

# 2019

## CANCER ANNUAL REPORT

**Richmond University**  
 **Medical Center**

## Letter from

### THE PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Recent state and city data show that the incidence of all cancers is higher in Staten Island than the rest of New York City and the nation. Female breast, colorectal, lung, male prostate, and thyroid are the most commonly diagnosed cancers. Despite these findings — and on the positive side — the data also show the death rate due to cancer is lower for residents of Staten Island than in any other

borough of New York City.

This suggests that because of the advanced treatments available on Staten Island and the expertise of medical professionals in our borough at hospitals like Richmond University Medical Center, cancer is being identified early and effectively treated. Increasing access to the latest breakthroughs in cancer care has also led to Staten Island adults being more likely to receive a cancer screening than residents living anywhere else in New York City, according to the city and state. Richmond University Medical Center is proud to be playing a major role in providing these screenings that can lead to early detection and more effective treatment!

Richmond University Medical Center has been, and continues to be, at the forefront in the battle against cancer. Our medical professionals here in the main hospital, at the Center for Cancer Care, and at the Breast and Women's Center continue to pioneer new treatments and develop effective individualized therapies utilizing the most advanced technologies in medicine. Evidence of this fact is that although only open just over a year, the Breast and Women's Center is now a facility accredited by the American College of Radiology. The center earned gold seals of accreditation from the ACR for mammography, breast ultrasound, stereotactic biopsy, and ultrasound guided biopsy services. The ACR's gold seal represents the highest level of accreditation provided by the college for quality of care and patient safety. I am proud to report that our oncology program is in its 82nd consecutive year of accreditation from the American College of Surgeons'

Committee on Cancer. This makes our hospital Staten Island's longest continuously accredited cancer program.

Our clinical expertise has also been sought out this past year by city, state, and local leaders as we all continue to educate the public on the causes and risk factors associated with cancer. Our physicians were active participants in a state study focused on the high rates of thyroid cancer in our borough and also in a separate study by New York City focused on possible links between the Fresh Kills landfill and cancer clusters in nearby communities. We also joined our oncology colleagues from around Staten Island at roundtables on breast cancer and colon cancer, convened by Staten Island Borough President James Oddo. At these meetings, we shared our findings and recommendations with the goal being that if we all continue to work together, we can save lives and improve the quality of life for cancer patients.

As we look back over the last twelve months, it is clear that advanced oncology treatment and therapies are available each and every day at Richmond University Medical Center. In fact, this past year almost 7,000 cancer patients and their families realized they did not need to leave Staten Island to receive state-of-the-art cancer care. They chose instead to stay close to their loved ones, enlisting the very best partners anyone, anywhere could have in the fight against cancer: the dedicated, compassionate, and experienced oncology team of Richmond University Medical Center!

The faith and trust these patients and their families place in our services are what motivates our entire organization to continue building on our already solid foundations and continue expanding our oncology services. An official thank you and congratulations to our team for its exceptional commitment to our community!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel J. Messina".

**Daniel J. Messina, PhD, FACHE, LNHA**  
President & Chief Executive Officer

## Message from

### THE DIRECTOR OF ONCOLOGY AND THE CANCER LIAISON PHYSICIAN



As we enter a new decade, there is the hope and promise that advances in the field of oncology will continue to enable cancer patients to have a better quality of life thanks to the latest evidence-based treatments and state-of-the-art technology. As Richmond University Medical Center enters its 82nd consecutive year of accreditation by the American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer, we continue to push the boundaries of modern medicine so we can better diagnose, treat, and care for patients, while also providing support to their families.

Our Center for Cancer Care, as well as our Breast and Women's Center, celebrated their one year anniversaries this past year. The advanced services and treatments provided at these centers rival those offered by health care systems outside Staten Island, giving our patients not only immediate access to the most effective cancer services available, but also doing so in an environment that allows them to remain close to home.

Our dream of bringing imaging and clinical services under one roof at the Breast and Women's Center was realized in early 2019 when our imaging suites became operational. Less than 12 months later the Center became an official American College of Radiology accredited facility, earning the gold seal of accreditation for its comprehensive mammography, breast ultrasound, stereotactic biopsy, and ultrasound guided biopsy services.

Our recently completed community health needs assessment, which will guide our services for the next three years, shows that there is still much to do in the fight against cancer. Women's breast, colorectal, lung, and thyroid cancer diagnoses on Staten Island continue to be among the highest in New York City. Offering our community free screenings and health risk assessments and increasing their overall access to healthcare will all be priorities for us in 2020. Armed with the most advanced technology available, the latest clinically proven treatments, and a dedicated and compassionate Oncology Department, we will meet this challenge head on, saving lives and creating brighter futures for generations to come.

**Thomas J. Forlenza, MD**  
Director of Oncology

**Nisha A. Lakhi, MD, FACOG**  
Cancer Liaison Physician



# PATIENT TESTIMONIALS

## RADIATION: JOHN M.



### **"I Felt at Ease..."**

*"When I was told what I had the very first day, I still felt at ease. When I began my treatments, it was unbelievable. It was excellent. I never went through something like this before. I thought I would feel more pain with the treatments, but nothing, I was totally shocked, totally amazed. I felt calm coming here, in a way I almost enjoyed myself, because they made me feel like I didn't have a disease. Because of the treatments they gave me, that's why I am here today."*

### **"I Never Thought It Would Be Like This..."**

*"The staff, they made me feel like I was one of the family. I came in five times a week, every week, and each time I was treated with love and care, by every one of them. I felt at home. I never thought it would be like this. I would say to other people that before you make your decision on where to go, come here first, see what they have to say and see how they treat you."*



