According to the 2012 Indiana Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 77.1 percent of women ages 18 and over with health care coverage reported having a Pap test in the past three years. Among women who lacked health care coverage, 42.9 percent reported not having a Pap in the past 3 years. In comparison, 62.8 percent of women who lacked health care coverage reported not having a mammogram in the past 3 years. Overall, 67.7 percent of women ages 40 or over reported having a mammogram in the past 2 years. In comparison, 62.8 percent of women who lacked health care coverage reported not having a mammogram in the past 3 years. As a result, the Indiana Cancer Consortium (ICC) Breast and Cervical Cancer Committee, with more than 25 active members representing organizations across the state, recognized that many women are not receiving breast and cervical cancer screenings.

The ICC Breast and Cervical Cancer Committee collaborated with the Indiana State Department of Health Epidemiology Resource Center to develop a resource page to help healthcare professionals identify assistance programs for eligible women.

A provider flow chart was developed outlining existing programs and services offering free or reduced-cost breast and cervical cancer screenings to the uninsured, along with program eligibility requirements. The flow chart is designed in steps to ensure women qualify for the most appropriate program. See figures 1, 2, and 3 for the progression of these steps.

The resources were initially directed to physicians, in conjunction with a survey to assess screening barriers and adherence to screening guidelines; however, the committee experienced barriers reaching physicians. In response, the committee expanded the audience to include other healthcare professionals including, nurses, community health workers, patient navigators, etc. Additionally, the web mapping interface can be retooled to improve the user experience and accessibility to content as necessary.


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We acknowledge the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the support of the Indiana Breast and Cervical Cancer Program under cooperative agreement 5U58DP003884-03 awarded to Indiana State Department of Health. The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.