

St. Vincent Anderson Cancer Center 2017 Public Reporting of Outcomes “We Are Accountable”

St. Vincent Anderson Cancer Center is dedicated to providing care that meets the highest quality treatment standards. These standards are developed from evidenced-based data and are required of all cancer centers in the United States that are accredited. St. Vincent Anderson Cancer Center is accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers. These institutions set and monitor standards for cancer treatment in the US. They have established accountability measures that are regularly reviewed and scored to monitor the care provided. St. Vincent Anderson has been awarded accreditation consistently since these standards were established in 2008.

Accreditation ensures a facility is providing the gold standard of care—a distinguished level of excellence that is difficult to achieve and demonstrates the facility provides treatment that gives the patient the best possible chance for cure and quality of life. Patients can be assured that care provided at an accredited facility is the same—regardless of the facility’s size, location or staff. Accrediting organizations mandate and track that every patient receives the best, most appropriate care. For example, there are five specific measures that track treatment for breast and colon cancer patients. Specifically for breast cancer patients, all accredited cancer programs in the United States must report the number of female patients in specific age groups who: receive radiation following surgery within one year of diagnosis, those whose tumors are responsive to specific types of treatment, those who are evaluated for chemotherapy within four months of diagnosis, and those who received needle biopsy prior to surgery. If it is discovered that the facility is not meeting expected performance standards, the program is required to develop and execute a plan of action for improvement.

St. Vincent Anderson Cancer Center was in 100 percent compliance with the treatment performance standards in 2016. We take pride in excelling in these accountability measures, as well as the performance standards for all cancers.

In addition to meeting these protocols, we have taken additional steps to ensure the care we provide is of the highest quality. This past year, we upgraded all our imaging technology, including the addition of 3D mammography and breast biopsy equipment to assist us in diagnosing and treating our patients. We were also actively involved in public education initiatives to help prevent cancer. These include screenings, participation in health fairs and events and partnerships with local media to share information about cancer and its prevention, detection and treatment.

Our commitment to provide care with evidence based protocols and standards of care, as well as proactive work to prevent cancer, is at the heart of our mission to give every person we serve the best opportunity for survival and quality of life.