## MEDICAL ONCOLOGY: LINDA



### On the Patient Experience...

*"I was scared to death when my cancer returned. However, every department that I dealt with was wonderful. I had to wear a patch for nausea and although they are very expensive, the staff said no problem. Everything and anything was addressed, whatever I needed. The staff had free lunch, and although I keep kosher, they were able to get a meal for me. I didn't realize it would be so wonderful coming to a cancer center."*

### Cared for by a Dedicated Nursing Staff...

*"The nursing staff—they have just been so wonderful and understanding. They are patient and they try very hard to please. The procedures take time, but they get the process moving. They are spot on, they work very hard. They feel for you, you can see it in their eyes and hear it in their voices."*

### Advanced, Effective Care Close to Home...

*"You're getting the most up-to-date treatment. Knowing what treatments to provide comes from education and knowledge. The fact that I didn't have to go to Manhattan for my treatments, I couldn't have done it, I was too drained. I was so happy to be only 10 minutes away from my home. I would highly recommend anybody who needed this kind of care to come to the center. It's more private than another hospital, which is a very important factor. My health is a private matter."*

## POSITIVE RESPONSE TO NEW SENSORY SUITE AT BREAST & WOMEN'S CENTER

Recent studies confirm that aesthetic upgrades to the design of health care settings can dramatically improve the patient experience, relax occupants, and promote a greater sense of comfort and healing. Nowhere has this been taken more to heart than at Richmond University Medical Center, where a cutting-edge new sensory suite at the hospital's dedicated Breast and Women's Center is resulting in more pleasant and efficient procedures for patients as well as

*"This type of spa-like setting helps  
take a patient's mind off  
of what's happening and puts  
them more at ease."*

– Dr. Shamis

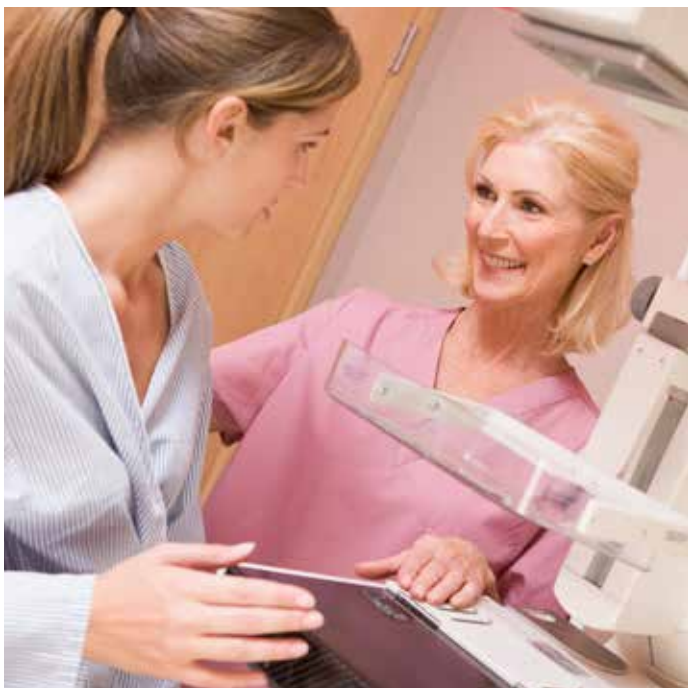


Michael Shamis, MD, DABR

higher-quality imaging for medical professionals.

As a diagnostic radiologist and the director of Breast Imaging and Intervention, Michael Shamis, MD, DABR, is very familiar with the standard experience women have when they undergo breast imaging at hospitals nationwide. "Typically, a woman will go to a radiology outpatient facility or imaging center, sit in the waiting room with all of the other patients needing radiology of some kind until she's called in, then change her clothes, wait again, and have her mammogram performed," he said.

Typically conducted within a cold and clinical exam room, "Many women are nervous, find the compression of the mammography machine to be painful, and have an overall unpleasant encounter," said Dr. Shamis, who confirmed that the negative experience, combined with their fear of what might happen, can lead many women to skip the annual mammograms that could save their lives.





Among other upgrades, the sensory suite is outfitted with a flat-screen TV that displays calming visuals such as waterfalls, forests, and beach scenes and also incorporates an audio component (such as water rushing, birds chirping, waves lapping, etc.) to create an even more interactive experience.

