

# MOQC 2026

## MEDICAL ONCOLOGY BIANNUAL MEETING



*Our Purpose: To further the success of  
interdisciplinary teams that improve the  
quality and value of cancer care.*

*While Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and MOQC work collaboratively, the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the presenters do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of BCBSM or any of its employees.*

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# Welcome

Keli DeVries, LMSW

# MOQC Core Values



**TRUST & INTEGRITY**



**COMPASSION**

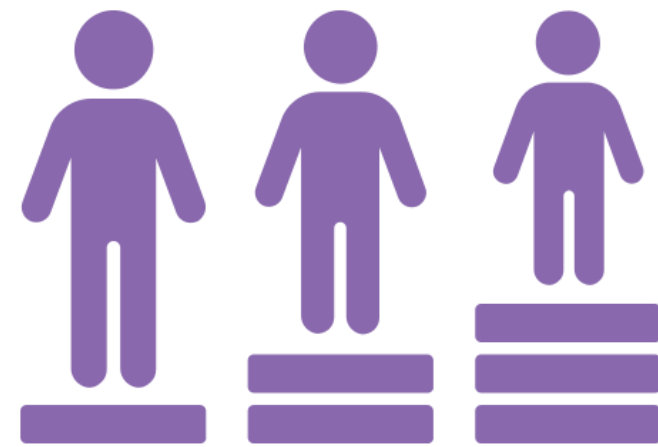


**GROWTH MINDSET**



**COLLABORATION**

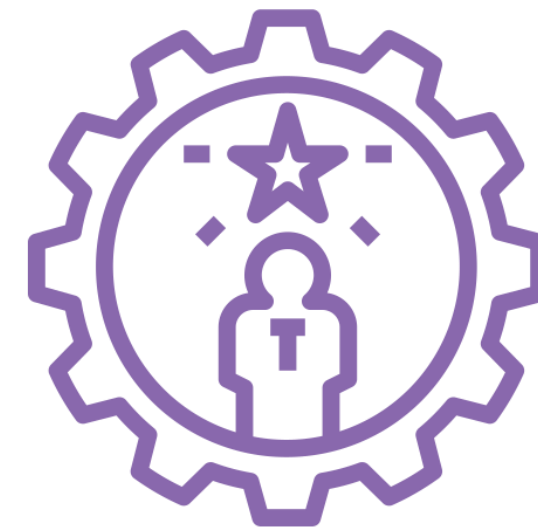
# MOQC Strategic Objectives



**Bridging Gaps**



**Maximizing Value**



**Fostering  
Interprofessional  
Development**

# AGENDA



Time	Topic	Facilitator
9:00am	<b>Welcome</b>	Keli DeVries, LMSW
9:10am	<b>MOQC News</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Patient and Caregiver Oncology Quality Council</li><li>• Steering Committee Update</li></ul>	Tracey Cargill-Smith, POQC Dawn Severson, MD
9:20am	<b>Performance on Measures</b>	Lydia Benitez, PharmD, BCOP Lynn Henry, MD, PhD
10:00am	<b>The Voice of the Patient/Caregiver</b>	Erika Lojko, POQC
10:10am	<b>Advance Care Planning and MI-POST</b>	Amy Bailey, LMSW Tracy Bargerion, MSN, RN Summer Bates, FNP-BC, ACHPN
12:50pm	<b>Closing</b>	Keli DeVries, LMSW

