Cancer Control, Prevention and Care in Tarrant County

By: Keith E. Argenbright, MD, MMM
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Abstract:
Next year, we will see cancer win its relentless march to overtake heart disease as the world's number one killer. Are we really making progress in this war that was launched by our federal government almost 30 years ago?

This presentation will highlight our nation’s strategy to open a second front in its quest to rid us of this disease that has touched almost every family in the US. Information and information technology will be critical to the successful execution of our battle strategy. Dr. Argenbright will bring a mixture of backgrounds in science, business and technology as he takes the audience through the basics of cancer research, starting at the bench, moving to the bedside, and finally linking cancer and technology though the new fields of cancer control and translational research. As the current director of the National Cancer Institute (the largest division of the National Institute of Health – the NCI FY 2010 budget = $7.2 BB) said a few years ago, “we must work to find the best ways to bring the latest science to patients in the communities where they live … patient access to our accomplishments – our science – will become a greater determinant of cancer mortality than any current recognized cause.”

Learning objectives:
• To understand cancer control, and how it interfaces with basic cancer research and cancer treatments.
• To understand the critical role that information technology plays in cancer control and population research.
• To understand the US commitment to information technology research, and the funding priorities of the NCI, NIH and The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology.

About the Speaker:
Keith Argenbright, M.D., is an Associate Professor in the Simmons Cancer Center at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas and the Medical Director of the Moncrief Cancer Institute in Fort Worth, Texas.

At Moncrief, Dr. Argenbright has directed the non-profit, community based cancer support center to integrate research and science from UT Southwestern with the ultimate goal of reducing cancer deaths in North Texas. Under Dr. Argenbright’s leadership,
Moncrief Cancer Institute is participating in new cancer research studies, focusing on basic and population science. He has increased efforts to educate the public through early cancer detection and prevention programs, including genetic testing and counseling, as well as providing educational resources and seminars for the area’s physicians.

He also holds and academic appointment in the UT Southwestern Department of Clinical Sciences, where he teaches and mentors physicians and scientists who are early in their research careers.

Before taking his positions with Moncrief and UT Southwestern, Dr. Argenbright was a Senior Partner with a health services consulting firm based in Nashville, Tennessee. He was also a senior advisor to Health Tech, a technology think tank based in San Francisco, where he led and disseminated cutting edge research. Prior to that, he served as Medical Director for the All Saints Health System hospital-owned physician practice. There, he was honored with the Top Practice Management System award from the VHA in 1999.

Dr. Argenbright graduated from Tulane University Medical School in 1984 and was granted a degree of Masters of Medical Management from Carnegie Mellon University in May, 2009.