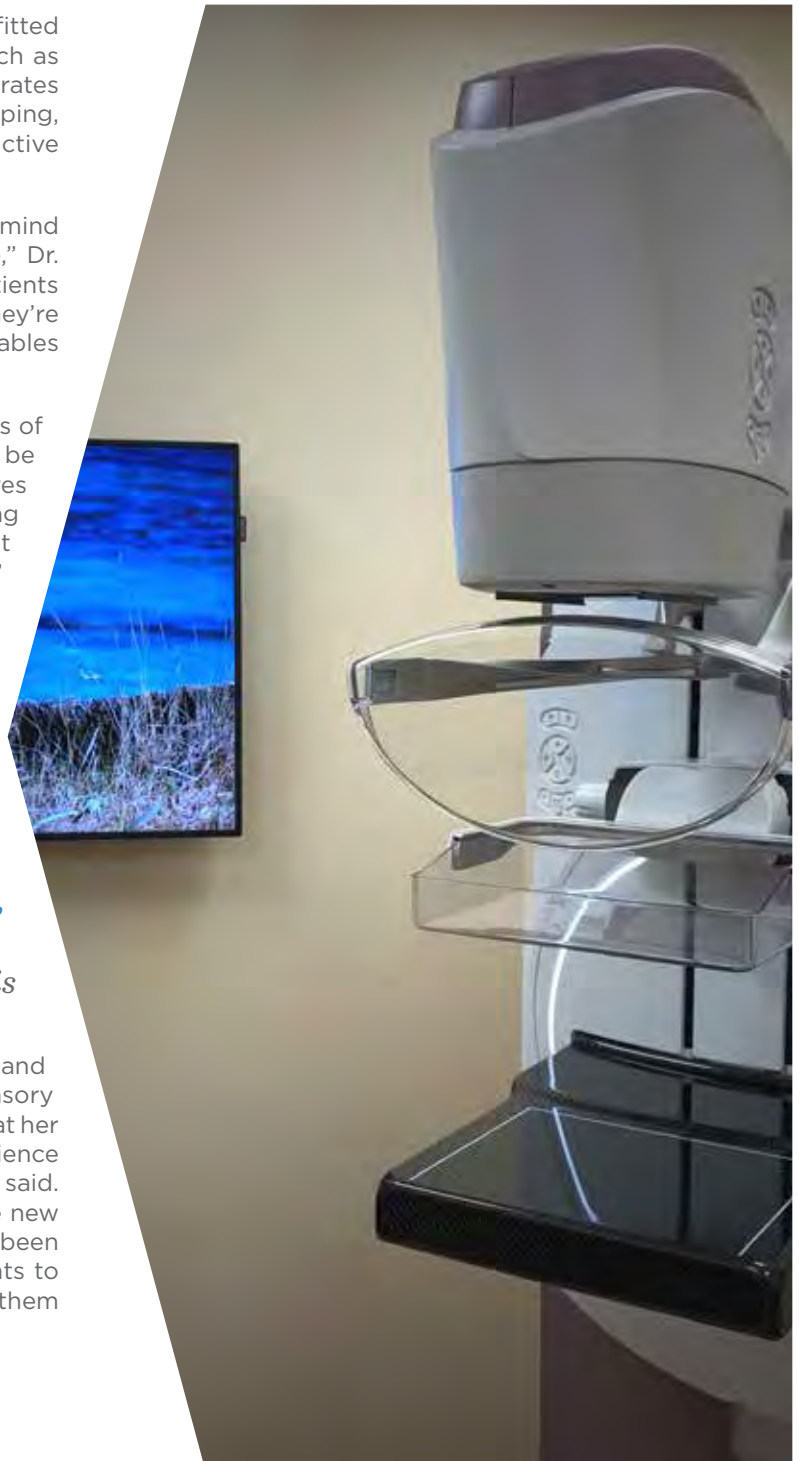
“This type of spa-like setting helps take a patient’s mind off of what’s happening and puts them more at ease,” Dr. Shamis said. “We find that in this environment, patients aren’t as sensitive to being compressed because they’re more relaxed and comfortable, which subsequently enables us to get better images.”

Dr. Shamis confirmed that some of the biggest benefits of the setting occur during biopsy procedures, which can be especially anxiety-filled for patients. “These procedures are now being done in the sensory suite and the calming audio-visuals are successful in relaxing the patient and getting her mind off of the procedure at hand,” said Dr. Shamis, who noted that two technicians are also present on site to comfort the patient. “We’re committed to fully supporting patients through these procedures and helping them feel better about the situation.”

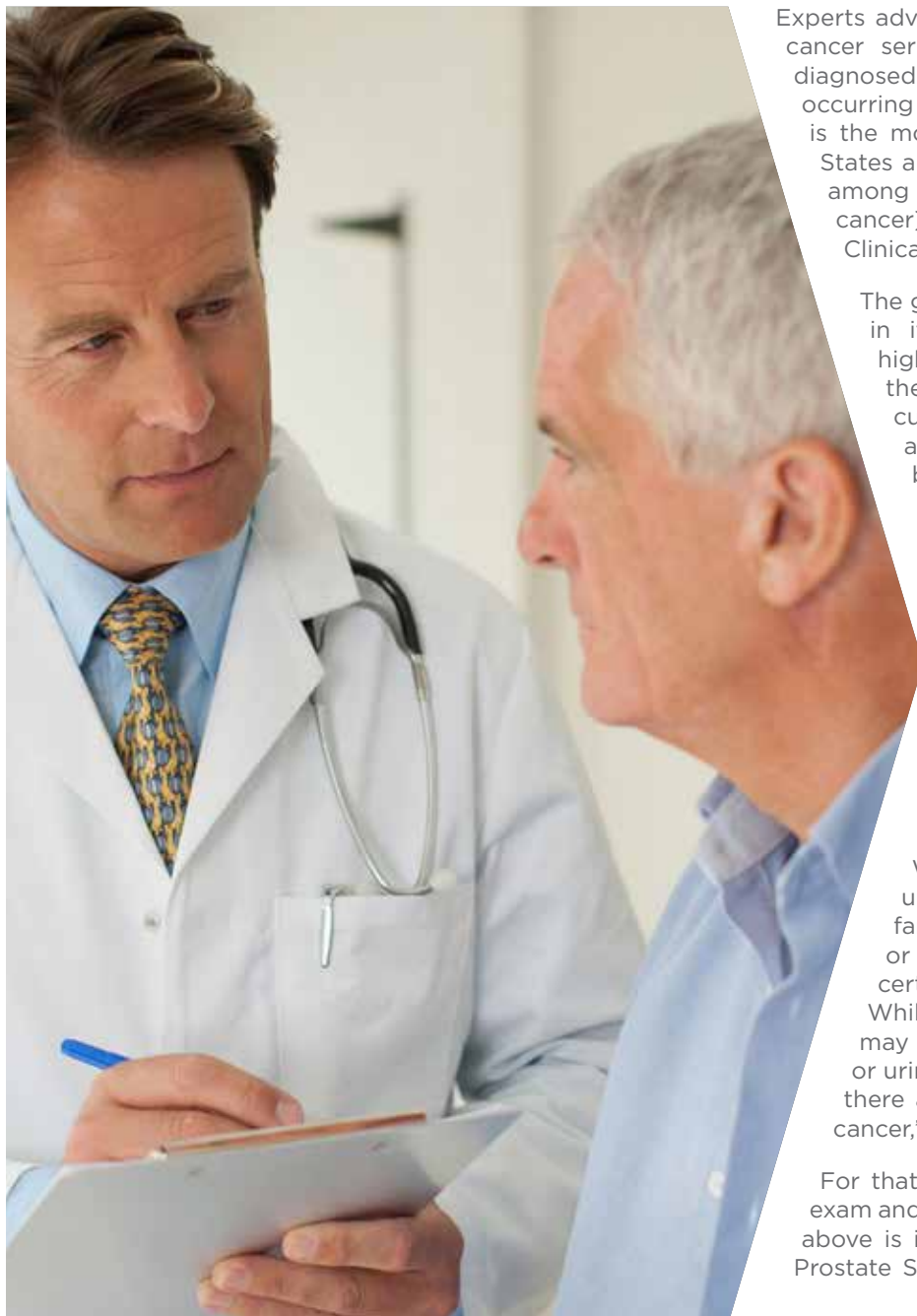
*“...they’re more relaxed and comfortable, which subsequently enables us to get better images.”*

