

Cancer Disparities and Risk Factors in Louisiana

Our goal is to save more lives with improved access to cancer screenings.

Breast Cancer

- Louisiana has the 4th highest breast cancer death rate in the country.
- Black women are diagnosed more frequently and are more likely to die from breast cancer compared to the national average for women in the US. Those who are overweight or have strong family history of breast cancer are affected most.
- If breast cancer is caught early, the survival rate is close to 100%. Rate of survival is even 72% at stage 3 with regular screenings.

Colorectal Cancer

- Louisiana has the 5th highest colorectal cancer death rate in the country.
- Risk factors for colorectal cancer include tobacco use, eating processed foods and red meat, obesity, and lack of screening. African Americans and Cajuns have high rates of the disease.
- When caught early, colorectal cancer has a 90% survival rate.

Lung Cancer

- 1 out of 3 people who die in Louisiana from cancer, die from lung cancer.
- More than 90% of lung cancers are caused by smoking and secondhand smoke. Tobacco companies target populations more at risk for smoking such as young people and minorities.
- Early screening and quitting tobacco can save lives.

Prostate Cancer

- Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death among men in Louisiana. Each year in the United States, about 1 in 9 men will find out they have prostate cancer.
- Significant disparities are noted in prostate cancer in Louisiana. African American men are more likely to be diagnosed with prostate cancer at an earlier age and these cancers tend to be more aggressive.
- The survival rate for early detection of prostate cancer is greater than 99%.



Reducing Disparities in Cancer Health Outcomes

We believe in a healthy Louisiana. Moving forward, together.

To explore how OXIHHER is working to improve the health of Louisiana's Communities through the lens of equity, scan the code.



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Tips to staying healthy for you and your family

1 Primary care is the easiest entry point for healthcare.

- Establish care with healthcare providers that you trust.
- Choose providers who speak to you in a way that make you feel comfortable and whom you can easily understand. Do not shy away from expressing your concerns.
- Get regular checkups and ask for all appropriate health screenings.

2 Know and listen to your body.

- Your ability to observe changes in your body allows you to get diagnosed and into treatment quicker. When something changes, do not hesitate to get it evaluated. Do not self-evaluate.



3 Sometimes family history is the “best kept secret.”

- Know your family’s medical history to understand your personal health risks.
- Share your medical history with your family members so that they can learn about their potential health risks and encourage them to get health checkups.
- Provide an outlet for open conversation around male cancer health disparities and annual screenings.
- Educate the younger generation about the importance of taking care of their health so that they learn early.

4 What if you are diagnosed with cancer?

- Work closely with your doctors to determine the best course of treatment while aiming to keep a positive perspective.
- Include people whom you consider your best source of social support in your cancer journey.
- Talk with your care team about additional ways you can be supported.
- Advocate for yourself.

Resources

For more information about cancer research and innovative therapies, scan below to visit the Ochsner MD Anderson Cancer Center website.



To hear stories from local cancer survivors and trusted physicians as they joined forces in Reducing Disparities in Cancer Health Outcomes, scan below.



To schedule a primary care appointment, scan below.

