF procedure performed through the mouth, an incision-less procedure leaving no scars.

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**Colon Cancer Screening Kits**

Free Fecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT) kits available to individuals throughout the year. Individuals can request a kit online through our website. Kits are also distributed at community health fairs, hospital information desks, and given to Silver Cross Health Connection/APP patients. Specimens are evaluated in the Silver Cross Hospital Lab with results mailed back to patients. Patients with positive results are also contacted via phone suggesting they follow-up with their physician. If they do not have a primary care physician, a referral to a physician on the Silver Cross Medical Staff is provided:

**Results**

• 545 kits distributed in 2016 (33% increase from 2015)

• 361 returned in 2016

• 2 of the 361 had positive results requiring follow-up testing. Calls were made to those patients with the results and a referral to a gastroenterologist

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**Colorectal Cancer Screening Kit**

Beginning at age 50, individuals should begin regular colorectal screenings. Using the FREE kit, you will collect a stool sample in your home and send it to the hospital’s Lab to be tested for blood. Results are mailed back for patients to share with their physician.

To request a colon cancer screening kit, visit [silvercross.org](http://silvercross.org).
Heartburn & Reflux Disease

- April 13 – Drs. Kamran Ayub, gastroenterologist, and Reza Gamagami, general and colorectal surgeon, discussed the recent advances in medical, endoscopic, and surgical management including Hybrid APC and robotic-assisted procedures to treat Barrett’s Esophagus and gastroesophageal disease

- 74 attendees

Heartburn & Reflux Disease
FREE SEMINAR - Thursday, April 13, 6:30 -7:30 p.m.
Silver Cross Hospital Conference Center
Register to attend at silvercross.org.
Drs. Kamran Ayub and R. A. Gamagami will discuss the latest endoscopic treatments to eliminate chronic heartburn and prevent Barrett’s Esophagus cancer along with the latest robotic and LINX treatment techniques.

Silver Cross Hospital continues to partner with the American Cancer Society (ACS) for activities such as:

Silver Cross Hospital’s Patient Referrals to the ACS:
- 33 patients- 23 were newly diagnosed and 4 were underinsured

University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center at Silver Cross Hospital’s Patient Referrals to the ACS:
- 5 patients – 5 were newly diagnosed and 0 were underinsured