

## Evidence-Based Cancer Control Programs (EBCCP) Updates

### August 2025 Updates

This month, the Evidence-Based Cancer Control Programs (EBCCP) team is spotlighting the work of Dr. Marilyn Schapira, MD, MPH, whose [Lung Cancer Screening Decision Tool](#) is advancing the way that patients and health care providers engage in meaningful conversations about lung cancer screening. The Lung Cancer Screening Decision Tool is a carefully designed resource to support shared decision-making. This program marks EBCCP's very first intervention on lung cancer screening.



### About the Program

The Lung Cancer Screening Decision Tool was developed for veterans at high risk for lung cancer. It begins by introducing the concept of lung cancer screening through a simulated dialogue between a patient and their health care provider. The tool then presents the potential risks and benefits of lung cancer screening. Patients are asked to evaluate how important different outcomes are to them and to indicate their general values around cancer screening. Pages containing key information for collaborative review with the health care provider are marked with a star. The tool can be printed and reviewed ahead of clinic visits, helping guide a focused and efficient conversation during appointments. This program also addresses issues especially relevant to veterans, including pathways to smoking cessation support through mental health services, while remaining applicable to the broader population eligible for screening.

When asked about sustainability, Dr. Schapira emphasized the importance of versatility in design. “A goal is to design a program that can be used across different modalities, including the printed page and web-based interactive programs,” she shared. The dual-pathway structure accommodates both patient-led use and integration into clinic visits, ensuring flexibility over time.

Community involvement was integral throughout the development process. Dr. Schapira explained, “We worked with a Veterans Hospital Community Advisory Board at several stages of development and conducted qualitative interviews of veterans and their primary care clinicians to seek input.” Their insights helped shape the content, format, and usability of the tool, grounding it in real-world relevance and improving its effectiveness.

Dr. Schapira’s work highlights the power of thoughtful design, partner engagement, and evidence-informed communication. As we continue to advance cancer prevention strategies, programs such as this one highlight the value of tools that deliver clear information in and beyond clinical settings.

### **Share Your Impact: Submit Your Program to EBCCP**

Do you have a program that is making a difference? We encourage you to [submit tested intervention programs](#) for consideration to be included on the EBCCP website.

[Evidence-Based Cancer Control Programs \(EBCCP\)](#)

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