Supportive Care Needs of patients newly diagnosed with advanced stage colon cancer

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Background

- 56% of Canadians have advanced stage CRC at diagnosis \[NCI, 2007\]
- In LHIN 4 region, 59% of colon cancer patients are stage III or IV \[CCO, 2008\]
- Cochrane Review of patients with advanced GI cancer: medical with supportive care \[Ahmed et al., 2004\]
- Major gaps in the integration of supportive care services → ‘Lost in Transition’ \[CCS, 2003; CCO, 2004\]
- Little information - understanding priority supportive care needs for patients with advanced colon cancer \[CCO, 2004; Fitch, 2008\]
Purpose

- To identify and describe the patterns of supportive care needs of patients newly diagnosed with advanced stage colon cancer (stage III or IV).
- To assess patient’s awareness of the existing supportive care services and the degree to which they are utilized.
- To assess the gaps between the priority unmet needs and patient use of existing services.
Methodology

- A quantitative needs assessment with cross-sectional survey design
- Conducted in JCC & JBMH
- **Sample:** Patients recently diagnosed & referred to JCC/JBMH for treatment
- **Tool:** General and colon specific needs measurement
- Self-administered questionnaire completed in the clinic/complete at home & mail it or return in next clinic appt.
Eligibility Criteria of Patients

- 18 years or old
- Pathology or Biopsy confirmed stage III or IV colon cancer
- Referred to JBMH/JCC for further treatment
- No mental or cognitive impairment
- Can speak, read and understand English
Implications

- Provides a ‘snap shot’ of the SCN prevalence
- To design effective models of needs-driven supportive care services specific for this cancer population.
- May contribute to their well-being and promote their adherence to the treatment regimen in their cancer journey.

Ontario Cancer Plan 2008-2011

“It takes an entire healthcare team to treat and control cancer”
References


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