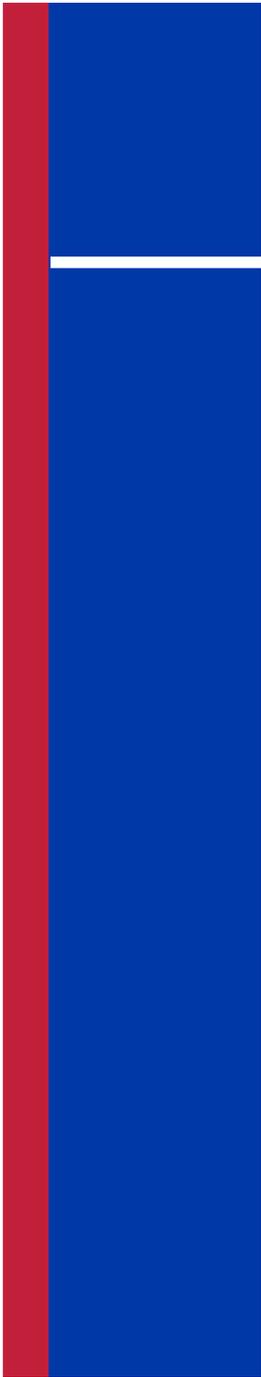




2015 American Cancer Society Budget Priorities

February 18, 2014

*Jill Sudhoff-Guerin , Director of American Cancer
Society Cancer Action Network Government Relations
and Advocacy for Vermont*

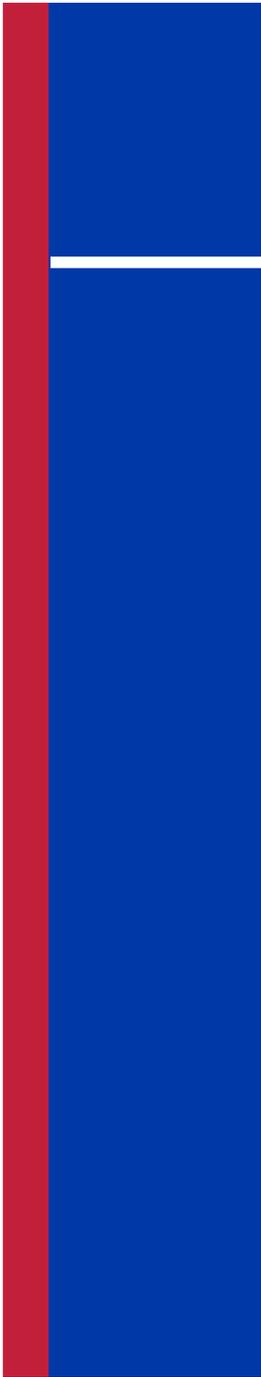


Vermont's Cancer Burden

- Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Vermont, after heart disease
- 4,130 Vermonters will be diagnosed with cancer this year
- Cancer will kill 1,320 Vermont residents this year
- 35,000 adults in Vermont are living with a current or previous diagnosis of cancer
- Almost two-thirds of cancer deaths in the United States can be linked to tobacco use, adult diet, obesity and lack of exercise

Vermont Health Care Spending

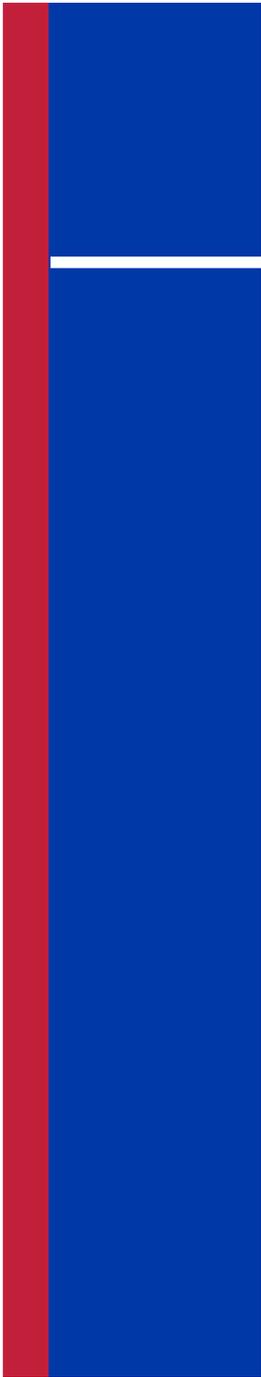
- Currently, Vermont spends approximately \$5 billion on health care annually.
- If we want to bend this cost arc, Vermont must invest more in evidence-based chronic disease prevention.
- According to the Joint Fiscal Office healthcare consultant, Kenneth Thorpe:
 1. 80% of total health care spending is linked to chronically ill patients
 2. Rise in “treated disease prevalence” accounts for nearly two-thirds of the growth in health care spending



2015 Budget Priorities

Tobacco Prevention and Control –

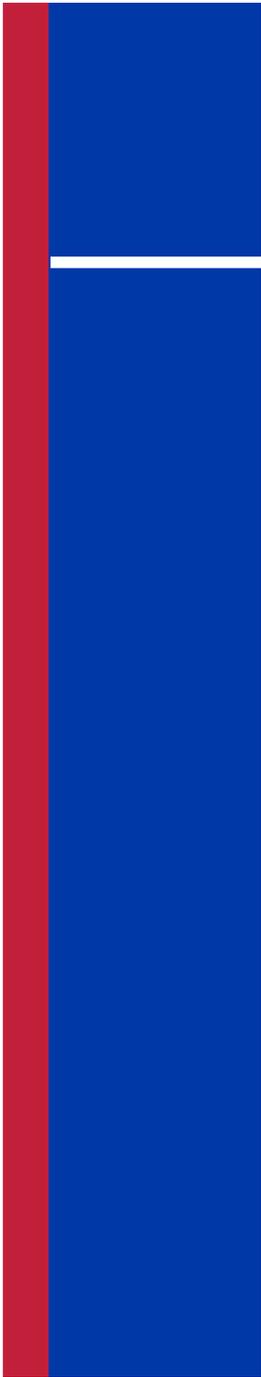
- 492 Vermonters are diagnosed annually with lung cancer
- Every dollar spent on tobacco control nets at least \$5.00 in health care savings
- Through Vermont's tobacco control program youth smoking rates went from 33% in 1999 to 13% in 2012
- Support tobacco control funding and don't deplete the Tobacco Trust Fund



2015 Budget Priorities

Obesity Prevention –

- 60% of Vermont's population is considered obese and one-third of cancer deaths are a result of physical inactivity, poor diet and obesity.
- The rise in obesity in US accounted for 27% of the growth in health spending over the past 20 years. (*Kenneth Thorpe*)
- Make obesity prevention a legislative priority by investing in school nutrition and physical activity programs



2015 Budget Priorities

Ladies First Program –

- This VDH program is funded by the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program
- The Ladies First program pays entire cost of screening for annual mammograms, clinical breast exams, pelvic exams, cervical Pap tests and cardiovascular disease risk factor screening.
- Currently, the program reaches fewer than one in five eligible women aged 50-64
- Vermont spends approximately \$100,000 on Ladies First, which is less than the 33% of the federal funding the CDC recommends
- Invest more state funds in the Ladies First program to improve access for low-income Vermonters to these critical prevention and screening services

How do we contain costs?

- “So at the end of the day, no matter where you want to go in terms of cost containment, if we don’t have a statewide capacity to really prevent the growth in chronic disease and more effectively engage and manage chronically ill patients, the only other option you have for controlling costs is just by slashing payment rates,” (*Kenneth Thorpe*)

Thank You!!!!

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