International Cancer Screening Network (ICSN)

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National Cancer Institute
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http://appliedresearch.cancer.gov
Established (1988) as the International Breast Cancer Screening Database Project

- Conceptualized by Professor Sam Shapiro
- Purpose: generate a common database for the evaluation of screening mammography programs
- ‘Provide a mechanism to compare data from population-based screening programs, to facilitate the most effective and efficient contribution of screening to breast cancer control worldwide’
- Representatives from 11 countries began participating in a series of meetings
Background & History (2)

- Purpose revised (1997): foster collaborative efforts aimed at -
  - Using and comparing data from screening mammography programs internationally
  - Developing methods for evaluating the impact of population-based screening mammography programs
- Name changed (1997) to the International Breast Cancer Screening Network (IBSN)
- Network expanded to include 27 countries
- Each country has 1 representative
2004 Biennial Meeting, Oslo, Norway:
- Meeting agenda included sessions on colorectal and cervical cancer surveillance

2006 Biennial Meeting, Ottawa, Canada:
- Country representatives voted to expand the network to include 3 evidence-based types of cancer screening: Breast, Colorectal, Cervical
- 2nd name change: International Cancer Screening Network (ICSN)
- Purpose unchanged
ICSN Sponsorship and Structure

- Sponsored by U.S. National Cancer Institute
  - Chair: Rachel Ballard-Barbash, M.D., MPH (1995-present)
  - Scientific coordination:
    - Carrie Klabunde, Ph.D. (1997-present)
    - Stephen Taplin, M.D., MPH (2005-present)
  - Logistics/communications coordination:
    - Kathleen Barry (1997-2005)
    - Sarah Dash, MPH (2005)
    - Emily Dowling, MPH (2006-present)

- Hold biennial meetings with working group meetings interspersed
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Europe</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
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<td>Brazil*</td>
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<td>Canada</td>
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<td>Middle East</td>
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<td>Saudi Arabia*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
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<td>New Zealand</td>
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* New Member
1995 Programme Assessment Working Group

- Document and better understand the nature of the screening programs in IBSN countries
Working Groups (2)

- 1998 Quality Assurance Working Group
  - Assess and compare quality assurance activities for screening mammography across IBSN countries
    - Klabunde C et al. Quality assurance for screening mammography: an international comparison. *J Epidemiol Community Health* (2001); 55: 204-212
Quality assurance in follow-up and initial treatment for screening mammography programs in 22 countries, 1998

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Program is responsible for follow up of abnormal MMs</th>
<th>Has policy or guideline for follow up of abnormalities</th>
<th>Sets standards for % abnormal screening MMs</th>
<th>Specifies time limit for follow up of abnormal MMs</th>
<th>Has case conferences to review abnormalities that are breast ca</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yes</strong></td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>73%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>No</strong></td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>27%</td>
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Note: Table shows the proportion of countries, for each item. Data were collected in 1998.
1999 Mortality Evaluation Group (MEG)

Discuss and compare different methodologies for evaluating the impact of population-based screening mammography on breast cancer mortality.

Evaluate case-control design as methodology for evaluating impact of mammography programs (lead: Eugenio Paci)
Working Groups (4)

- 1999 Performance Parameters Evaluation Group (PEG)
  - Enhance understanding of intermediate measures of screening mammography performance and variations in these measures across countries
  - Project: examine recall rates and PPV; compare with cancer incidence to facilitate understanding of screening program variation in these measures
Recall, IBSN screening mammography

%
Working Groups (5) –
2002 Communications Group (Chair: Berta Geller)

- Health Departments - (local, state, national levels)
- Screening Programs
- Academic Institutions – (text in health promotion classes)
- Government Agencies
- Clinics/Hospitals
- Non-profits/Advocacy Groups

Working Groups (6)

- 2002 Performance Parameters Evaluation Group (PEG) II (Chair: Jacques Fracheboud)
  - Continue the work of PEG I
  - Examining sensitivity and the interval cancer rate as screening mammography performance measures
    - Bulliard JL et al. Methodological issues in international comparison of interval breast cancers. *Int J Cancer* (2006); 119: 1158-1163
    - Pilot data collection: comparison of interval cancer rate and sensitivity in North Carolina and Norway (leads: Bonnie Yankaskas; Solveig Hofvind)
Other Collaborative Projects

- **Web Update of Program Practices and Policies**
  - Initiated in 2002
  - Contact ICSN countries every 2-3 years for information about screening program status
  - Post selected data on ICSN Web site
  - Coordinators: Carrie Klabunde, Emily Dowling, Kathy Sedgwick (NOVA Research)

- **Improving standardized measures for breast density and hormone therapy** (lead: Brian Cox)

- **Quality indicators of screen-detected breast cancer care** (leads: Antonio Ponti; Stephen Taplin)
## Status of Organized Cervical Cancer Screening in ICSN Countries: 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>None</th>
<th>Planning/ RCT</th>
<th>Pilot</th>
<th>Regional</th>
<th>National</th>
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HPV vaccine status in ICSN Countries
ICSN Biennial Meetings
More on the ICSN

2008 Biennial Meeting (June 4-6, Denmark)

- Sessions & scientific presentations:
  - Breast cancer screening—
    - Reasons for observed declines in breast cancer incidence
    - Improving interpretive performance
    - Treatment issues in DCIS
    - Quality indicators for screen-detected breast cancer care
  - Colorectal cancer screening—
    - New technologies update (stool testing; virtual colonoscopy)
    - Panel on the future of endoscopy
    - Program implementation/evaluation: guidelines and quality standards
  - Cervical cancer screening—
    - Update on HPV DNA testing and HPV vaccine
    - 2nd Edition of European Guidelines for Cervical Cancer Screening
    - Status of program implementation and evaluation
Working Together to Evaluate Cancer Screening and Improve Outcomes Internationally

About the ICSN
- Overview
- Participating Countries
- Contact the ICSN

Collaborative Projects
- Communications Working Group
- Performance Parameters Evaluation Group
- Mortality Evaluation Working Group
- Quality Assurance Working Group
- Programme Assessment Working Group

Meetings
- 2008 Copenhagen
- 2006 Ottawa
- 2004 Norway
- 2002 Montpellier

Cancer Sites
Breast Cancer
- Mortality Rates
- Organization of Screening Programs
- Policies on Age Groups, Screening Intervals, & Detection Methods
- Policies on Number of Views & Double Reading

Colorectal Cancer
- Mortality Rates
- Screening Activities

Cervical Cancer
- Mortality Rates
- Screening Activities

Items of Interest
- New Publication: Designing Print Materials: A Communications Guide for Breast Cancer Screening
- Save the Date: ICSN Biennial Meeting -- June 4 - 6, 2008, Copenhagen, Denmark

Publications
- ICSN Collaborative Publications
- Other Collaborative Publications
- Publications from Member Countries
- Designing Print Materials: A Communications Guide for Breast Cancer Screening