

2016 Public Reporting of Outcomes Annual Report

Each year the Cancer Committee at CHRISTUS Spohn develops and disseminates a report on program outcomes to the public as required by the American College of Surgeons (ACOS) Commission on Cancer (CoC) standards. The content of the report includes outcome information on one or more of the Patient Outcomes standards.

Studies of Quality Standard 4.7

Management of Chemotherapy Induced Nausea and Vomiting

Nausea is a common side effect of chemotherapy administration. While chemotherapy targets cancer cells, it can also damage healthy cells and cause nausea, vomiting, hair loss, fatigue and mouth sores.

A study in the chemotherapy department was completed to ensure that patients who were undergoing chemotherapy were given a prescription to prevent nausea and vomiting.

Data was collected from January 2016 – October 2016. Patients were evaluated to determine if the anti-nausea medication had been ordered for each patient prior to starting chemotherapy, and if it had not, the physicians were contacted to obtain a prescription for home medication to help with nausea if it had not been previously ordered.

Results:

A total of 193 patients were assessed. Four (2%) patients refused anti-nausea medication. Fourteen (7%) patients were identified not to have a prescription for home medication for nausea.

Cancer Committee Recommendations:

- Create chemotherapy risk assessment form to assist nurses in identifying patients who did not have an anti-nausea medication prescription
- Physicians were contacted after first chemotherapy visit and were made aware that patient needed anti-nausea medication prescription

Follow-up:

- Implement a process to re-evaluate patient population to determine if actions resulted in improving number of patients whose nausea was controlled
- Implementing the use of the "Chemotherapy Induced Nausea and Vomiting Risk Assessment" showed that 177 (91%) of patients had and/or received anti-nausea medications prescribed to the patient to aid with their nausea and vomiting at home. Four patients (2%) refused medication.
- Fourteen (7%) patients is not known whether anti-nausea medications were prescribed due to difficulty in collection date from outside referring physician's offices

Quality Improvements Standard 4.8

Pharmacists One on One Education for New Chemotherapy Patients

The Chemotherapy department took an opportunity to evaluate how patients undergoing chemotherapy were educated on what to expect when they are under treatment and measure its effectiveness. It appears that patients often report that they experience fear and anxiety at the beginning of their treatment due to lack of knowledge of what to expect during their chemotherapy treatment. The ACCC recommends that patients understand their therapy plan and their therapy.

In 2015, between 9/2/15- 12/29/15 71 patients were screened and educated one on one by the Pharmacist. It was determined that education was helpful and beneficial both for the patient and care provider. In 2016, A total of 239 patients were educated one on one, and advised on what to expect and complications that may arise while at home. Patients reported feeling better prepared, and that their fears were calmed, and questions answered utilizing this method.

Cancer Screening & Prevention Programs Standard 4.1 & 4.2

Fecal Occult Blood Test Colorectal Prevention & Screening

Each calendar year, the cancer committee organizes and offers at least one cancer screening program that is designed to decrease the number of patients with late-stage disease and is targeted to meet the screening needs of the community. Each screening program is consistent with evidence-based national guidelines and interventions and must have a formal process developed to follow up on all positive findings.

The Cancer committee is committed to assess the cancer prevention needs of the community and patient population. Colon cancer is one of the top 5 sites seen at the CHRISTUS SPOHN and the Cancer Committee felt that screening and education is needed in the community to assist in decreasing the number of patients with late-stage disease.

On June 7, 2016, the Cancer Center participated along with The Community Wellness Program for Christus Spohn at the Flint Hills Environmental Health and Safety Fair. Dr. Shantan Reddy, Medical Oncologist, presented a power point presentation on *Colorectal Cancer: Preventable, Beatable and Treatable*. Educational material was provided by ACS on colon cancer prevention. FOBT (Fecal Occult Blood test) kits were distributed to the participants. The Fecal Occult blood test screening is consistent with the evidence-based NCCN Nat'l guidelines and interventions.

- 12 kits were dispersed
- Educational materials explaining the screening process was given to participants
- Colorectal education materials were given out
- Participants were asked to mail the kit back to the CHRISTUS Spohn lab for testing and reading
- There was no response from the 12 participants who acquired a kit
- Follow-up phone calls were made to all participants, with a poor response from all participants.

On September 30, 2016, a table was set up in the hospital's lobby. The community was educated on the importance of establishing a diet high in fiber and a lifestyle that includes moderate exercise are helpful in preventing the disease. Staying aware of symptoms and getting recommended screening are key factors in prevention of the disease were explained to the public. A total of 100 bags with educational material on Colon health were distributed. Educational material was provided by ACS.

Melanoma Education & Prevention

The Cancer committee is committed to assess the cancer prevention needs of the community and patient population. After reviewing the Invasive Cancer Incidence Report provided by Texas Cancer Registry, it was determined that in 2013 Nueces County showed a slight increase in reported Melanoma cases vs. Brazoria County.

- Nueces County Population at risk = 352962 Cases = 1393 (.39)
- Brazoria County Population at risk = 330670 Cases = 1247 (.38)

It was determined by the Cancer Committee that there was a need to reduce and target the incidence of Melanoma in order to meet the prevention needs of the community and patient population. On June 2, 2016, a Melanoma educational conference was held at the Port of Corpus Christi's monthly wellness meeting held for the employees. Dr. Lalitha Janaki, Radiation Oncologist, educated the community on the importance of skin wellness and skin cancer prevention. Educational materials and sunscreen were provided by the American Academy of Dermatology and ACS.