# Introductions

**Please rename yourself  
to include your...**

Full name  
Organization  
Pronouns

**Participants on the  
phone...**

Please rename  
yourself or put your  
name in the chat



# Reminder – How to Mute/Unmute



**To mute your microphone**

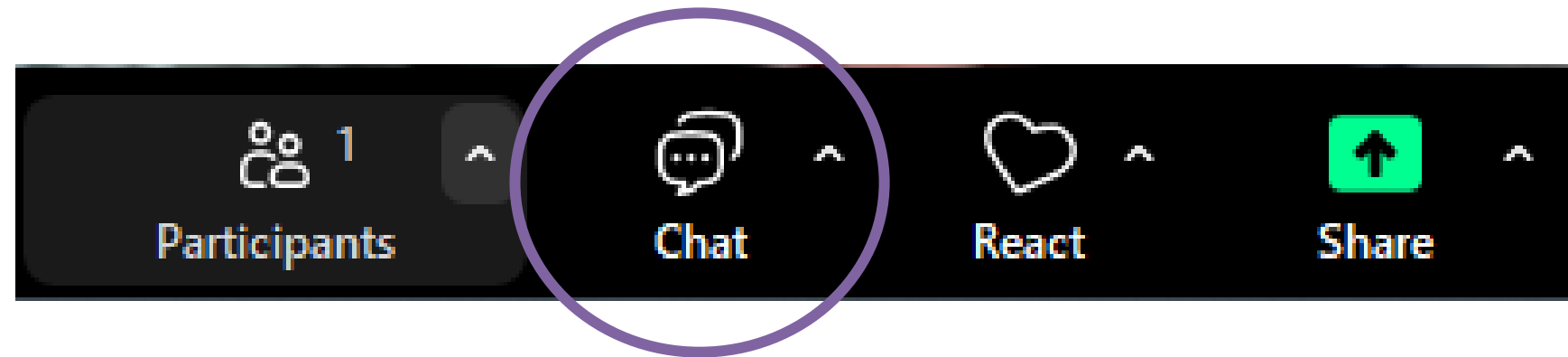


**To unmute your microphone**

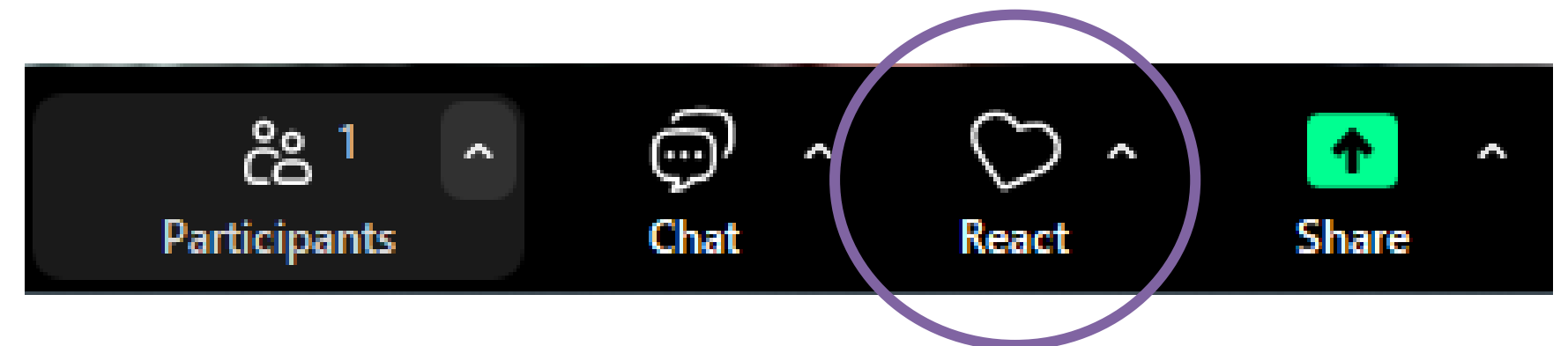
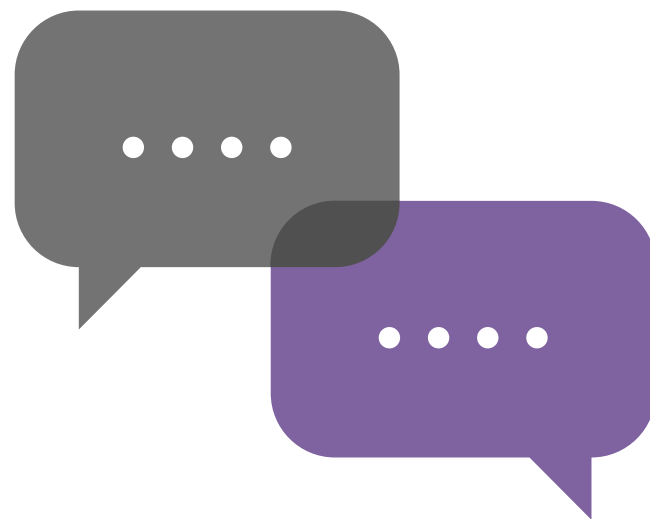


**\*6 to mute/unmute**

# Reminder – Chat

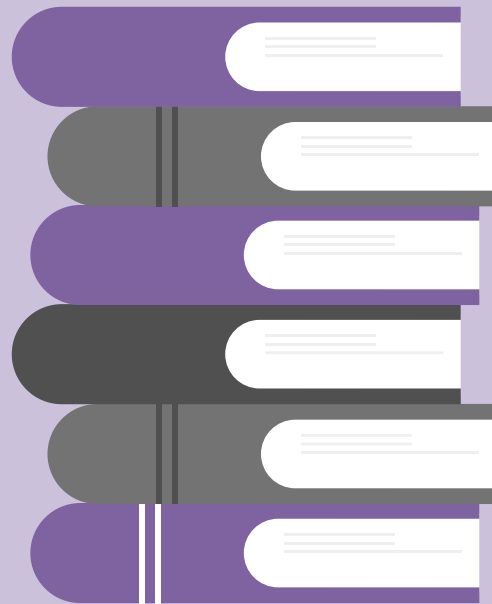


**Use Chat to ask/answer questions  
or ask for help**



**Add your reactions**

# Confidentiality



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Unauthorized disclosure or duplication is absolutely prohibited. It is protected from disclosure pursuant to the provisions of Michigan Statutes MCL 333.20175; MCL 333.21513; MCL 333.21515; MCL 331.531; MCL 331.532; MCL.331.533 or such other statutes as may be applicable.

# PHI



# Office of Interprofessional Continuing Professional Development



## Disclosure Statement

As a Jointly Accredited Provider of Interprofessional Continuing Education Credit, the National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education Office of Interprofessional Continuing Professional Development (OICPD) complies with the ACCME and Joint Accreditors' Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education. The National Center has a conflict of interest policy that requires all individuals involved in the development, planning, implementation, peer review and/or evaluation of an activity to disclose any financial relationships with ineligible companies. The National Center performs a thorough review of the content of the accredited activity to ensure that any financial relationships have no influence on the content of accredited activities. All potential conflicts of interest that arise based on these financial relationships are mitigated prior to the accredited activity.

# Office of Interprofessional Continuing Professional Development



## Disclosures

There are no conflicts of interest or financial relationships with an ineligible company that have been disclosed by the planners and presenters of this learning activity.

# Office of Interprofessional Continuing Professional Development



**In support of improving patient care, this activity is planned and implemented by The National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education Office of Interprofessional Continuing Professional Development (OICPD)** and the Michigan Oncology Quality Consortium. The National Center OICPD is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

**Physicians:** The National Center OICPD designates this activity for a maximum of **4 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)**™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with their participation.

**Nurses:** Participants will be awarded up to **4** contact hours of credit for attendance at this activity.

**Nurse Practitioners:** The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program (AANPCP) accepts credit from organizations accredited by the ACCME and ANCC.

**Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians:** This activity is approved for **4** contact hours (.4 CEU)

**Social Workers:** As a Jointly Accredited Organization, the National Center OICPD is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved under this program. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. The National Center OICPD maintains responsibility for this course. Social workers completing this course receive up to **4** continuing education credits.

**IPCE:** This activity was planned by and for the healthcare team, and learners will receive **4** Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) credits for learning and change



# MOQC Update: New Team Members

## MOQC Interns



**Jacob Keer**



**Joey McIntyre**

# MOQC

## 2025 Achievements & Highlights



A nonprofit corporation and independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

### Statewide Non-Medical Needs Expansion



**7** Domains Screened Annually  
**EHR → 2-1-1 Integration**

### Oncology Stewardship

Statewide Biomarker Benchmarking  
—— Collaborations with ——

**Economic Alliance for Michigan (EAM)**  
Testing Coverage by Payers

**Pharmacy Times Continuing Education**  
**3 CE** Modules (mNSCLC)

### Financial Navigation



**36** MOQC Navigators Trained  
MDHHS Partnership

**Partnership with Patient Advocate Foundation**

### Palliative Care

CAPC MOQC Certificate Program — Cohort 1

**14** Clinicians Trained  
**7** MOQC Regions Represented

### Patient-Reported Outcomes (PROs)

**536** Patients Surveyed  
**18** Practices

### Family History



**38% Documentation Rate**  
Sustained Improvement Since 2024

### Interprofessional Development

Advance Care Planning + Post-Op Healing

**119** Participants  
**18** Practices Represented

### Caregiver Navigation

- **Secured Grant** to Pilot Caregiver Navigation Training
- **Partnered with Rush to Develop Program, Launching in 2026**

### Dissemination

- 4 Posters at National Meetings
  - **ASCO Quality, CAPC, JADPRO**
- Presented at **MSHIELD and MVC** Collaborative-Wide Meetings
- Exhibited at Food as Medicine Summit
- **Published Olanzapine Manuscript** May 2025 in **JAMA Network Open**

### Comfort Cuisine

**4,312** Meals Provided  
**50** Patients Supported  
**27** Caregivers Supported





# Pharmacist Oncology Excellence Program in Michigan



**5**  
YEARS OF SUCCESS

## PROGRAM SCOPE

**12** Pharmacists supporting **10,323** patients in collaboration with **113** physicians across **28** practices.

## HIGH VOLUME PATIENT ENGAGEMENT

Pharmacists conducted over **33,000** encounters with **33,600** interventions were made to optimize care for over **10,000** patients.

## PATIENT SURVEY

**89 %** of patients strongly agreed they felt more knowledgeable/confident about their treatment & potential side effects after speaking with a pharmacist

## IMPROVED OUTCOMES

Reduction in emergency department visits, improvement in chemotherapy doses intensity, increased education & medication adherence assessment



**SAFETY**



**QUALITY CARE**



**OUTCOMES**



**SATISFACTION**

## CORE PHARMACIST ACTIVITIES

### PATIENT EDUCATION & SUPPORT

Delivered to **89%** of all enrolled patients

### TIME SAVINGS

Saved **8** hours per week per Physician and/or Advanced Practice Practitioner

### CARE COORDINATION

Intervened to coordinate or escalate care for **38%** of patients

### THERAPY OPTIMIZATION

Made at least **1** medication modification for **37%** of patients to improve outcomes



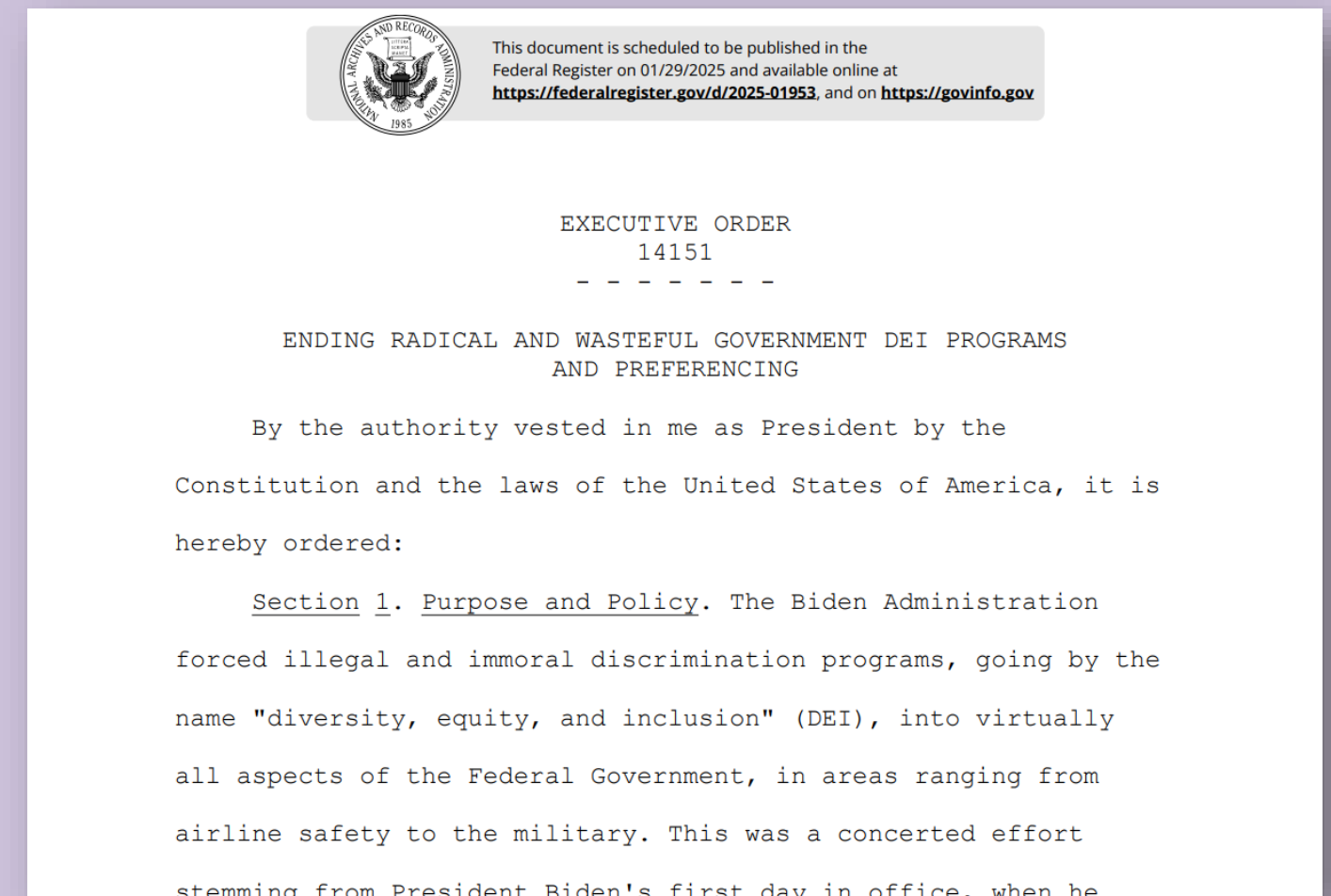
# Statewide Gynecologic Oncology Tumor Board