*– Dr. Shamis*

According to Dr. Shamis, patients are appreciative and positively respond to the facility’s two new sensory mammography suites. “One woman recently told me that her appointment in the sensory suite was the greatest experience she’s had in her 10 years of getting mammograms,” he said. “Patients love the technology and our hope is that the new sensory suite will help reverse what’s traditionally been perceived as a negative experience and inspire patients to schedule their annual mammogram rather than deter them from coming back.”



## CHAIR OF UROLOGY CONFIRMS THAT EARLY DETECTION OF PROSTATE CANCER IS KEY



Experts advise men to take the possibility of prostate cancer seriously. With more than 200,000 cases diagnosed every year and over 32,000 deaths occurring annually from the disease, prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men in the United States and the third leading cause of cancer death among American males (behind lung and colon cancer), according to the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO).

The good news is that, if discovered and treated in its early stages, success rates are very high. “Thanks to modern advances in cancer therapies, prostate cancer is very treatable and curable in its early stages and the side effects are very minimal,” shared Joseph Motta, MD, board certified clinical urologist, urological surgeon, and chairman of urology. “For that reason,” he said, “early detection is critical.”

Situated under the male bladder, the prostate is a gland that is involved in both fertility/sexual function and the urinary process. “The prostate can enlarge over time due to genetics and age, though an enlarged prostate isn’t necessarily synonymous with cancer,” Dr. Motta confirmed.

While direct causes of prostate cancer remain unclear, men are at higher risk if they have a family history of the disease, such as a father or brother who had prostate cancer, or are of certain ethnicities, including African American. While later-stage symptoms of prostate cancer may include lower back pain, difficulty walking or urinating, or blood in the urine, “unfortunately, there are few to no symptoms of early prostate cancer,” Dr. Motta said.

For that reason, “An annual prostate/digital rectal exam and/or an ultrasound/MRI for men aged 45 and above is important,” Dr. Motta said. “A specialized Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) blood test can also



reflect if something is going on in the prostate. Readings above the normal level of 0-4 (especially those above 10) may indicate a higher risk of developing prostate cancer,” he said, adding that a urologist can rule out other causes.

*“Thanks to modern advances in cancer therapies, prostate cancer is very treatable and curable in its early stages and the side effects are very minimal,”*

*– Dr. Motta*



Joseph Motta, MD

If PSA readings are between 4 and 10 and prostate cancer is localized to that organ, many effective treatment options are available. “Among those are robotic surgery, radiation therapy, cryotherapy, radiosurgery involving high-tech tools like the Gamma Knife, and the administration of hormonal therapy to block testosterone and suppress the growth of prostate disease,” Dr. Motta said. “These approaches can be used alone or in combination with each other for enhanced efficacy.” Detected early and categorized as ‘Gleason 6’

prostate cancer (e.g., early stage and/or slow-growing), “The five and 10-year survival rates are over 90 percent,” he said.

Among exciting new treatments, “Positive advancements in the use of monoclonal antibodies, which bind to different proteins and antigens on prostate cancer cells to suppress their growth, are improving quality of life,” Dr. Motta said. “On the horizon, preventative vaccines against prostate cancer are in clinical trials now.”



## RICHMOND UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER CANCER SERVICES

### ▶ Surgical Services:

- Surgical, GI, and Ambulatory Suites
- Robotic Surgery
- EBUS (Endobronchial Ultrasound)
- Neurosurgery
- Interventional Radiology
- Stereotactic Guided Biopsy
- Bronchoscopy
- Endoscopy
- Mediastinoscopy

### ▶ Chemotherapy/Infusion Services:

- Adult and Pediatric Ambulatory Suites
- Satellite Chemo Pharmacy
- Phlebotomy Services
- Chemotherapy and Immunotherapy
- Plasmapheresis

### ▶ Speciality Clinics:

- Adult Hem/Onc Clinic
- Pediatrics Hem/Onc Clinic
- Breast Clinic

### ▶ Diagnostic Services:

- Digital Radiographic for Mammography
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

### • Nuclear Medicine

- Positron Emission Tomography Scan (PET)
- Ultrasound
- Computerized Axial Tomography Scan (CT)

### ▶ Radiation Therapy:

- 3D Conformal Radiation Therapy
- Brachytherapy – High Dose (HDR)
- Brachytherapy – Low Dose (LDR)
- Computerized Treatment Plan
- Electron Beam
- External Beam Radiation Therapy
- Image-Guided Radiation System (IGRT)
- Intensity Modulated Radiation

### ▶ Therapy (IMRT)

- Linear Accelerator
- Radiosurgery to treat brain tumors
- Systemic Radioisotopes

### ▶ Other Services:

- Clinical Trials
- Palliative Care
- Spiritual Care

## AWARDS AND ACCREDITATIONS: 2019

### STATEN ISLAND'S LONGEST ACCREDITED CANCER PROGRAM

This past year marked the 82nd consecutive year of accreditation by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer, making Richmond University Medical Center's oncology program the longest accredited program on Staten Island.

