

VIRGINIA CANCER PATIENT NAVIGATOR NETWORK

Working Together for a Virginia Without Cancer

Virginia Cancer Plan & Improved Patient Experience

The **Virginia Cancer Patient Navigator Network (VACPNN)** represents navigators across the state who strive to eradicate barriers and enhance outcomes for patients, families, and the healthcare team through education, networking, and mutual support.

Our group consists of members from around the Commonwealth of Virginia that includes nurse and patient navigators, social workers, pharmaceutical partners, administration, and cancer survivors. VACPNN is a local navigator network of the Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators (AONN+), the professional organization that supports patient navigation practice nationally and internationally.

The objectives of VACPNN are to:

1. Provide a statewide supportive network of navigation whose goal is to provide the framework for all chronic disease management as related to the Virginia Cancer Plan.
2. Advocate for the patient navigator's role with the interdisciplinary treatment team.
3. Educate the community, clinical, and non-clinical based navigator.
4. Provide opportunities for networking and sharing of best practices.

Navigators make a difference!



Among studies focused on cancer treatment initiation, 70% found a significant improvement in treatment initiation amongst patients who were enrolled in patient navigation programs. 81% of studies reported a positive impact of patient navigators on quality care indicators (1).

Mission

To lead a course of excellence in cancer navigation for the community in order to remove barriers and enhance outcomes for the patient, their families, and the healthcare team through training, education, networking, and mutual support.

Vision

To encourage navigators to be leaders in their community by defining and developing the role of navigators as an integral member of the interdisciplinary team.

Goal

Provide a statewide supportive network of navigation whose goal is to provide a framework for all chronic disease management.

Interested in learning more or joining VACPNN?

Any CACV member interested in oncology patient navigation in Virginia can be a member of VACPNN. To learn more about CACV membership, visit our website cancercoalitionofvirginia.org.

To learn more about VACPNN and our navigation efforts, [visit our website or email us at \[vacpnn@cancercoalitionofvirginia.org\]\(mailto:vacpnn@cancercoalitionofvirginia.org\)](https://cancercoalitionofvirginia.org).

About CACV

The **Cancer Action Coalition of Virginia (CACV)** is an alliance of organizations and individuals working together to develop the Virginia Cancer Plan and provide statewide guidance, support, leadership, and coordination of cancer prevention and control activities throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. Our mission is to reduce the burden of cancer for all persons living in Virginia utilizing the Virginia Cancer Plan to provide a forum for collaboration, education, and advocacy.

The **Virginia Cancer Plan** provides a roadmap to help Virginia residents address the burden of cancer by providing data, guidance, information, and links to resources for all Virginians. The plan is a framework that presents priority objectives, goals, and strategies to reduce cancer risk, eliminate preventable cancers, and minimize cancer deaths and disabilities.

(1) Chen, M., Wu, V. S., Falk, D., Cheatham, C., Cullen, J., & Hoehn, R. (2024). Patient Navigation in Cancer Treatment: A Systematic Review. *Current oncology reports*, 26(5), 504–537. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11912-024-01514-9>