- Launching spring 2026
- Monthly, virtual meetings
- Multidisciplinary teams to review and advise on gynecologic oncology cases
- Practices can submit cases to MOQOC



# The Language Games: The Art of Renaming Everything

There have been several changes to committee and resource names, but their work and purposes have not changed.



# CAPC MOQC Palliative Care Certificate Program



# CAPC MOQC Palliative Care Certificate Program

- 6-month active training
- 14 graduates:
  - 7 Nurse Practitioners
  - 6 Physician Assistants
  - 1 MD
- All MOQC regions

### Ethics and Difficult Decisions

**INTRODUCTION**

Mr. Pete Lankton is a 70 year old male living with Multiple Myeloma for 10 years. He is a retired banker and enjoys hunting, walking, drinking coffee, working in the barn and caring for their horses.

**Medical History**

- Afib
- Aortic Stenosis s/p TAVR
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- Hard of Hearing


**Social/other History**

- Retired living with wife, no children, Some family in the area.
- Wife works out of town 1-2 weeks a month
- Occasional alcohol use

**Current Presentation – Multiple Myeloma**

- s/p stem cell transplant an on 4<sup>th</sup> line of treatment but unable to tolerate treatment due to cytopenias
- Progressive cognitive decline

**Be Curious!**



### PALLIATIVE CARE APPROACH TO TREATMENT

Pete has been independent with his ADL's, driving , and decisions making. He had a month long treatment break as he recovered from a mild COVID infection. When he returned to clinic there were signs of short term memory changes. He was no longer recalling previous care planning discussions. His spouse, Sally, was contacted with concerns and she began to attend oncology appointments, set up primary care appointments and assisted with neurology evaluation. He was diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

Pete continued to receive treatment for Multiple Myeloma, however cytopenias were causing frequent treatment delays. Evaluation of the cytopenias revealed a new diagnosis of Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML). We were able to discuss with Pete and Sally that cytopenias were secondary to a new diagnosis of AML. Further evaluation and treatment of AML would be aggressive, require transfer to tertiary center (at least 6 hour drive from home), and likely include hospitalization. It is unlikely that treatment would really provide him improved quality of life or extend life meaningfully.

He continued with red blood cell and platelet transfusions 1-2 times a week as needed. His physical and mental status were progressively declining. Sally had two work trips scheduled and did not want to enroll him in hospice prior to the trips. Pete did not want to enroll in hospice as he felt he was being sent home to die. He then developed a large hematoma on his tongue causing difficulty with eating, unable to enjoy coffee, unable to speak. Repeat goals of care discussion with Pete and Sally and they were not ready for hospice knowing the risks of internal bleeding, aspiration, and death as there was apparent signs of disease progression. Individualized plan to increase platelet transfusion threshold with goal to heal the hematoma, continue outpatient transfusions, family member to stay with Pete while wife on work trip, who is aware of Pete's status, life wishes, and included in DPOA. Hematoma did resolve with transfusions. The blood bank expressed concerns to clinic that they were low on platelets and would need to triage future orders of platelets. Sally returned from her work trip and was able to see decline in Pete.

**Patient Autonomy and Safety**


**Outcomes**

- Sally became more active in Pete's care.
- She was present for plan of care change appointments.
- She allowed him to continue to be his own voice, drive to appointments alone (and met him) at visits, until there was further cognitive decline which she then transported him to all appointments.

**Discussing Serious News and Care Planning**

**Outcomes**

- Multiple discussions about prognosis and treatment options.
- Pete and Sally were both comfortable continuing with supportive cares.
- They voiced they would like to continue transfusions as needed as long as he continues to have quality of life.



### Ethical Considerations

**Outcomes**

- Meeting with Pete, Sally, and Sally's brother who all agreed that Pete has continued to decline. Pete's family requested to transition to hospice to focus on comfort at home.
- Pete was enrolled in hospice and passed away at home with his family.
- We did not have to justify need for platelets or delay or deny platelet transfusions due to limited resources.

**AMEN**

**SUMMARY AND TEACHING POINTS**

Be Curious!

Reassess often!

Build a therapeutic relationship!

