The US Oncology Network Affiliated Investigators Participate in Programs Featured at the 2013 ASCO Quality Care Symposium

Clinicians affiliated with The US Oncology Network to participate in ten poster presentations

The Woodlands, Texas (October 30, 2013) — Ten abstracts submitted by clinicians and practice representatives affiliated with The US Oncology Network will be presented during the 2013 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Quality Care Symposium being held Nov. 1-2 at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego, Calif.

Of those, three address the vital topic of advance care planning (ACP) and the value an ACP program can bring to cancer patients and their families.

Sabrina Mikan, Ph.D., R.N., A.C.N.S.-B.C., clinical nurse specialist and ACP coordinator for Texas Oncology, is the lead author of the abstract titled, Assessing patient values first: Creating a platform for advance care planning (ACP) in the adult oncology population. This program begins with learning patients’ values which are important when having ACP conversations. Additionally, the program tested a structured process for identifying eligible patients for those conversations.

“Advance care planning is a critical component of the cancer care continuum for all stakeholders, including patients, their families and the oncology healthcare team,” said Mikan. “Developing a program that helps patients voice their values and needs at every stage of care, as well as allows providers to better understand their patients’ needs, is crucial. That’s why it’s important for us to evaluate quality programs such as this one.”

Another abstract titled, Pathways impact on chemotherapy administration before death, will be included in an Audio Poster Tour hosted by the ASCO Quality Care Symposium in which select posters are discussed, explaining their significance, strengths and take-home points. Meeting attendees can download the file on-site and go on self-guided tours of the poster room while listening to the recording.

The abstract presents data from across The US Oncology Network addressing chemotherapy administered within 14 and 30 days of death in patients treated On-Pathway vs. Off-Pathway for breast, colon, NSCLC, SCLC, and pancreatic cancers.

“The US Oncology Network’s pathways program is supported by our robust electronic health record, iKnowMed, and we are investigating the many ways these pathways can impact the quality and cost of care,” said Marcus Neubauer, M.D., medical director of Oncology Services for McKesson Specialty Health and lead author of Pathways impact on chemotherapy administration before death. “A big question now is how do pathways impact end-of-life care. We attempt to answer this question in the poster presentation.”

Some of the work featured at the meeting highlights technology, survivorship, pathways, advance care planning, disease management and mid-level provider utilization. A full list of The Network affiliated programs on display at the ASCO Quality Care Symposium is below. For more information or to interview an investigator, contact The US Oncology Network Public Relations Manager, Claire Crye at 281-863-6783.

Posters:

2. General Poster Session A #31:
Implementing an oncology-specific health care IT portal to enhance patient-provider communication.

3. General Poster Session A #32:
Bridging to survivorship in breast cancer: How BMI weighs in.

4. General Poster Session A #33:
Bridging to Survivorship in Breast Cancer: Learning how treatment impacts mental health among early stage breast cancer survivors.

5. General Poster Session A #86:
Pathways impact on chemotherapy administration before death.

6. General Poster Session A #99:
Assessing patient values first: Creating a platform for advance care planning (ACP) in the adult oncology population.

7. General Poster Session A #119:
Impact of an oncology management program using Level I Pathways, a nurse call system, and advance care planning.

8. General Poster Session B #147:
Patient reported symptoms obtained through telephonic nursing services in an oncology disease management program.
Harrison D, Jameson M, Abdullahpour M, Espirito J, Harrell R, Hoverman R.

9. General Poster Session B #243:
Systematic identification of metastatic population subsets for advance care planning (ACP) discussions: A scalable approach using EHR technology.

10. General Poster Session B #282:
Mid-level provider utilization within a large community oncology network.
Mikan S, Cody M, Lindsey L, Carter P, Patt D, Hoverman R.

This overwhelming presence at the Quality Care Symposium is a reflection of the The US Oncology Network’s commitment to quality enhancement programs and their implementation across the community oncology practices in The Network.

About The US Oncology Network
The US Oncology Network is one of the nation’s largest networks of integrated, community-based oncology practices dedicated to advancing high-quality, evidence-based cancer care. A physician-led organization, The US Oncology Network unites like-minded physicians and clinicians around a common vision of improving patient outcomes and quality of life. Leveraging healthcare information technology, shared best practices, evidence-based guidelines and quality measurements, physicians within The US Oncology Network are pioneering new ways to achieve...
this vision. The US Oncology Network is committed to strengthening patient access to integrated care in local communities across the nation, including collaboration with a variety of payers, hospitals and academic institutions. The US Oncology Network is supported by McKesson Specialty Health, a division of McKesson Corporation focused on empowering a vibrant and sustainable community patient care delivery system. For more information, visit www.usoncology.com.

Media Contact:
Claire Crye
(281) 863-6783
Claire.Crye@usoncology.com

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