Clinical Problem: Cancer-related Pain

Clinical Practice Question

Clinical Problem: Cancer-related Pain

Objective: To evaluate the impact of an RN during the outpatient care visit for those patients with sarcoma or head/neck cancer experiencing chronic pain.

Current Evidence

- "Guidelines for management of cancer-related pain and quality indicators for supportive care are available" (Deandrea et al., 2008)
- "Regulatory agencies mandate for screening and treatment of pain at the time of every outpatient visit" (Abernathy et al., 2003)

Theoretical Framework

- "Evidence-Based Practice Model: Iowa Model of Research-Based Practice" (Porter-O’Grady & Malloch, 2011)
- "Early identification and action consistent with current best practice implementation" (White & Dudley-Brown, 2012)

Key References

- Deandrea et al., 2008
- Porter-O’Grady & Malloch, 2011
- White & Dudley-Brown, 2012

Key Words

- oncologic care
- cancer pain
- palliative care
- symptom management
- pain management
- practice guideline
- practice guidelines
- systematic review
- implementation

Cost / Benefit Analysis

- Budget: Approximately $50,000
- Potential savings: $10,000 annually

Synthesis of Literature

- Guidelines for management of cancer-related pain and quality indicators for supportive care are available
- All mandated performance of a comprehensive pain assessment as the basis for therapeutic decision-making
- Involvement of nursing in assessment / monitoring / evaluation of pain and patient education can result in increased adherence to clinical guidelines and improvement in patient-reported pain scores

Practice Implications

- "Facilitation - Needs 'readiness to learn' of all constituents"
- "Presence of 'champion'"
- "Evaluate resource allocation (RN and other resources)"
- "Future Plans - More need for continued practice quality improvement" (Gracias, 2008)

Results

- "What is the likelihood of documented pain assessment with RN involvement?"
- "Criteria for Success: "
  - Early identification and action consistent with current best practice implementation
  - Multilevel program implementation
  - Health outcomes from multiple levels
  - Complexity of role
  - Support from key stakeholders

Readiness for Change

- "Facilitation"
- "Change ready / constant"
- "Need for change: improved pain assessment"
- "Recent introduction of RN role"
- "Multidisciplinary practice model"
- "Change valued / constant"

Stakeholders

- "Clinical care staff"
- "Nursing leadership"
- "Administrative support"
- "Other key stakeholders"

Methods

- "Approvals by Mayo & WSU IRBs"
- "Strategy for Implementation"
- "Implementation"
- "Facilitation"
- "Future Plans - More need for continued practice quality improvement" (Gracias, 2008)

Criteria for Success:

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