



Dickinson-Iron District Health Department

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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September is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

Kingsford, Michigan, September 2, 2008 - September is Ovarian Cancer Awareness month. Ovarian cancer is the eighth most common cancer women are affected by. A woman's risk of getting invasive ovarian cancer during her lifetime is about 1 in 71. The American Cancer Society estimates that about 21,650 new cases of ovarian cancer will be diagnosed in the United States during 2008. Similar to other cancers, prevention is essential because when detected in its early stage the five year survival rate is more than 93%. However, many women don't seek help until the disease has begun to spread. The best way for early detection of ovarian cancer and other gynecologic conditions is through a pelvic exam. Symptoms that are often associated with ovarian cancer include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly and urinary urgency or frequency.

It is important for all women to take care of their bodies, especially when it comes to awareness and prevention of breast cancer and other diseases. For more information and to schedule your next exam contact the Dickinson-Iron District Health Department Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) for income eligible women between the ages of 40-64. For more information on this program contact your local Health Department at 906-779-7237 in Dickinson County and at 906-265-4166 in Iron County.

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