

# Advancing Cancer Screenings

Plans to Improve Cancer Screening Rates  
Throughout the Network



**Vanderbilt Health**  
Affiliated Network

## Cancer Screenings Through VHAN

# Background + Overview

### Statistics on the national prevalence for breast, colorectal and cervical cancers:

- Health screenings are a vital aspect of comprehensive healthcare. Cancer screenings are the best way to identify cancer in the earliest stages, before it causes symptoms and while they are most likely to be curable.
- 1 in 8 women (12%) will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime.
- 1 in 23 (4.4%) for men and 1 in 25 (4.1%) for women is the lifetime risk of developing colorectal cancer.
- Approximately 14,000 new cases of invasive cervical cancer will be diagnosed this year.
- Cancers rank among the costliest diseases to treat. Early detection through preventive screenings may improve the quality of life, improve health outcomes, and decrease the total cost of care related to treatment and health maintenance. Reducing the total cost of care increases the potential to receive shared savings.
- VHAN customers are both the patients and the systems/practices. We aim to impact the quality, safety, and efficiency of care that patients receive by working through system and practice-level teams focused on delivering best outcomes for the lowest total cost of care.

VHAN aims to improve 2019 breast, colorectal and cervical cancer screening rates by at least the threshold goals set for each measure among VHAN patients by end of PY 2021.

**Vanderbilt Health**  
Affiliated Network

## Behavior Change


# Methods

### Practice-facing behavior changes

- Designated practice champions (physician and/or practice leader)
- Review of the Cancer Screening Gaps Report monthly
- Implement standard workflow and screening recommendations and policies to ensure patients with care gaps are addressed
- Provide EHR access for direct VHAN support

### VHAN-facing behavior changes

- Provide monthly/quarterly actionable data with physicians and practice leaders
- Share best practices for addressing patient cancer screening care needs
- Provide attestation support via VHAN support team



Practice & VHAN-facing behavior change are enabled by care path development that:

Clearly articulates and adjudicates difference between screening recommendations

Explores innovative changes and options that move from the traditional way to newer approaches

Educates and socializes EMR enablement and optimization options that exists and synergies efforts within various VHAN entities

## 2019 Results & 2021 Goals

MEASURES	BASELINE	THRESHOLD	TARGET	REACH
Breast	80%	85%	90%	92%
Colorectal	73%	79%	90%	92%
Cervical	75%	83%	85%	87%

### Additional Measures of Success

- Utilization of Care Gap Reports
- Identification of Clinical Champions
- Payer Attestation Completion
- Establishment of Payer Supplemental Data Feeds
- Annual Wellness Visit Completion Rates
- Leadership Commitment to Goal with Specified Strategies

## Current Status or Results

Starting with VHAN's calendar year 2019 performance results, network physicians and practice leaders will strive to advance cancer screenings.

**Vanderbilt Health**  
Affiliated Network

# Conclusion, Insights & Next Steps

## Voice of the Patient

---

- Incorporating patient needs and engagement opportunities to improve screening rates
- Leveraging SDoH and demographic data for preventive screenings, overlapping with network equity goals
- Looking at preventive screening rates and opportunities by race, ethnicity, language, and zip code
  - Beginning with zip codes, THA and CHNA data
  - Engaging payors to provide race, ethnicity and language data
- Identifying and highlighting patient engagement stories
- Future opportunity to engage patients in discussion forums

## Voice of the Provider

---

- Engaging providers in peer sharing through **VHANTage Point**, an online, moderated discussion forum for network members to share ideas, best practices, and ask questions
- First discussion focused on “**Engaging and Motivating Patients to Seek Key Preventive Screenings**,” specific to breast, colorectal and cervical cancer screenings
- Key themes identified include:
  - Practices are utilizing a variety of different methods to contact patients for their preventive visits. Phone calls work best, though success rate depends on the delivery of the call
  - Practices are looking for new ways to help patients, including telehealth
  - Practices feel that they need the most support in terms of staffing to help make the phone calls
- VHAN opportunities for next steps will support needs as identified by discussion themes