

CANCER/ SCREENINGS FACT SHEET

HEALTHY DELAWAREANS WITH DISABILITIES

RESEARCH

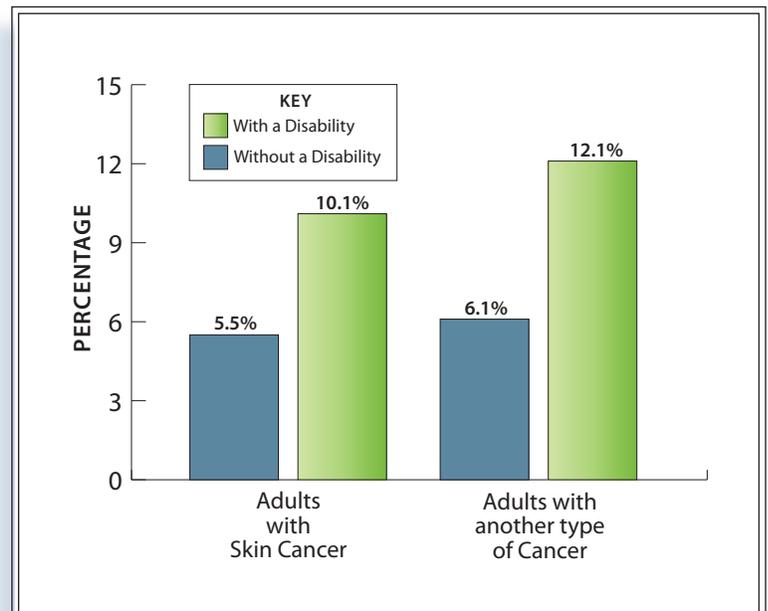
Individuals with disabilities are less likely to be screened for breast cancer, cervical cancer, and other types of cancers. These individuals face many barriers to these screenings that are unique to their disability.

- Women with intellectual disabilities receive cervical and breast cancer screening at lower rates than women without disabilities.¹
- Women with disabilities are less likely than those without disabilities to receive a physician recommendation for a screening mammogram.²
- When accessing screening for breast cancer or cervical cancer, individuals with intellectual disabilities identify barriers such as lack of knowledge, fear, anxiety and the need for sedation.^{3,4,5,6}

IN DELAWARE

10.1% of adults with a disability reported having skin cancer, compared to **5.5%** of adults without a disability.⁷

12.1% of adults with a disability reported having another type of cancer, compared to **6.1%** of adults without a disability.⁷



COMMUNITY VOICE

The Healthy Delawareans with Disabilities Needs Assessment asked individuals with disabilities and their caregivers to speak out about barriers they face and improvements they would like to see in accessing cancer screenings and services.

"I am required to go to [hospital] since the office I get mammograms in is unable to do a pap smear because I cannot get on the table."

"I am surprised at how many doctors' offices cannot really accommodate people in wheelchairs. Exam rooms and hallways are very small and most outside entrances are manually opened."

"There needs to be a centralized place where you can go to get the services that are needed. It should also contain information on what is covered and what is not a benefit."

COMMUNITY ASSETS

Many community and state-based programs exist targeting prevention of cancer as well as some of the risk factors associated with cancer. These programs represent available assets within Delaware. These agencies responded to a recent survey about public health resources in Delaware. This is not intended to be a complete listing.

<i>American Cancer Society</i>	<i>Christiana Community Health Outreach & Education Program</i>
<i>Cancer Support Community Delaware</i>	<i>Office of Women's Health</i>
<i>Nanticoke Cancer Care Center</i>	<i>Tunnell Cancer Center's Outreach & Screening Program</i>
<i>St. Francis Cancer Prevention and Support Services</i>	<i>Screening for Life Program</i>
<i>Comprehensive Cancer Control</i>	<i>Christiana Diabetes & Chronic Disease Management & Nutrition Services</i>
<i>Beebe Population Health Outreach</i>	
<i>Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition</i>	

REFERENCES

1. Parish, S.L., Swaine, J.G., Son, E., & Luken, K. (2013). Determinants of cervical cancer screening among women with intellectual disabilities: evidence from medical records. *Public Health Reports, 128*(6), 519-526.
2. Yankaskas, B.C., Dickens, P., Bowling, J.M., Jarman, M.P., Luken, K., Salisbury, K.,...Lorenz, C.E. (2010). Barriers to adherence to screening mammography among women with disabilities. *American Journal of Public Health, 100*(5), 947-953.
3. McIlpatrick, S., Taggart, L., & Truesdale-Kennedy, M. (2011). Supporting women with intellectual disabilities to access breast cancer screening: A healthcare professional perspective. *European Journal of Cancer Care, 20*(3), 412-420.
4. Parish, S.L., Swaine, J.G., Luken, K., Rose, R.A., & Dababnah, S. (2012). Cervical and breast cancer screening knowledge of women with developmental disabilities. *Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, 50*(2), 79-91.
5. Taggart, L., Truesdale-Kennedy, M., & McIlpatrick, S. (2011). The role of community nurses and residential staff in supporting women with intellectual disability to access breast screening services. *Journal of Intellectual Disability Research, 55*(1), 41-52.
6. Truesdale-Kennedy, M., Taggart, L., & McIlpatrick, S. (2011). Breast cancer knowledge among women with intellectual disabilities and their experiences of receiving breast mammography. *Journal of Advanced Nursing, 67*(6), 1294-1304.
7. Sparling, E., Borrás, K., Guinivan, P., Lee, J.C., Magane, K., McDuffie, M.J.,...Rhonton, L. (2014). *The current landscape for disability and health in Delaware: Public health assessment report summary*. Newark, DE: University of Delaware, Center for Disabilities Studies.