CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENTS CANCER IN VOLUSIA COUNTY

Cancer is the leading disease-related cause of death among U.S. children. The National Cancer Institute estimates that 10,270 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed among children from birth to 14 years, and 1,190 children are expected to die from the disease in 2017. Approximately 5,000 teens aged 15 to 19 are diagnosed with cancer and about 600 adolescents die from cancer each year in the United States according to the American Cancer Society.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that in 2014 in the U.S., the most common form of cancer diagnosed in children ages 0-19 were leukemia, brain and central nervous system cancers. Central nervous system (CNS) cancer and leukemia were the top two diagnoses for children in Florida, ages 0-19 causing 66 deaths during 2016.

Florida’s cancer death rates were steady during 2012-2016 and decreased 12.5% from 2012 to 2016. Unlike the Florida rates, Volusia County rates fluctuated widely over the 5 year period. This was in part due to the small number of deaths annually. There were 1 death in 2012, 2014 and 2016, but 3 in 2013 and 4 in 2015.

Volusia County had a total of 10 cancer deaths, from birth through 19 during 2012-2016. This total represents the 15th highest number of deaths among Florida counties. White females (4) and males (3) accounted for seventy percent of the deaths.

ED visits and hospitalizations due to cancer for children and adolescents from birth through age 19 in Volusia County during 2016 were the highest among white residents, followed by Hispanic residents, then black residents.
Five year trend data show that Volusia County cancer hospitalization rates for ages 0-19 decreased by 35% from 2012-2016. However, cancer emergency department (ED) visit rates increased by 23.5% during the same period.

As seen in the graphs below, cancer hospitalization rates varied by quadrant from 2012 to 2016. The range of rates for the Northwest quadrant were the tightest but the Northeast quadrant had the highest cancer hospitalization rates during the period of study. Although leukemia and CNS were the most common cancers for children ages 0-19, the Other Cancers category had higher hospitalization rates in each quadrant. Generally, CNS cancer had the lowest rates in each quadrant every year especially in the Southwest quadrant and only showed a decrease in hospitalization rates in the Northeast quadrant.

**Emergency Department Visits & Hospitalizations due to Cancer, Ages 0-19, Volusia County, 2012-2016**

![Graph showing hospitalization rates by quadrant and type]

**Hospitalization Crude Rates by Cancer Type and Quadrant, Ages 0-19, Volusia County, 2012-2016**

![Graphs showing hospitalization rates for each quadrant]

**Sources:** American Cancer Society; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics; Florida Health CHARTS (Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set); National Cancer Institute

For more information, contact the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County Office of Planning & Performance Management at 386 274-0500, ext. 0582 or visit our website, www.volusiahealth.com/stats