

## ARTICLE 5A. CANCER CONTROL

- § 1344(1). [ 1 ] Division of cancer control.
- 1344(2). [ 2 ] Educational program.
- 1344(3). [ 3 ] Establishment of clinics.
- 1344(4). [ 4 ] Tissue diagnostic service.
- 1344(5). [ 5 ] Care of needy patients.

§ 1344(1). [1] **Division of Cancer Control.**—There is hereby created a division of cancer control in the state department of health. The division, under the supervision of the state board of health, shall execute and administer the provisions of this article relating to the diagnosis, treatment and care of persons suffering from cancer. The division shall have authority to direct, control, govern and provide for the management of any state institution for the care and treatment of cancer patients which may hereafter be created by law.

The head of the division shall be appointed in the same manner as the heads of other divisions in the department. He must meet the requirements and possess the qualifications fixed by the merit system council in consultation with the state board of health. The said board may also appoint such assistants and employees in the division of cancer control as may be necessary for the proper administration of the provisions of this article, such appointments also to be made in accordance with the rules and regulations of the merit system council.

§ 1344(2). [2] **Educational Program.**—The division shall formulate and put into effect throughout the State an educational program for the purpose of preventing cancer and of aiding in its early diagnosis, and for the purpose of giving information to hospitals and cancer patients concerning the proper treatment. In furtherance of its own program, the division may assist and cooperate with any state or national organization conducting an educational program for the prevention of cancer.

§ 1344(3). [3] **Establishment of Clinics.**—The division shall have authority to prescribe standard minimum requirements for the organization, equipment and conduct of cancer units or clinics in general hospitals of the State. The division shall establish and maintain, or aid in the establishment and maintenance of, a sufficient number of cancer diagnostic and treatment clinics meeting such requirements, so located that they are within reasonable traveling distance of any citizen of the State in need of treatment. In the establishment and operation of such clinics and in the fixing of such minimum requirements, the division shall consult and cooperate with the West Virginia State Medical Association.

In order to determine the progress of the disease and the success of the treatment being used, the division shall in so far as practicable provide a

method for fo  
clinic at frequer

§ 1344(4)  
within the lin  
needy patients  
state owned  
laboratories ap

§ 1344(5).  
rules and re  
conditions ne  
and treatment  
is authorized  
patients and  
which in its  
throughout th

In determ  
the division  
such invest  
ever, the pa  
administere

method for following up each case and bringing the patient back to the clinic at frequent intervals.

§ 1344(4) [4] **Tissue Diagnostic Service.**—The division shall furnish, within the limits of available funds, free tissue diagnostic service to all needy patients. In providing this service the division may use either the state owned laboratory in the department of health, or privately owned laboratories approved by the department.

§ 1344(5). [5] **Care of Needy Patients.**—The division shall prescribe rules and regulations specifying to what extent and on what terms and conditions needy cancer patients may receive financial aid for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer in any approved hospital in this State. The division is authorized to furnish aid, within the limits of available funds, to such patients and shall have the power to administer such aid in any manner which in its judgment will afford the greatest benefit to cancer patients throughout the State.

In determining whether a particular patient is entitled to such assistance the division may call upon the county departments of public assistance for such investigation as may be required. In order to receive such aid, however, the patient need not qualify for public assistance or general relief as administered by the department of public assistance.