

Provider Office Toolkit

Colon Cancer Awareness

We know that cancer is the second leading cause of death in the United States. We also know that providers and staff work hard every day to help their patients prevent cancer through education and screening. March is **Colon Cancer Awareness Month** which is the perfect time to spotlight the importance of healthy habits and early screening for cancer prevention. Included in this toolkit are resources and suggestions for ways you and your team can get involved.

As a reminder, your office may be eligible to receive financial incentives for meeting certain quality measures related to cancer screening. Those quality measures include:

- Colon cancer screening
- Breast cancer screening
- Cervical cancer screening

Resources for patients & providers

Encourage patients to follow these colon cancer screening guidelines:

[7407 Colorectal Flyer Update.pdf \(munsonhealthcare.org\)](#)

Combining regular screening with proper lifestyle choices is the best way to ward off preventable cancers. Encourage your patients that smoke to sign up for Munson's free tobacco cessation class [munsonhealthcare.org/services/smoking-cessation](#).

The next cohort begins in May.

For patients going through cancer treatment, connect them with services and resources offered at [Cowell Family Cancer Center \(munsonhealthcare.org\)](#) such as:

- Acupuncture
- Cancer support groups

Play this educational video in patient waiting areas:

[Colorectal Cancer Signs & Screenings | Munson Minutes - YouTube](#)



Sign up for a cancer related CME. CME opportunities are shared weekly in Munson's Med Staff News or you can find a list of them here: www.eeds.com/portal_index

Office engagement

The color blue represents colon cancer awareness. Encourage staff to wear blue on Fridays in March. Take photos of your team wearing blue and send them to MHC-Community-Health-Staff@mhc.net for a chance to be featured.

HCC Coding

For cancer treatment

When coding and documenting the treatment of cancer it is critical to accurately code and document history of cancer vs. active cancer. Please refer to the tips and code guide below.

Definition of active cancer versus history of cancer:

- Active cancer: Cancers can be coded as active if the documentation in the medical record demonstrates active treatment of the disease for the purpose of curing the illness, palliative treatment, when the cancer is not responding to the treatment, treatment is refused, or the current treatment plan of “watchful waiting” is documented.
- History of cancer: When a primary malignancy has been previously excised or eradicated from its site, there is no further treatment directed to that site (including oral chemotherapy medications), and there is no evidence of any existing primary malignancy, a code from category Z85 - personal history of malignant neoplasm, should be used to indicate the former site of the malignancy.

Cancer code guide:

- C00 to D48: Document cancer as "active" if undergoing treatment (including hormones like Tamoxifen/Lupron), waiting for treatment, watchful waiting, or refuses treatment.
- C83 to C88: Lymphoma documented as "in remission" is coded as "active".
- C77 to C80: Secondary Malignant Neoplasm (metastases) document location of metastasis.
- C91 to C95.1: Code Leukemia as "in remission" versus “history of.”
- Z85.00 to Z85.9: Use “history of” codes for patients that are cured, show no evidence of disease, and have no active hormonal or oral chemo treatment.

Be sure to include documentation and code any sequela as a result of any cancer treatment: anemia, neuropathy, pancytopenia etc.