

Characterization of the Management of Select Comorbid Conditions Amongst Cancer Patients

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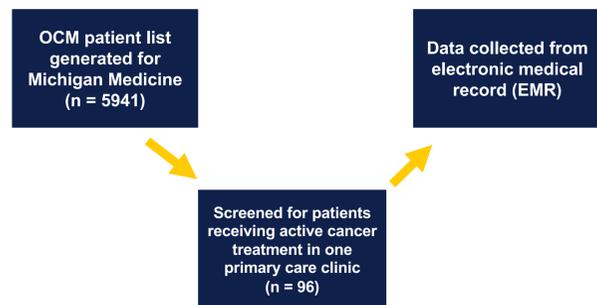
INTRODUCTION

- Lapses in communication between oncology and primary care provide opportunity for improvements in patient outcomes.
- Conditions like chronic myelogenous leukemia and prostate cancer, for example, require cancer treatment that may impact comorbid conditions.

OBJECTIVES

- The objectives were to 1) characterize comorbid conditions amongst patients receiving active cancer treatment, 2) examine disease control of selected comorbid conditions in patients with specific cancer diagnoses where treatment may impact comorbid conditions (i.e., CML, multiple myeloma, prostate and kidney cancer), and 3) describe opioid use among patients with cancer and comorbid conditions.

METHODS



- Descriptive statistics were used to characterize the comorbid condition and medication use among patients with active cancer treatment.

In our pilot study (n=96), 61% of patients with active cancer treatment had hypertension, and 47% of people with four selected cancers had uncontrolled hypertension.

Primary care pharmacists can manage comorbid conditions and improve the overall quality of care for cancer patients.

RESULTS

Table 1. Chronic Conditions and Medications for PCOM Patients (n=96).

Chronic Condition	Metastatic solid tumor (n=24)	Non-metastatic solid tumor (n=54)	Hematologic (n=18)
Diabetes only	0	4	0
HTN only	15	15	9
Diabetes + HTN	6	5	2
HTN + CHF	1	1	2
Diabetes + HTN + CHF	1	2	0
Depression/Anxiety	13	20	8
Neuropathic Pain	20	22	12
Smoker (current or former)	13	27	9
Medications			
Insulin	4	2	1
Blood Thinner	11	18	10
Depression/Anxiety	10	10	5
Current Opioid Use	7	6	5

Table 2. Disease Control of Patients with Specific Cancer Diagnoses (n = 23).

Chronic Condition	Prostate Cancer (n = 14)		Multiple Myeloma (n = 5)		Kidney Cancer (n = 1)		CML (n = 3)	
	Average	Proportion uncontrolled	Average	Proportion uncontrolled	Average	Proportion uncontrolled	Average	Proportion uncontrolled
Hypertension	131/70	7/11	131/70	1/4	121/58	0/1	113/75	0/1
Diabetes	7.1%	0/6	n/a	0/0	n/a	0/0	n/a	0/0

Table 3. Opioid Use and Chronic Conditions for PCOM Patients (n=18).

Current Opioid Use	18
Pain Diagnosis	18
Neuropathy	10
Depression/Anxiety	10
Hypertension	14

DISCUSSION

- Multiple chronic conditions such as hypertension, diabetes and depression exist among patients receiving active cancer treatment. The prevalence of uncontrolled comorbidities is significant.
- Primary care pharmacists, working with collaborative practice agreements, can improve chronic conditions and associated quality metrics related to hypertension and diabetes.



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