### BREAST AND WOMEN'S CENTER NOW AN ARC ACCREDITED FACILITY

Richmond University Medical Center's Breast and Women's Center is now a facility accredited by the American College of Radiology (ACR) after earning the gold seal of accreditation for the center's comprehensive mammography, breast ultrasound, stereotactic biopsy, and ultrasound guided biopsy services. The gold seal represents the highest level of accreditation provided by the ACR for quality of care and patient safety.

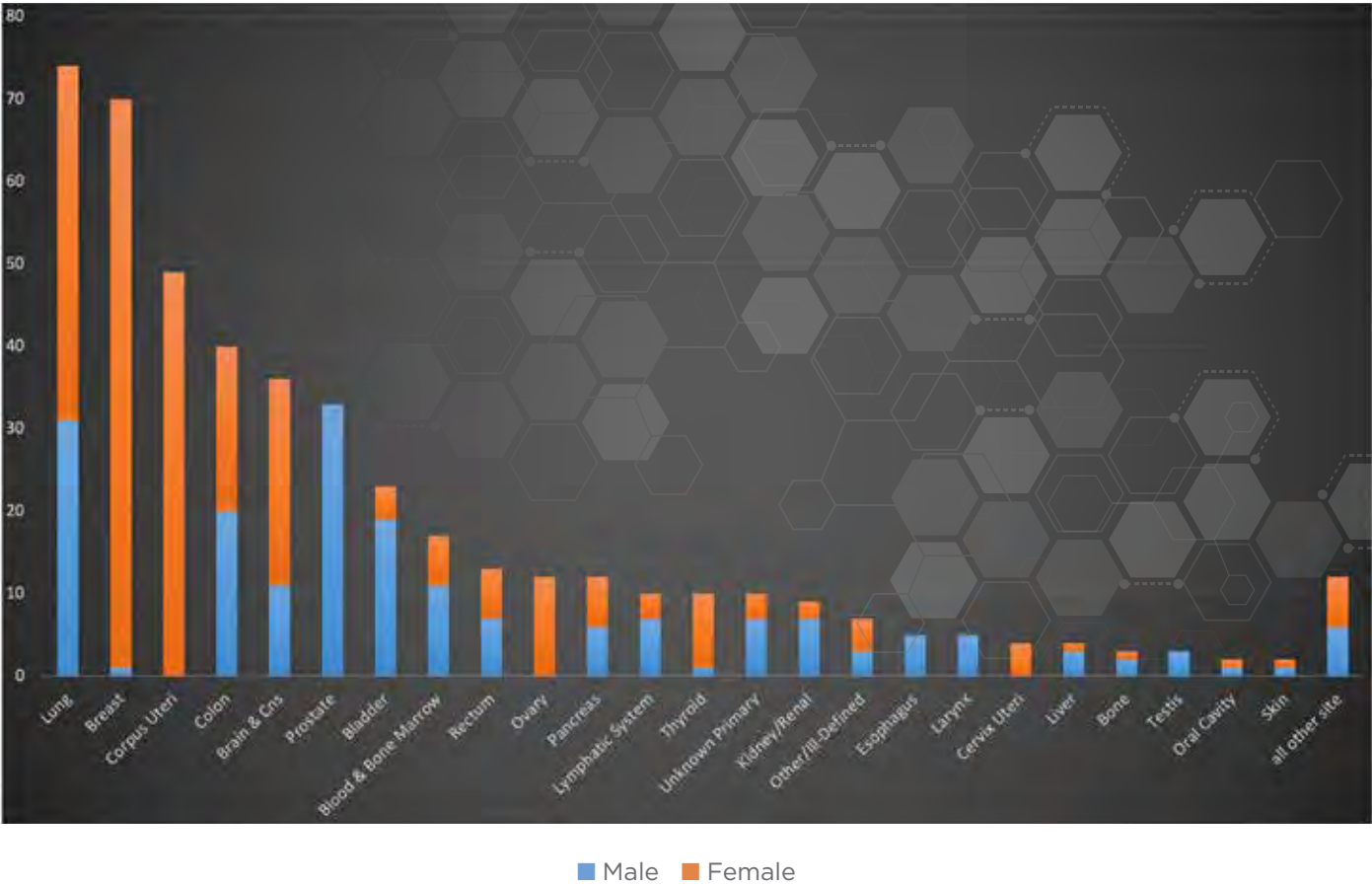




# 2018 RICHMOND UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER CANCER STATS

## SITE BY SEX

Site refers to where cancer patients show the disease in their body at diagnosis and in comparison to gender. At Richmond University Medical Center, we refer to this graph as a guide to monitor trends in cancer diagnosis.



## SCREENING STANDARD 4.2 COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### COORDINATOR REPORT: COLORECTAL CANCER

According to the American Cancer Society, except for skin cancers, colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer diagnosed in both men and women in the United States. The American Cancer Society estimates the number of colorectal cancer cases in the United States for 2019 was 101,420 new cases of colon cancer and 44,180 new cases of rectal cancer. Also, a February 2019 study, released by the American Cancer Society's Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), colorectal cancer accounts for 8.1 percent of all cancer cases and 10.3 percent of all cancer deaths on Staten Island.