AMEN: Affirm, Meet, Educate, No Matter What.

Integrating palliative care into outpatient Oncology has positive effects on short term quality of life, symptom burden and survival.

**REFERENCES**

Baldwin, Moyna A., and Jan Woodhouse. Key Concepts in Palliative Care Vol. 0. London: SAGE Publications Ltd, 2011. doi:10.4135/9781446288212.

Cooper RS, Ferguson A, Bodurtha J, Smith T. AMEN is challenging conversations: bridging the gaps between faith, hope, and medicine. J Oncol Pract. 2014;10(4):e191-e195. doi:10.1200/JOP.2014.001375

Fulton JJ, LaRocca RV, Costin TM, et al. Integrated outpatient palliative care for patients with advanced cancer: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Palliat Med. 2019;33(2):123-134. doi:10.1177/0269216318812653

**capc** Center for Advanced Palliative Care

**MOQC** MICHIGAN ONCOLOGY QUALITY CONSORTIUM

### Persistent Constipation – Ultimately Resolved

**INTRODUCTION**

SS is a 50 year old female with a history of triple negative breast cancer, who presented to the clinic for chemotherapy treatment and follow up appointment.

**Medical History**

- Presented with pain in the sternum and abnormal imaging
- Biopsy revealed triple negative Right Breast Cancer
- Patient underwent Chemotherapy, Immunotherapy and then subsequent Mastectomies.

**Social/other History**

- Lives with husband and 2 young adult children
- Residential and Commercial cleaner for a local housekeeping agency, Working approximately 60-70 hours/week
- Strong family history of breast cancer with no genetic testing although it was offered to her previously.

**Current Presentation – Cancer**

- Returning after surgery to begin adjuvant treatment
- Working with PCP and Gastrointestinal specialists for chronic persistent constipation documented as being post operative.
- Weight loss and decreased appetite with lower abdominal pain, described as 7/10 and constant. Last bowel movement three days prior to appointment.

**IDENTIFIED PALLIATIVE CARE ISSUE**

Patient is frustrated. Six different medications have been recommended with little to no relief. Each time that she has contacted the clinic the nurse navigators have recommended something new to try and she was hopeful the next medication would be the one to resolve her issue. She becomes anxious when attempting to use the restroom due to pain and difficulty that ensues.

**Next Steps:**

- During the interview process we began gathering all previous medications that the patient had been prescribed that were found to be ineffective.
- She was initially prescribed Senna – S 1-2 tabs every 12 hours, ending dose of 4/day
- Polyethylene Glycol was then prescribed to be taken as 17g in water or juice once or twice daily, ending dose of three times per day.
- Bisacodyl 5mg 1-3 tablets per day, ending dose of 3/day
- Milk of Magnesia 30ml – 60ml day, ending dose 60ml
- Milk and Molasses Enema, taken each evening for three days
- Glycerin Suppositories
- Recent imaging including an abdominal X-ray from a recent ED visit was reviewed and found to be significant for retained stool, constipation.
- Physical exam was essentially unremarkable however abdominal exam was positive for general tenderness to palpation without any obvious mass or swelling.
- Our pharmacist was consulted and was included in the discussion.
- Our focus remained on constipation management and deriving the best treatment plan moving forward.

**TYPICAL CONSTIPATING MEDICATIONS**

Analgesics: nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, opiates

Anticholinergic agents

Antidiarrheals (overuse)

Calcium channel blockers: nifedipine, verapamil

Calcium-containing agents: aluminum, calcium, iron

Diuretics

Tricyclic antidepressants

The prevalence rate of constipation varies from 40% to 90% in palliative care patients

### Decisions and Outcome

1. Interprofessional involvement of care was imperative.
2. Pharmacology current medication list was then reviewed by myself, PCP and the pharmacist.
3. All chronic medications that the patient was taking regularly had the potential to exacerbate constipation : Verapamil, Oxybutynin, Hydroxyzine, Amitriptyline, and Ferrous Sulfate
4. She was prescribed Linaclotide 145mcg/day – out of pocket cost of \$500/Month
5. We worked closely with the PCP and one medication at a time was switched over to less constipating alternatives for her.

**SUMMARY AND TEACHING POINTS**

Constipation can be multifactorial.

Health care professionals most commonly attribute constipation to post operative ileus or low colonic motility after surgery.

Opioids can be a contributing factor in a patient with ongoing constipation but not always the culprit.

Anticholinergic medications can contribute to constipation to larger degree than most opioids alone.

Blocking acetylcholine stops smooth muscle movement in the gut and slows the movement of food through the digestive system

Reviewing the patient's complete medication list is an important step when assessing chronic constipation

Nonpharmacologic treatments for patients with constipation include: Posture education for toileting, exercise, increasing fluid intake, adding probiotics, and increasing dietary fiber. PT can be ordered for pelvic floor or defecatory dysfunction.

