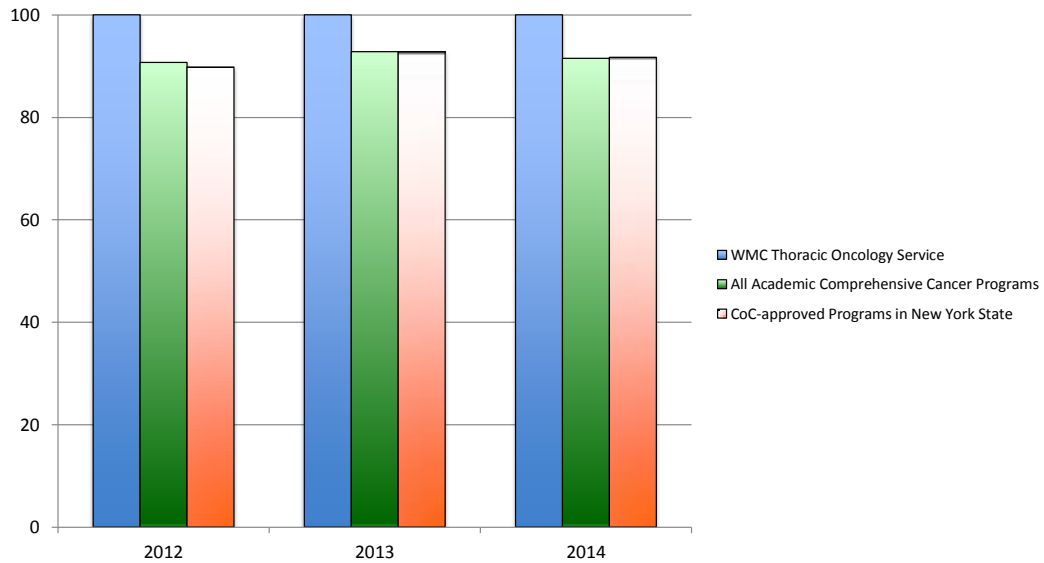


Figure 1. WMC Registry Data vs. National Cancer Database Hospital Benchmarks
Surgery is not the first course of treatment for patients with clinical regional spread of lung cancer to lymph nodes (cN2, M0)



The Westchester Medical Center’s (WMC) Academic Comprehensive Cancer Program is committed to high-quality patient care as evidenced by its maintenance of standards required for accreditation by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (ACoS CoC), receiving the “*Outstanding Achievement Award*” for exceeding standards in several competency areas related to quality patient care. Each year, our Cancer Registry submits information to the National Cancer Database, and other agencies, for every patient who is seen by our specialists for the treatment, and follow-up of a cancer diagnosis.

Figure 1 above demonstrates that in the years 2012, 2013 and 2014, patients with a diagnosis of lung cancer, who were evaluated and treated in the WMC’s Thoracic Oncology Program (blue bar), received the highest quality care when compared to similar Academic Programs across the country (green bar), as well as other CoC-approved facilities in New York State (orange bar), for measures related to appropriate initial treatment for lung cancer that has spread to nearby lymph nodes. In these instances, surgery is best avoided as the first step in treatment.

Patients treated at WMC experienced appropriate multispecialty review of their cancer treatment options, and did not undergo surgery as an initial treatment at rates equal to, or greater than (8% to 10%), those experienced by patients treated at other facilities mentioned during years 2012 to 2014.