

**Kansas Cancer Partnership – Professional Education Workgroup
Cancer Prevention and Treatment
Results of Survey of Kansas Nursing Programs**

The following are results from the December 2005 Nursing School Survey regarding cancer prevention and treatment topics taught in Kansas schools. Out of the 40 schools receiving the survey, 20 responded. Chart 1.1 indicates the nursing degrees, based on programs available. Seven LPN, Associates Degree and BSN programs were reported, while 4 Master’s programs and 1 PhD program were reported.

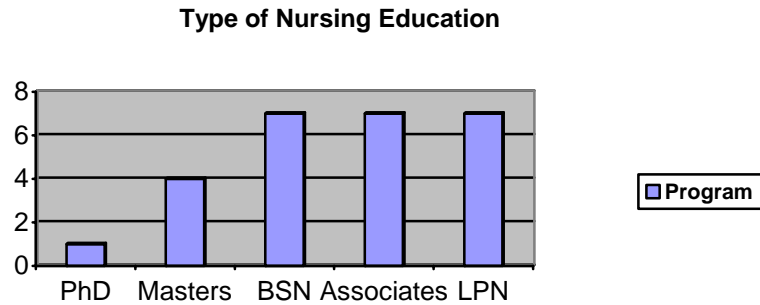


Chart 1.1

When asked about the content taught concerning various cancer topics as required or elective courses, or not being taught at all, the response was as follows in Chart 1.2.

Cancer Curriculum Taught in Nursing Schools

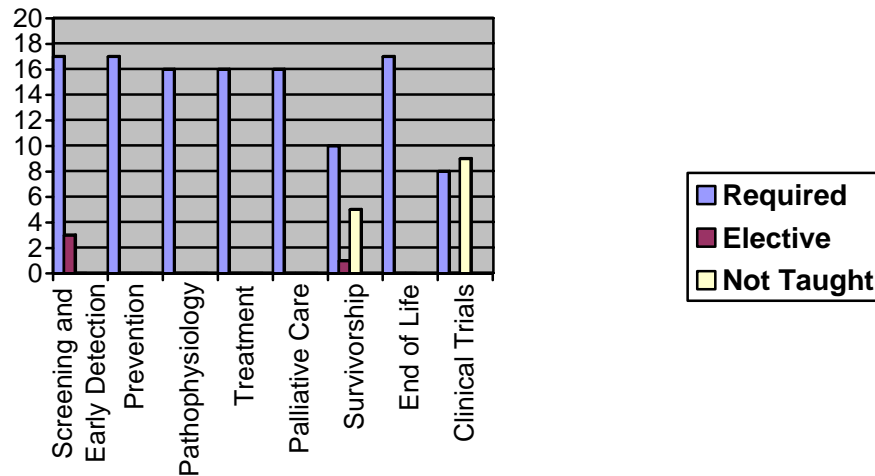


Chart 1.2.

All 20 had some form of teaching on cancer and early detection. Eighty five percent (85%) of respondents said that their school teaches the subject in a required course. Three out of 20 taught this subject during an elective course. Seventeen participants state that they teach cancer prevention as a part of required courses. Three out of 20 did not respond to this question. Eighty percent (80%) of the schools contributing to the survey offer Pathophysiology, Treatment

and Palliative care as a component of a required course. Four of the 20 schools completing the survey did not respond to this question. Survivorship care was more evenly distributed. Half of schools responding teach the topic during required courses while one addresses survivorship during elective courses. Twenty five percent (25%) of schools said that they did not address survivorship at all and four schools did not respond. End of Life care is taught in 17 of the 20 schools during required courses. Three schools did not respond to this question. Last, Clinical Trials Education was nearly evenly distributed between required courses (40%) and not being taught at all (45%).

Resources for cancer information are tallied in Chart 1.3. As a source of reference, the American Cancer Society is used most by schools with 85 percent (85%) using this source for reference. The next most frequently used resource was the Centers for Disease Control Guidelines and Healthy People 2010, which are used by 11 of the schools. Statement of the Scope and Standards of Oncology Nursing Practice (2004) and Other sources are used by six of the schools for cancer sources while only three schools report using the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Report and the Lance Armstrong Foundation for more information. The least used sources of information were Cancer Information Services with two schools using this source and no schools are using Cancer Control Planet.

Schools Using Cancer Resources

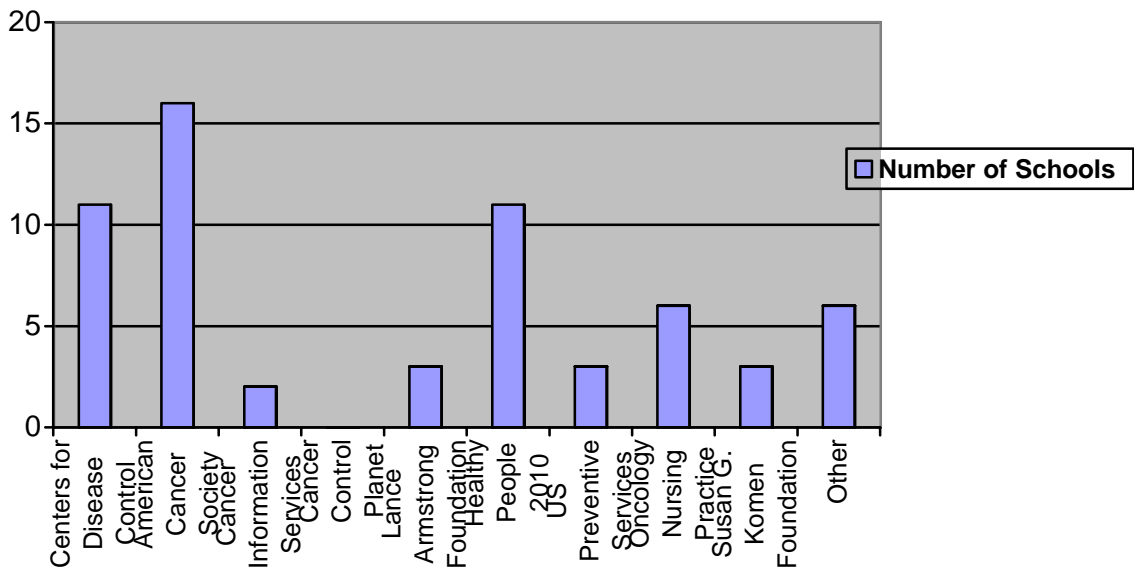


Chart 1.3

Survey Limitations

After reviewing the survey results, several limitations were noted. First, only 20 out of 40 schools responded to the survey. This fifty percent (50%) return is less than optimal for accurate, unbiased results. Second, due to lack of answers on question 2, results may be skewed. Third, some data was unobtainable at the time of submittal, thus we are unable to respond to accurately define number of faculty and review comments and questions.

Summary and Future Initiatives

After studying the results of the Nursing School Survey, the workgroup has identified several curriculum areas needing additional information. To support professional health education, the Professional Education workgroup will send the results of the survey to all 40 nursing schools in Kansas. Due to a lack of resources utilized by the schools, an informational resource packet will be included to help nursing educators fully employ sources of information available to them. The resources sent to the schools will include each curriculum section in chart 1.2 and focus on survivorship and clinical trials, due to the lack of teaching on these topics. A link to the KDHE Comprehensive Cancer website, www.cancerkansas.org, also will be utilized in the future. Once the website is fully established, it will be available for continued access to informational links by nursing professionals in the state.