**REFERENCES**

1. Dzierzanowski T, Larkin P. Proposed Criteria for Constipation in Palliative Care Patients. A Multicenter Cohort Study. *Journal of Clinical Medicine*. 2021; 10(1):40.
2. Sadler K, Arnold F, Dean S. Chronic Constipation in Adults. *Am Fam Physician*. 2022;106(3):299-306

**capc** Center for Advanced Palliative Care

**MOQC** MICHIGAN ONCOLOGY QUALITY CONSORTIUM

# CAPC MOQC Cohort 2 Application

Apply by January 23:

- Oncology APPs from MOQC practices
- Primary care and oncology physicians and APPs from FQHC and tribal clinics
- Tuition covered by MOQC (value of \$2,500 per person)

<https://moqc.org/initiatives/clinical/moqc-capc-palliative-care-certificate-program/>



## Palliative Care Certificate Program: Cohort 2



### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- Access to all CAPC resources during training
- Tuition covered by MOQC (\$2,500 per person)
- Highly experienced instructors
- 8-10 hours monthly time commitment
- Continuing education credits
  - 28.75 CME/33.55 Nursing Contact Hours
- Building a Michigan network of palliative care providers
- Graduation celebration

### IMPORTANT 2026 DATES:

Kick off/Orientation Event (5.30-7pm EST):

**March 19**

Virtual Clinical Discussions (6-7pm EST):

**April 23 • May 21 • June 25 • Aug 27 • Sept 24**

**Capstone Presentation (1-4pm EST): Oct 22**

**Application deadline January 23, 2026**

Applications available January 6 at the link or QR code  
<https://moqc.org/initiatives/clinical/moqc-capc-palliative-care-certificate-program/>

Questions? [moqc@moqc.org](mailto:moqc@moqc.org)

The CAPC MOQC Palliative Care Certificate Program equips participants with practical knowledge, palliative care skills to deliver compassionate, high-quality care, whether you are just getting started or looking to strengthen your approach.

**Application open Jan 6-23, 2026 to**

- Oncology APPs (NPs and PAs) from MOQC practices
- Primary care and oncology Physicians, NPs, and PAs from FQHCs and tribal clinics

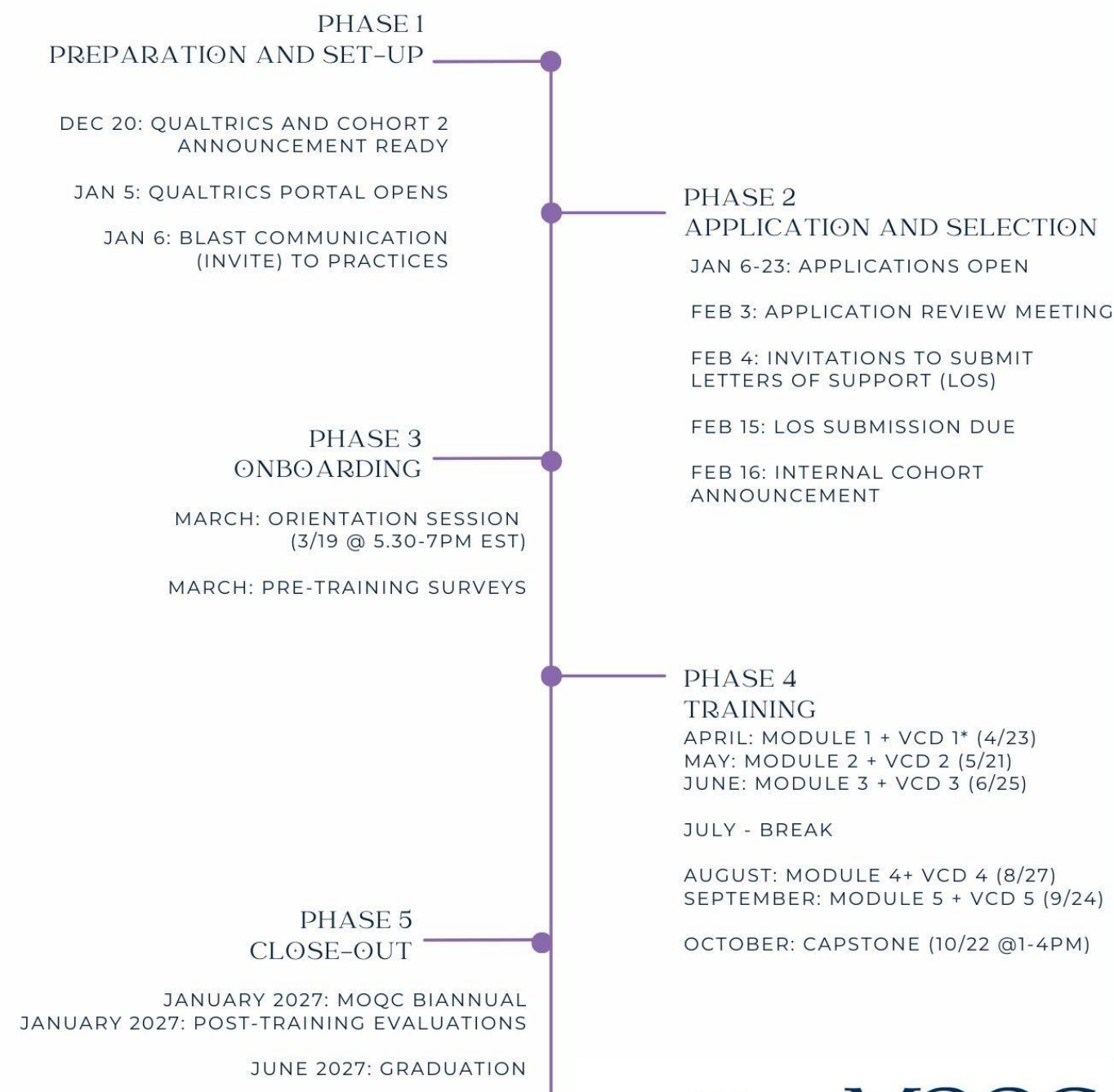
### 2026 Virtual Training Schedule

<b>April</b>	Assessing the needs of patients and caregivers
<b>May</b>	Strengthening the patient-clinician relationship and understanding care goals
<b>June</b>	Non-pain symptom management
<b>July</b>	Break in training
<b>August</b>	Pain management
<b>Sept</b>	Preventing crises and planning ahead
<b>Oct</b>	Capstone project



