

Geriatric cancer care toolkit

Academy of Oncology Nurse and Patient Navigators

OVERVIEW: Over 50% of cancer survivors in the US are over 65 years, and this group of patients face more challenges and barriers to optimal cancer care than younger patients. This initiative provides an educational toolkit for nurses and patient navigators to help them better support this patient population and help minimize barriers to care.



Area of focus:

Educating HCPs about ABC/mBC

Target population:

Geriatric cancer patients in the US

Objectives: To educate nurses and patient navigators on accessing specialized care, treatment planning, care management and overcoming barriers to care for geriatric cancer patients

Unmet needs addressed:

- Cancer patients over 65 years face many additional challenges and barriers to cancer care compared to younger patients. Nurses and patient navigators play an important role in helping this patient group access specialized care and appropriate support

Key components:

- Educational tool for nurses and patient navigators providing targeted information on the physical, psychosocial, cultural, spiritual, and socioeconomic principles of geriatric cancer care
- The tool addresses the special needs, nutritional considerations, healthcare disparities, care management, and caregiver support needs for geriatric cancer patients

Challenges: None reported

Outcomes: The toolkit has enhanced education on geriatric cancer care

Development: The toolkit was developed by a team of 20 from the Academy of Oncology Nurse and Patient Navigators. The project was sponsored by Pfizer

Cost: <€5,000

Timeline: The initiative was developed over the course of a year and completed in 2022

Targeted to reach: >300



About AONN+

The Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators is dedicated to improving cancer care for underserved populations.

Geriatric Cancer Care Toolkit

Over half of all US cancer survivors are > 65 years; these patients face many challenges and barriers to optimal cancer care and services. Nurse and patient navigators play a vital role in geriatric cancer care by supporting this population with access to specialized care, coordinated resources for treatment planning, care management, and help to minimize barriers. This resource provides helpful information for healthcare team members involved in the management of geriatric patients as it explores the principles (physical, psychosocial, cultural, spiritual, and socioeconomic), healthcare disparities, nutritional considerations, and caretaking of geriatric oncology.

For more information:

https: <https://www.patientnavigation.com/geriatric>

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Based on written submission from Sharon Gentry, Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators, 2023. The Hard-to-Reach ABC/mBC Communities Toolkit was developed as a collaboration between Pfizer Oncology and the ABC Global Alliance, with funding and support provided by Pfizer. ABC Global Alliance members and Pfizer colleagues were invited to submit breast cancer community-based initiatives that address specific needs of underserved patient populations with advanced/metastatic breast cancer. Initiatives were evaluated against criteria determined by a steering committee with members from both Pfizer and the ABC Global Alliance. Initiatives were selected for inclusion in the toolkit to highlight best practices in addressing the unique needs of this patient population. All organizations who submitted their initiatives for consideration have provided permission for the initiative information to be included in the toolkit and shared publicly. Pfizer and the ABC Global Alliance bear no responsibility for the contents of the toolkit.

Ethnic, religious, indigenous/native populations and/or other historically marginalised groups	Younger patients	**Older patients**	Men	LGBTQ+ patients	Low health knowledge patients
Patients who lack an adequate caregiver or support system	Patients who mistrust conventional treatments	Low income patients			
Patients a long distance from a specialist centre	Patients with uncontrolled comorbidities	Mental health patients			