Based on the findings of the 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), increasing access to high quality chronic disease preventive care and management in both clinical and community settings was identified as a priority for Richmond University Medical Center. Increasing screening rates for cardiovascular disease, diabetes and breast, and cervical and colorectal cancers was an agreed-to measure to address this identified priority.



One of the most common barriers to engaging patients to have colonoscopies conducted is the unpleasantness and misconceptions about the colonoscopy prep procedure. There are currently several screening modalities available for community members to choose from beyond the traditional colonoscopy that may help get patients “through the door.” The most common are take home stool tests. For example, for people 50 years of age and older and who are at average risk for colon cancer, Cologuard is a simple test that people can use to mail in their sample from home. The test may help indicate the presence of colon cancer and/or high-grade polyps. The Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT kit) is another “at home” stool test that screens for colon cancer. New York State provides these to the public at no cost through healthcare providers such as Richmond University Medical Center.

To meet the identified barriers and to increase access to these self-administered test kits, ads and messaging were developed promoting the importance of being tested. These were placed in various media markets, including print and social media, throughout the month of March which is also National Colorectal Awareness Month. Included in the messaging were information and a telephone number to call to receive a free InsureOne Collection Kit mailed to their home. The respondent would be responsible for following the instructions and mailing back their collection for testing.

As of March 30, 2019, there have been 32 requests for collection kits and 25 kits have been mailed to the respondent. A total of 15 kits were returned and one (1) was positive. That patient is now under doctor's care.

Also, throughout the year, free colorectal cancer assessments were provided at community events across Staten Island, including the Staten Island Yankees Health and Wellness Night in July, Staten Island Economic Development Corporation's Health and Wellness Expo in October, and New York State Court Employees Health Screening Day in November. Over 100 people completed assessments and were urged to follow up with their primary care physician if the assessment determined they were at high risk.

## SCREENING STANDARD 4.2 COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### COORDINATOR REPORT: BREAST CANCER

According to the American Cancer Society, about one in eight women in the United States will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime. In 2019, an estimated 268,600 new cases of invasive breast cancer were expected to be diagnosed in women in the United States along with 62,930 new cases of non-invasive (in situ) breast cancer. About 41,760 women were expected to die in 2019 from breast cancer, though death rates have been decreasing since 1989. Women under 50 have experienced larger decreases. These decreases are thought to be the result of treatment advances, earlier detection through screening, and increased awareness.

Based on the findings of the 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), increasing access to high quality chronic disease preventive care and management in both clinical and community settings was identified as a priority for Richmond University Medical Center. This was determined through research to develop the CHNA, including public health and socioeconomic measures, input received from key informants, and a thorough assessment of existing services, resources, and the hospital's areas of expertise. Increasing screening rates for cardiovascular disease, diabetes and breast, and cervical and colorectal cancers was an agreed-to measure to address this identified priority.

In 2018, Richmond University Medical Center opened its dedicated Breast and Women's Center at 1161 Victory Boulevard. The most advanced imaging and clinical breast care services are located together within the center. To increase access to healthcare and to promote the importance of maintaining good breast health, three screening days were held at the Breast and Women's Center. Free mammograms were offered on September 21 and October 15. The third screening was held on November 18 and was targeted toward employees of the New York State court system. This last event was held in partnership with the New York State Court Officers Association (NYSCOA) and was intended to improve breast care access for those with professional careers who may neglect their health because of work-life imbalances.

The three events resulted in a total of 44 mammograms being performed. Out of the 24 patients who had mammograms on September 21, there have been zero positive results. Two patients recommended for biopsies have not scheduled any procedures stating they do not want a biopsy at this time. From the October 15 event, out of 19 patients who had mammograms performed, there were once again no positive results to date. However, one patient has been advised that additional imaging is needed and another two patients are in need of biopsies. Both patients have scheduled biopsies as of December 2019. One patient came for a mammogram at the November 18 event. As of December 2019, the patient is scheduled for additional imaging before the end of the year.

Richmond University Medical Center continues to address barriers to women delaying their mammograms due to financial hardship with free screening events. Also noted is the need to increase patient compliance to aftercare once an abnormal finding is noted in screening.







## SCREENING STANDARD 4.2 COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR REPORT: PROSTATE CANCER

According to the American Cancer Society, other than skin cancer, prostate cancer is the most common cancer in American men. The Society's estimates for prostate cancer in the United States for 2019 are over 174,600 new cases of prostate cancer and more than 31,600 deaths. About one man in nine will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during his lifetime, with prostate cancer being more likely to develop in older men and in African-American men.

According to data collected by Richmond University Medical Center for its 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) while Staten Island's incident rates for prostate cancer do not exceed the rest of New York City, Staten Island's death rates do exceed New York City for all cancer types, except female breast.

The most common barrier encountered that deters people from being tested is the stigma attached to men in following through on their health and wellness. To promote

the importance of being screened for prostate cancer and to increase access to screenings, Richmond University Medical Center provided information and free testing at several community events throughout the past year. Chief among them was the Staten Island Economic Development Corporation's Health and Wellness Expo in October. Men were encouraged to have their blood drawn and results were reviewed by Dr. Joseph Motta. A total of 14 PSA tests were performed, with 13 being negative. The one patient with elevated PSA levels is now under a doctor's care.

Additionally, in November, Richmond University Medical Center hosted a Men's Health Day for New York State Court Officers and court employees at the court house, located in the St. George section of Staten Island. At this event, a total of 51 PSAs were performed. One patient had elevated PSA levels and is now under a doctor's care.

