

Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program

Fiscal Year 2025 Report

Health General Article §13-4007

Maryland Department of Health

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Introduction

Pursuant to Health-General Article § 13-4007, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) is required to submit an annual legislative report on the Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program (the Program). This report provides information on:

1. The number of individuals screened through the Program;
2. The types of tests used;
3. The costs associated with each test; and
4. The types of cancers detected or identified as elevated risk.

The FY 2025 annual budget included a \$400,000 appropriation to support Program activities.

Program Participation

During FY 2025, a total of 586 individuals were screened through the Program. Four hundred twenty-five (425) individuals were screened using OneTest™ Premium by 20/20 GeneSystems, Inc., which is a multi-cancer early detection blood test that predicts an individual's risk of being identified as having cancer in the coming 12-month period. On average, the cost of each of these tests was \$245 per individual. The OneTest™ Premium is designed to detect 12 biomarkers that can aid in the detection of cancers. As the OneTest™ Premium only detects cancer risk and does not diagnose cancer, no cancers were detected by the test. However, among the individuals tested, the risk predictor for the following cancers was elevated in some of the individuals: colorectal, liver, lung, ovarian, pancreas, prostate, and stomach. These were found among 73 individuals.

One hundred sixty-one (161) individuals were screened via ultrasound by United Diagnostic Services. This diagnostic ultrasound screening methodology involves detailed imaging of nine body parts for each individual, which includes all solid organs. Each individual's images were reviewed and interpreted by a state-licensed radiologist. The cost was \$325 per full body ultrasound. Ultrasound screening detected 16 high-risk findings that needed further investigation for malignancy. Organs for which actionable high-risk findings were noted were the prostate, testicles, and thyroid.

Conclusion

The FY 2025 data demonstrate that the Program continues to provide valuable early cancer detection services for Maryland's professional and volunteer firefighters. MDH appreciates the continued support of the General Assembly in maintaining and advancing the health and safety of Maryland's firefighters.