



Department of Otolaryngology -
Head & Neck Surgery
200 First Street SW
Rochester, Minnesota 55905

American Head & Neck Society,

Mayo Clinic Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery has made it a mission to improve the quality of care provided to the most vulnerable in our local community through education and access to specialty otolaryngology (ENT) care. To achieve this, we have created a partnership with Community Health Service Inc. (CHSI) in Rochester, Minnesota to serve our local rural, uninsured community members. We have created a monthly ENT clinic at CHSI with head and neck cancer (HNC) screening both in the clinic and at community events. We propose using funding from the 2022 Cancer Prevention Community Service Award to support two head and neck screening events in the community including necessary educational material, advertisement, interpretive services, and rental equipment.

CHSI is a federally qualified, non-profit healthcare center initially founded to serve the migrant farmer population in Minnesota and has subsequently expanded to serve the community as an integrated primary care resource. CHSI continues to provide comprehensive care year-round to migrant workers with 35% of patients identifying as seasonal farmworkers. The current patient population is overwhelmingly uninsured and underserved; in 2019, CHSI evaluated nearly 1,300 patients at their Rochester, MN site with 82.8% being uninsured and 98.6% of those served having a household income below the Federal Poverty Level. CHSI identified approximately 300 patients per year who present to their clinic with an ENT related concern. Our department has filled this need by expanding CHSI resources with a monthly ENT specialty clinic, our inaugural clinic will be March 2022. Mayo Clinic Otolaryngology Department has partnered with our internal Center for Health Equity and Community Engagement Research (CHECER), receiving funds that have been allocated toward clinic equipment necessary for head and neck examinations, minor procedures, and resources to connect patients for further follow-up as needed. This equipment has been purchased, received, and is in the process of being organized within CHSI.

The relationship our team has created with CHSI providers and the local community through the monthly ENT specialty clinic at CHSI has created the perfect platform for sustained HNC education in a population that is at risk for low healthcare literacy. Specifically, through this partnership we have an opportunity to educate patients and providers at CHSI regarding the role of human papillomavirus (HPV) in oropharyngeal cancer, the benefit of HPV vaccination, tobacco cessation, oral health, skin cancer prevention, and screening for early detection of all HNC.

The 2022 Cancer Prevention Community Service Award funding would be utilized to promote awareness and prevention of HNC in the CHSI community through HNC education and screening events. Specifically, we have planned two HNC screening events in 2022, both as part of larger community events. In conjunction with CHSI, we are targeting two community events that are organized by Hispanic and other minority leaders and known to be well attended by minority populations in the community. First, the local Butterfly Festival, an event that celebrates the migration of monarch butterflies and connection of Mexico with Minnesota, attracts many who have immigrated to Minnesota. Second, local Juneteenth celebrations are well attended, and a HNC screening booth would promote access to care in the African American community.

Advertisement leading up to the events will include posters and handouts at CHSI Rochester, CHSI mobile clinics in Southern Minnesota, monthly CHSI ENT clinics, and the Salvation Army clinic. HNC screening of patients would be performed by otolaryngology trained staff physicians and residents. However, we will invite CHSI primary care providers to join us for the event as an opportunity to learn signs, symptoms, and physical examination findings concerning for HNC. At the event booth, we will provide educational information using multilingual posters and pamphlets regarding risk factors and

early signs and symptoms for HNC, the importance of HPV vaccination, and preventive care, including tobacco cessation and sun protection. CHSI and Mayo Clinic staff would be available to arrange follow-up and connect patients with further care if positive examination findings are noted, concerning symptoms are identified, or the patient is eligible for an HPV vaccination.

In 2019, 79% of patients at CHSI were best served using a language other than English. Thus, all written advertisement for the event and educational material will need to be translated to the two most common languages spoken by patients at the clinic and in the targeted community, Spanish and Somali. Additionally, interpretive services will be available virtually via iPad or phone to communicate with patients during screening examinations and translate education material to their primary language. All educational material will be designed in conjunction with community members to be written in a culturally sensitive format. An outdoor summer event with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) would allow for maximal patient and provider safety in an unpredictable COVID era. Finally, success will be measured through pre- and post- educational discussion surveys administered in the patients' primary language asking them to identify specific HNC symptoms that would prompt further medical evaluation and identify a risk factor that they, or someone in their family, could optimize to prevent HNC.

Specific aims:

- **Short-term goals (Two events)**
 1. Early Detection: Perform thorough head and neck examinations on 30 adult patients screening for HNC.
 2. Early Detection: Educational pamphlets for discussion of signs, symptoms, and risk factors for HNC provided to 50 adult patients.
 3. Prevention: Educational pamphlets for discussion of HPV and the need for HPV vaccination including indications and resources provided to 50 patients and their families.
 4. Prevention: Educational pamphlets regarding tobacco cessation and skin protection for all skin types provided to 50 patients and their families.
- **Long-term goals following events**
 1. Improve community awareness of HNC as measured by pre- and post- education surveys.
 2. Primary care provider education regarding thorough head and neck examination and signs/symptoms concerning for HNC will create sustained and appropriate referral to the monthly ENT specialty clinic at CHSI.

Equipment and estimated cost

- (\$100) Advertisement (printed flyer) and cost of translation: 100 (Spanish), 50 (Somali), 50 (English)
- (\$250) Rental: tent/table/curtain structure for private examination
- (\$400) Virtual Interpretive Services: 4 hours access to Language Line (multiple languages)
- (\$100) Posters: 1) Role of HPV vaccination 2) risk factors, signs, symptoms of HNC
- (\$150) Educational pamphlets and cost of translation: 300 (Spanish), 50 (Somali), 100 (English)
- Note: Cost of equipment for examination including headlights, PPE, otoscopes, and tongue depressors are covered by prior grant from CHECER and benefactor donations.

Sincerely,



Emily Karp, M.D.
Otolaryngology Resident