



NYU Center for Immigrant Health

Immigrant Cancer Initiatives Update

BRIDGING IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES AND CANCER CONTROL

OUR RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Cancer Awareness Network for Immigrant Minority Populations (CANIMP)

CANIMP was launched in April 2000 to respond to the disparities in utilization and participation of immigrants and minorities in cancer prevention, detection and treatment services. Working with our community partners, CIH has been able to gain an understanding of the socioeconomic, cultural, and linguistic barriers that contribute to cancer disparities in particular immigrant communities. CANIMP works directly with Haitian, Latino, English-speaking Caribbean, Korean, and Chinese communities. We have not only engaged in capacity building for our communities, but have also strengthened our own ability to work with the communities.

Virtual Communication for Immigrants with Cancer (VCIC)

CIH has developed an on-line support group for Spanish-speaking breast cancer patients in New York City. VCIC was developed because there are few online resources and limited support programs that meet the specific informational and psychosocial needs of immigrants with cancer. VCIC not only overcomes the linguistic barrier, but also brings together groups of women who share similar cultural and immigration related barriers. VCIC aims to improve immigrants' attitudes and knowledge about their illness, improve their quality of life, and decrease levels of depression.

Immigrant Cancer Portal Project

The Immigrant Cancer Portal Project was funded in late 2005 by the New York Community Trust to help immigrants with cancer navigate through the health care system. We work with immigrant cancer patients on a case by case basis to connect them to resources that help subsidize cancer treatment, either directly by supporting chemotherapy and radiation therapy, or by helping with transportation, childcare, rent, and food. Additionally, we have compiled a detailed list of resources that can serve as a reference guide for community workers, social workers, and patient navigators. We provide individual trainings for these professionals regarding this information.