## AMBULATORY ONCOLOGY INFUSION UNIT

The Ambulatory Infusion Unit provided high quality, comprehensive patient care, utilizing a multidisciplinary team approach. The experienced, compassionate staff provided care to patients receiving chemotherapy, targeted monoclonal therapy, immunotherapy, and short term infusions, such as IVIG, venofer infusions, and entyvio infusions. They also cared for patients receiving blood, blood products, and injections such as Lupron, Faslodex, Xgena, Procrit and B12. In addition, the staff administered fluids for hydration and maintained supportive care for port patency. The patient population they cared for included adolescents and adults beginning at 18 years of age.

In 2019, the Ambulatory Oncology Infusion Unit assisted 78 new oncology patients who received chemotherapy and 202 non-chemotherapy infusion patients and assisted over 150 patients in need of blood and blood product transfusions. Utilization and quality indicators as well as patient satisfaction and performance improvement measures were monitored by the team on a continual basis. Oncology patients were also provided with a Survivorship Care Plan at the end of their treatment and referrals were given based on individual needs. The infusion unit also provided nutritional and social work services as needed or when requested by patients or their families.



# TOBACCO CESSATION PROGRAMS

LET US HELP YOU KEEP YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION!

## KICK THE HABIT!

**FREE 5 WEEK SMOKING CESSATION COURSE**  
JANUARY 2019: 2ND, 9TH, 16TH, 23RD AND 30TH



Richmond University Medical Center's Lung Nurse Navigator Nancy Rooney, RN, CTTS, will be hosting a free 5 week course for tobacco dependence to help you keep your new year's resolution and kick the habit. Sessions will be January 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th from 6pm - 7pm. Seats are limited. Participants will receive patches on completion.

Call (718) 818-2391 for more information or to register.  
Sessions will be held in the Allan Weissglass Pavilion, located in the Main Lobby.

**Richmond University**  
**Medical Center**

355 BARD AVENUE STATEN ISLAND, NY 10310

### Tobacco Dependence Classes:

- January: 5 week classes
- April & September : 6 week classes
- 2 to 6 participants per session
- 1 client met with weekly for support

### Lung Screenings:

- 140 new screenings
- 150 follow-up annual screenings
- Lung cancer diagnosed in 3 women after their 3rd annual screening.

### Community Outreach and Education:

- Over 30 presentations held, reaching over 5,000 people.
- Presentations held at local high schools, community organizations and faith-based groups.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU

# STOP SMOKING

FREE 6 WEEK SMOKING CESSATION COURSE

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS: 6PM - 7PM

APRIL 3RD	APRIL 24TH
APRIL 10TH	MAY 1ST
APRIL 17TH	MAY 8TH

Richmond University Medical Center's Lung Nurse Navigator Nancy Rooney, RN, CTTS, will be hosting a free 6 week course for tobacco dependence to help you kick the habit. Seats are limited. Participants will receive patches on completion.

**Call (718) 818-2391 for more information or to register.**  
Sessions will be held in the Allan Weissglass Pavilion, located in the Main Lobby

355 BARD AVENUE, STATEN ISLAND, NY 10310  
844-934-CARE | WWW.RUMCS.ORG

**Richmond University**  
**Medical Center**

### Stop Smoking

Winter - January 2019	5 Weeks	Jan
Spring 2019	6 Weeks	April - May
Fall 2019	6 Weeks	Sept - Oct
November - Conquerors		Nov



# MONTHLY “LUNCH AND LEARN” EDUCATIONAL LECTURES

## Lunch and Learn

### Advances in Breast Health Seminar



**Featuring Tihesha Wilson M.D., FACS**  
Chief of Breast Surgery

- Board Certified in Surgery
- Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Piscataway, NJ
- General Internship and Residency in Surgery, St. Luke's - Roosevelt Hospital Center
- Advance Laparoscopic Surgery Fellowship, Paudyal Surgical and Barstow/Mohrhouse School of Medicine, Atlanta GA
- Breast Surgical Oncology Fellowship, Anne Arundel Medical Center, Annapolis MD
- Oncoplastic Surgery Practitioner, Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, Scotland



Learn more about the importance of screenings, wellness, and general breast care.

**Monday, August 5 • 11:30 am - 1:00 pm**  
**SIPP Auditorium**  
355 Bard Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10310

Can't attend? Watch live on our Facebook page:  
[facebook.com/RichmondUniversityMedicalCenter](https://facebook.com/RichmondUniversityMedicalCenter)

**Limited Free Valet Parking**  
RSVP to [kadeogun@rumcs.org](mailto:kadeogun@rumcs.org) or 718.818.2040

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**Richmond University**  
Medical Center

## Lunch and Learn

### Colon Cancer Awareness Month

Learn about colon cancer, why screening is important, and the different ways in which screening is available.

**Thursday, March 28 • 11:00 am – 12:30 pm**  
Please note, the lecture begins 11am  
light lunch to follow.  
**Sipp Auditorium**  
355 Bard Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10310

Can't attend? Watch live on our Facebook page.  
[facebook.com/RichmondUniversityMedicalCenter](https://facebook.com/RichmondUniversityMedicalCenter)



**Featuring Manuel Gonzalez, MD**  
Gastroenterology


**Education:**  
Medical School: University of Pennsylvania  
Residency and Fellowship: New York  
Medical School  
Board Certified in Internal Medicine  
and Gastroenterology

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**Richmond University**  
Medical Center


## Lunch and Learn

### Lung Cancer Awareness Month



**Featuring Nancy Sayegh-Rooney, RN, CTTS**  
Lung Nurse Navigator for RUMC's Lung Screening Program

- Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist (CTTS), Rutgers University
- Received National Certificate in Tobacco Treatment Practice/NAADAC
- Registered Nurse



