

Colon Cancer Workgroup Meeting

April 11, 2022

Lyn Robertson – Co-chair

- Lyn has CRC screening data for the 29 counties she covers and is awaiting similar data for the entire state of Pa. Plan is to share at an upcoming workgroup meeting for the purpose of identifying counties/regions of the commonwealth that would benefit from enhanced focus regarding crc screening.
- General discussion by members re ways to enhance completion of at home kits:
 - Virtual colon screening education programs to enhance completion of home kit tests.
 - Use of a telephone intervention (at defined or customized intervals) to remind individuals to complete kits.
 - Use of email/text as reminders – Kathleen uses email and report this has been highly successful in higher kit return rate.
 - Lyn reported on the benefit of contacting participants individually to share results, as a way to personalize the message and reinforce the importance of ongoing crc screening and the modalities approved for such screening and help answer any individual questions related to results or screening.
- Lyn sits on the PA Immunization Coalition and reports a plan to combine adult recommended vaccine awareness with the message about CRC screening. Open discussion on other ways to combine CRC screening message with other preventative health messaging.
- General discussion re the challenges of targeting rural populations for CRC screening – at home kits helpful but challenges arise when diagnostic colonoscopy is needed as a result of a positive at home test result. Often dx sites are at a distance and require a driver due to procedure sedation, etc.
- Discussion of practice of accepting “over the boarder” program participants for CRC screening – helpful if program site is the closest to those interested in participating (e.g., Pittsburgh’s and NEPA programs).
- Announcement May 21st virtual colon screening education program (UPMC), April encouraged any similar program announcements can be sent to her for including in the Pa Cancer Coalition (PCC) weekly updates.

Next meeting: Monday May 9, 12pm.

Meeting notes: L. Toole