Implementation of Integrated Mammography and Genetic Evaluation Services (IMAGES) in Underserved Communities

Jacynda Casey, MS, CGC[1], Darya Kizub, MD[2], Erika Patino, BS[1], Lucy Balderas, BS[3], Melissa Valerio, PhD[4], Ana Ruiz, BS[1], Gary Whitman, MD[5], Banu Arun, MD[1,2]

1. The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Department of Clinical Cancer Genetics, Houston, TX, 2. The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Department of Breast Medical Oncology, Houston, TX, 3. The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Office of Health Policy, Houston, TX, 4. The University of Texas Health Science Center, School of Public Health, Houston, TX, 5. The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Department of Breast Imaging, Houston, TX

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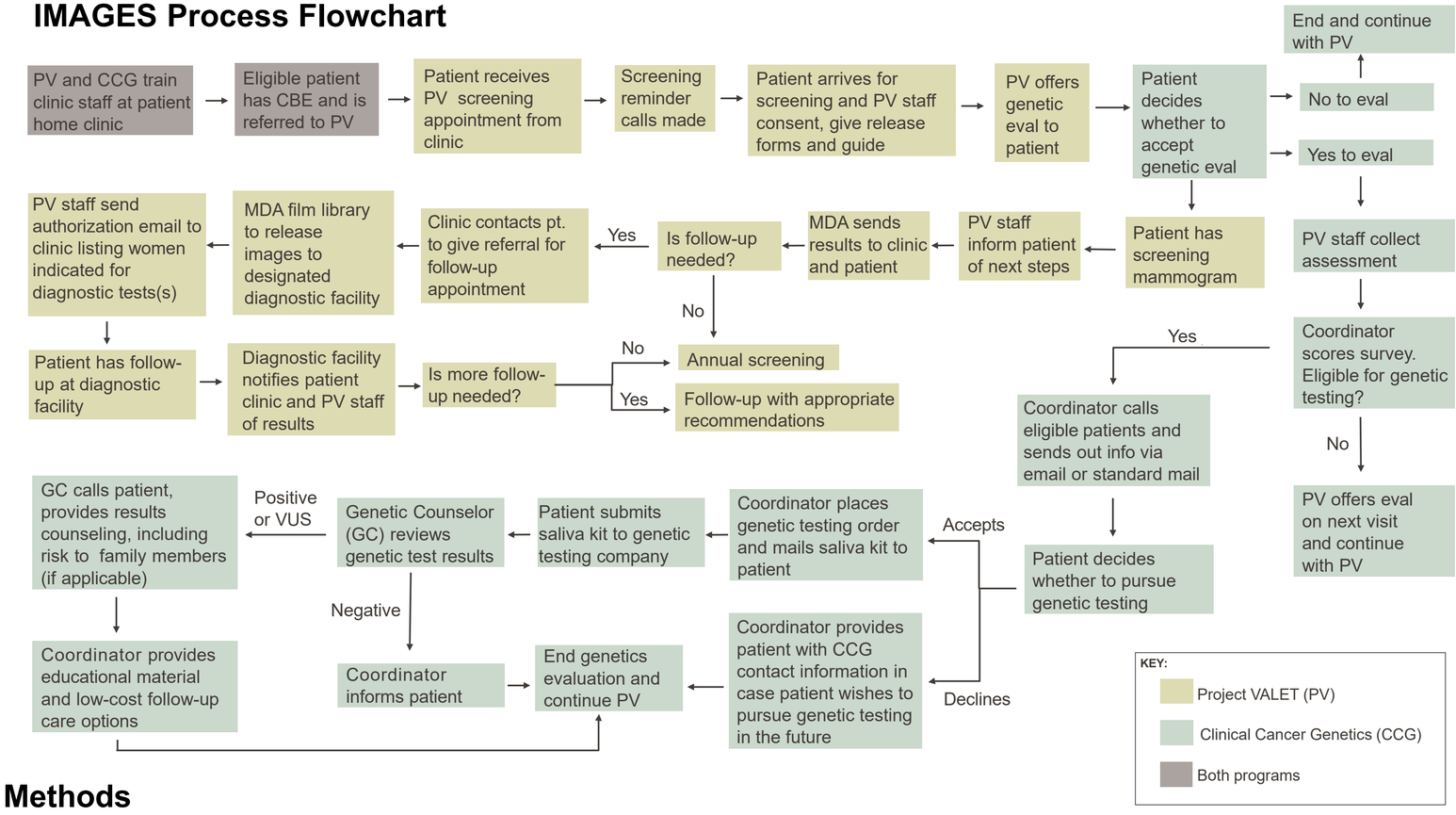
Background

- Annual screening mammography is important for breast cancer detection, lowering mortality and morbidity
- Uninsured women are 40% less likely to receive screening mammograms[1]
- 10-15% of all breast cancers are due to an underlying hereditary cancer syndrome. Individuals with a hereditary cancer syndrome may qualify for increased surveillance and/or risk-reducing surgeries
- Fewer than 15% of women from underserved areas eligible for genetic testing are referred and tested[5,6]
- To address these gaps, Project Valet (PV), a MDACC mobile mammography service, and MDACC's Clinical Cancer Genetics (CCG) program have created the Integrated Mammography and Genetic Evaluation Services (IMAGES) program

Project Aims

1. Increase access to screening mammography
2. Identify women at risk for a hereditary breast cancer predisposition syndrome
3. Assist in the navigation and coordination of those referred for further diagnostic services and/or cancer treatment

IMAGES Process Flowchart



Methods

- Uninsured, asymptomatic women, age 40-74 years located in one of four counties southeast of Houston are eligible
- Eligible women are provided with no-cost mammograms, diagnostic follow-up, genetic risk screening, genetic testing, and follow-up genetic counseling, as needed
- One-page cancer genetic risk assessment (CGRA) includes personal and family history of cancer questions aligned with NCCN testing criteria[7]
- Women who screen eligible on the CGRA are offered testing for high-penetrance breast cancer genes (*ATM, BARD1, BRCA1, BRCA2, CDH1, CEHK2, NF1, PALB2, PTEN, RAD51C, RAD51D, STK11, AND TP53*
- The full IMAGES process is outlined in the figure above
- Descriptive statistics will be used to analyze data and summarize outcomes of the program upon program completion

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Results

- Project started in March 2024 and is currently ongoing. Current accrual is below
- Efforts are underway to streamline the genetic testing process
- Further evaluation of program outcomes will be completed after project ends

Summary of IMAGES accrual

Completed screening mammograms	2918
Completed diagnostic follow up	611
Completed CGRA	1461
Eligible for genetic testing	167
Completed genetic testing	4

Accrual numbers as of 11/18/2025

Conclusions

- IMAGES is an ongoing service project
- It is feasible to integrate the CGRA into mammography screening clinics
- Training community health workers to score the CGRA and consent for genetic testing is underway to streamline the genetic testing process and genetic testing completion rates
- Upon project completion, further analysis will be done to update program outcomes

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