

Community Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
For the Cancer Cluster Investigation
Frederick County Health Department Entrance "C"
February 15, 2012

TAC Purpose: a). To provide assistance in determining what questions should be examined regarding cancer numbers – geographic region, time period, types of cancers, etc. and then and b). To identify options for how to answer the question(s)/hypothesis(es).

Working Hypothesis: There is an increased rate of cancers (gather data on all, possibly narrow down later based on confirmed exposures) within a ¼ mile radius around Ft. Detrick (Area A and B).

- I. Introductions
B. Brookmyer, R. Clark, Rissah Watkins, J. Hahn, E. Kruse, B. Roberson, G. Rudy, J. Sawitzke
- II. Review of Notes from November 4 Meeting
No changes noted
- III. Update on Ed Kruse's Research Efforts
Survey instrument not yet finalized. It will need to be reviewed again by the University of Maryland's Institutional Review Board (IRB). It has been shortened with intention of improving the response rate. Getting a high enough response rate (estimated to need 2500) from each survey area remains a concern. Maryland Cancer Registry data to be run for the area around Ft. Detrick, Walkersville, and Middletown while waiting for survey responses. Suggestions for public outreach and education about the survey included channel 99, WFMD Frederick Forum show with Patty Brown, and churches. The University of Maryland School of Public Health has a spatial epidemiologist who will provide guidance on this project.
- IV. Update from Members on Other Data Collection Efforts
 - a. School-linked case finding--
Two volunteers have offered to help. Need to regroup to finalize which years and which grade cohorts as have not yet identified a source with complete and legible names in each grade and years of interest. Discussed other means to acquire the information.
 - b. KRF – No update available
 - c. Maryland Cancer Registry Data Analysis – No update available yet
- V. Sharing of Other information Relevant to Member Interests
 - a. Containment Laboratory Community Advisory Committee – There was a meeting held last night. It was also the subject of a FNP article today and a radio talk show program.
 - b. Story Collection – No update available from Johns Hopkins.
 - c. KRF – No update available.

d. Fort Detrick RAB – There was discussion about other contaminants in addition to TCE and PCE that may be relevant.

VI. Next Meeting --- To be scheduled based upon Ed's and other members' availability

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