Resuming and Sustaining Screening Efforts in the Late Pandemic
Vietnamese American Cancer Foundation

Organization

Vietnamese American Cancer Foundation (VACF) was founded by a group of cancer survivors and local physicians in 1998 to address the high rate of cancer deaths in the Vietnamese community through culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate health care resources.

- VACF maintains hepatitis (Hep) and tuberculosis (TB) programs
- Implemented due to disproportionate prevalence of these diseases among Vietnamese Americans (VA) which increases the risk for liver and lung cancer.
- Provide preventive education, screenings, case management, navigation to vaccination, and follow-up care.

Background

LEADING CANCER CAUSES OF DEATH AMONG ASIAN AMERICANS (AA)

TB increases primary lung cancer risk by two-fold
AA’s TB prevalence 33x higher than non-Hispanic Whites
People with chronic hep B are 100x more likely to develop liver cancer than uninfected people.
AA account for 58% chronic Hep B cases

Vietnamese Americans’ Hepatitis B and TB Burden

Account for 47.5% of all foreign-born persons with TB

Highest rates of lung cancer
One of the highest HBV prevalence

10x more likely to be diagnosed with liver cancer

Event Activities

Community Health Fair 8/21/21

- Location: Diêu Quý Temple
- Services and screenings provided: Hep B & C, TB, COVID-19 vaccine, cholesterol and blood pressure measurement
- Over 500 attendees

Methodology

- One-on-one or small group education
- Lab form assistance
- Blood drawn
- Results mailed home with informational fact sheet
- Phone call follow-up to initiate patient navigation
- Support and referral assistance to community resources

Screening Demographics

![Screening Demographics](image)

Results

Hepatitis B & C
- 59 individuals screened
- 2 HBsAg positive cases, provided with navigation
- 28 cases were HBV immune due to natural infection
- 14 cases were HBV immune due to vaccination
- No HCV-antibody positive cases

Tuberculosis
- 51 individuals screened
- 3 positive cases, all were provided with navigation
- 1 cases successfully linked to care thus far

Discussion

Moving Forward

With the COVID-19 pandemic still ongoing, the amount of people actively being screened could significantly improve as we proceed to normalcy.

- VACF continues to announce events on weekly radio show, Facebook, VACF website, email and various community outreach
- VACF continues to provide ongoing community screening for Hep B, TB, colorectal screening, COVID-19 testing and vaccination
- COVID-19 vaccine clinics occur bi-weekly at the office
- Clients can register on our website or via phone to participate in workshops and webinars available throughout each month

References

- https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/populations/Born-Outside-UnitedStates.htm
- https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0250531