# CAPC MOQC PALLIATIVE CARE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM COHORT 2

## TIMELINE



\*VCD = VIRTUAL CLINICAL DISCUSSION @ 6-7PM EST



## Key Dates in 2026

Application deadline: January 23

Tentative acceptance notification: February 4

Deadline to submit Letter of Support: February 15  
(a template will be provided)

### Kick-off/Orientation:

Thursday, March 19th @ 5.30-7PM (EST)

### LIVE Virtual Clinical Discussions (Thursdays, 6-7PM EST):

April 23

May 21

June 25

*July - break*

August 27

September 24

### Capstone Event:

Thursday, October 22 @ 1-4PM (EST)

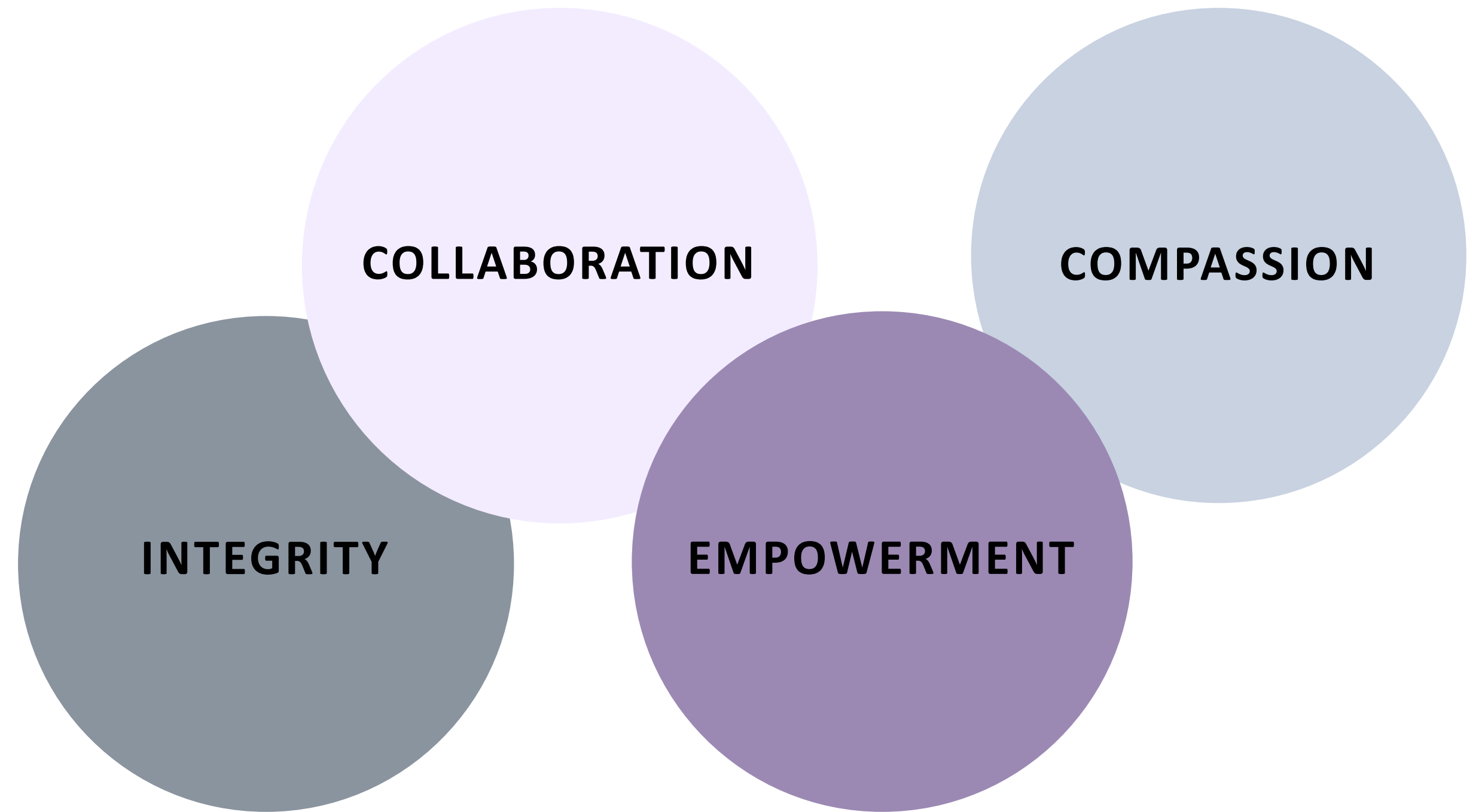




# POQC Updates

Tracey Cargill-Smith, POQC

# Core Values



# Purpose Statement

“We use our lived experiences  
to improve cancer care  
in Michigan.”



# Vision Statement

“Compassionate, quality cancer care for all”