The Effects of E-Cigarettes and Vaping on Your Health

**Thursday, November 21, 2019 • 11:30am-1:00pm**  
light lunch served at 11:30am following by the seminar at Noon  
**Sipp Auditorium**  
355 Bard Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10310

Can't attend? Watch live on our Facebook page:  
[facebook.com/RichmondUniversityMedicalCenter](https://facebook.com/RichmondUniversityMedicalCenter)

**Limited Free Valet Parking**  
RSVP to [kadeogun@rumcs.org](mailto:kadeogun@rumcs.org) or 718.818.2040

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**Richmond University**  
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Lunch and Learns		
Dr. Philip Otterback	Thyroid Cancer	1/24/19
Dr. Manuel Gonzalez	Colon Cancer	3/28/19
Dr. Maxim Schulimovich	Cancer Control Awareness	4/18/19
Dr. Tihesha Wilson	Breast Cancer	8/5/19
Nancy Rooney, RN, CTTS	Lung Cancer	11/21/19

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH HIGHLIGHTS

## JANUARY - MARCH

The dangers of nicotine, vaping, and e-cigarettes was shared with over 1,000 students across Staten Island through presentations by lung nurse navigator Nancy Sayegh-Rooney, RN, CTTS. Schools included CSI High School in New Springville, Our Lady Queen of Peace in New Dorp, and Tottenville High School.



Chief Breast Surgeon Tihesha Wilson, MD, FACS, was the featured speaker at the Staten Island Women’s Bar Association (SIWBA) on February 28. Over 40 women, including New York City Council Member Deborah Rose and public administrator Edwina Martin, learned about the latest advances in breast care.



On March 28, members of the oncology department participated in a round table on colorectal cancer held at Staten Island Borough Hall with Borough President James Oddo. The meeting focused on trends across Staten Island and available treatments.

In recognition of March being colorectal cancer awareness month, information and colon cancer assessments were provided in the hospital main lobby to staff, patients, and guests. Take-home FIT kits were provided to those individuals determined to be at high risk for the disease.



On March 20, Maxim Schulimovich, DO, spoke to over 30 medical technology students at Tottenville High School about the latest developments in the field of oncology. The students are considering careers in the healthcare profession.



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH HIGHLIGHTS

### APRIL – JUNE

Additional presentations on the dangers of nicotine were provided at Gaynor McCown High School in New Springville and St. Mark's Community Center in Pleasant Plains.

Lung screening information was shared with over 2,000 people at the Senior Wellness Event at the JCC of Staten Island, Staten Island Economic Development Corporation's business conference, the Castleton Avenue Street Fair, Staten Island Zoo community event, and Boardwalk Bash in Midland Beach.

Staff from Richmond University Medical Center traveled to Manhattan to participate in the Lung Force Walk to draw attention to lung cancer and the importance of screenings.

On June 17, the hospital held its annual cancer survivors celebration dinner to connect survivors with each other and to provide an opportunity for them to thank those who provided support throughout their treatment. Many of the attending survivors have been cancer-free for at least three years.





# COMMUNITY OUTREACH HIGHLIGHTS

## JULY – SEPTEMBER

Information on cancer services as well as free assessments were provided to over 5,000 people at the annual Night Out Against Crime, Coast Guard Families Day at Ft. Wadsworth, St. Claire's Church Health Fair, Staten Island Yankees health and wellness night, and the Historic Richmondtown Fair.

On September 21, close to 30 women received free mammograms and breast health information as part of the hospital's Breast Health Day. The screenings were held at the Breast and Women's Center, located at 1161 Victory Boulevard. The screenings followed a commemoration ceremony held to remember those lost to breast cancer.



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH HIGHLIGHTS

### OCTOBER - DECEMBER



In recognition of October as breast cancer awareness month, free mammograms were provided at the Breast and Women's Center on October 15. Over 15 women visited the center for mammograms.

Over 5,000 people learned from hospital staff about the importance of mammograms, how to perform self-examinations, and the risk factors for breast cancer at community events across Staten Island, including the Staten Island Economic Development Corporation's Health and Wellness Expo, Staten Island Chamber of Commerce Business 2 Business conference, and Making Strides Against Breast Cancer.



Members of the oncology department provided the latest information on breast cancer treatments and programs available on Staten Island as part of the Borough President's roundtable on breast cancer. They were joined by members of the medical community and not-for-profit organizations.

On November 15, Richmond University Medical Center supported the health of court employees by providing prostate cancer tests and colon cancer screenings at the court house, located at 26 Center Street in St. George. The screenings and tests were arranged in partnership with the New York State Court Officers Association. Over 70 court employees were tested for prostate cancer or had colon cancer screenings. Individuals found to be at high risk for colon cancer were provided with take-home FIT kits. Mammograms were also provided exclusively for court employees on November 18 and December 2.



On November 19, lung cancer survivors, hospital staff and family members of people lost to lung cancer gathered at the hospital to mark national lung cancer awareness month with a special "Shine A Light" ceremony held in the main lobby. Turquoise is the official color of Lung Cancer Awareness Month, so as the lights dimmed, those gathered lit turquoise flashlights. A moment of silence was held to remember family and friends lost to one of the most deadly forms of cancer.

To honor our military veterans, a Veterans Health Day was held on December 9 at the Breast and Women's Center. Active and retired military veterans were provided with mammograms and free prostate cancer screenings.



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BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES. WE DO THIS  
IN AN ENVIRONMENT THAT PROMOTES THE HIGHEST SATISFACTION  
AMONG PATIENTS, FAMILIES, PHYSICIANS, AND STAFF.**

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