# Workgroup Spotlight

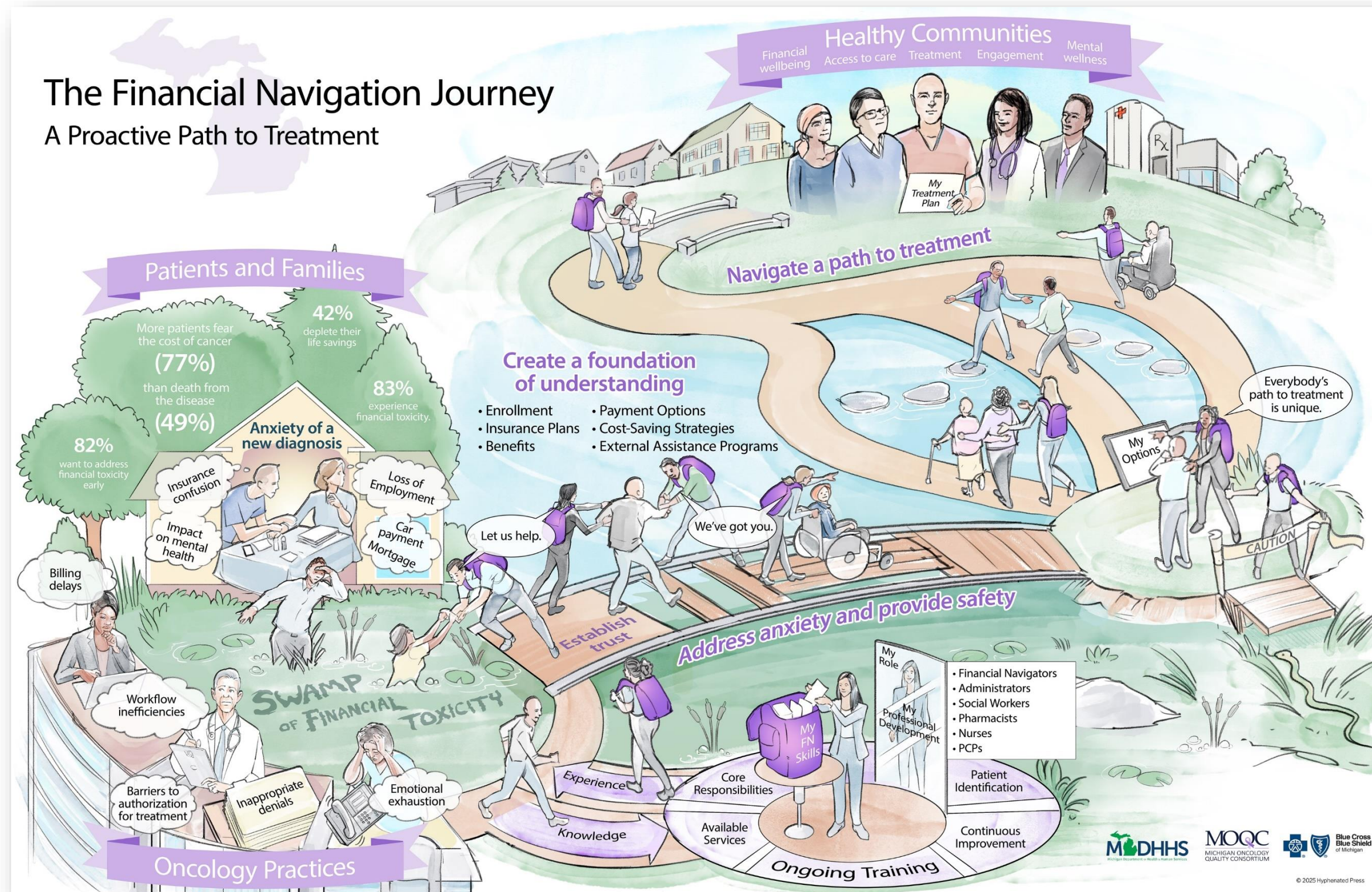
## Recruitment and Retention

6 new members



# Workgroup Spotlight

## Financial Navigation



# Workgroup Spotlight

## Patient and Caregiver Resources

### Resources Search Engine

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Cancer has a huge impact on patients and their families, friends and other caregivers. Use this search engine to help find answers, guidance, and support.

MOQC is always working to gather and share resources that are important for anyone touched by cancer.

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# Looking Ahead





# Steering Committee Update

Dawn Severson, MD

# Steering Committee Members

**Savitha Balaraman, MD**  
MHP Oakland Medical Group

**Kevin Brader, MD**  
University of Michigan Health-West

**Tracey Cargill-Smith, POQC**

**Tammy Cedo, POQC**

**Tim Cox, MD**  
Bronson Cancer Center

**Diane Drago, POQC**

**Donna Edberg**  
Great Lakes Cancer Management  
Specialists

**Nick Erikson, MBA**  
Trinity Health

**Joan Gargaro, POQC**

**Tom Gribbin, MD**  
The Cancer and Hematology Centers

**Michael Harrison, POQC**

**Diana Kostoff, PharmD, BCPS, BCOP**  
Henry Ford Health

**Kathy LaRaia**  
Munson Healthcare

**Sherry Levandowski, MD**  
MyMichigan Health

**Erika Lojko, POQC**

**Michele Loree, MSW**  
KCI @ McLaren Greater Lansing

**Sheritha Rayford, POQC**

**Tayna Rudd**  
MHP Oakland Medical Group

**Aimee Ryan**  
Great Lakes Cancer Management  
Specialists

**Colleen Schwartz**  
MOQC Abstractor

**Nisha Patel, PharmD, BCPS**  
Henry Ford Health

**Jatin Rana, MD**  
KCI @ McLaren Greater Lansing

**Zeyad Sako, MD**  
Corewell Health West

**Dawn Severson, MD**  
Henry Ford Health Services

**Beth Sieloff, MPH, RYT-200**  
Cancer Prevention and Control,  
Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan

**Heather Spotts, MSW**  
KCI @ McLaren Greater Lansing

**Mike Stellini, MD, MS**  
Karmanos Cancer Center

**Carmen Stokes, PhD, FNP-BC, CNE**  
Henry Ford Health Services

**Ammar Sukari, MD**  
Karmanos Cancer Institute

**Padmaja Venuturumilli, MD**  
Hematology Oncology Consultants

**Shannon Wills-Velez, PhD, MS, PA-C**  
Henry Ford Health

# Leadership Update



**Lydia Benitez, PharmD, BCOP**  
Director, POEM and Stewardship



**Lynn Henry, MD, PhD**  
Director, Clinical Initiatives