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acc-cancer.org



An Innovative Medical-Legal Partnership

Read how this 2022 ACCC Innovator Award winner assists patients with estate planning like bedside wills, powers of attorney, and advance directives, as well as issues related to insurance, employment, housing, family, immigration, education, and more: acc-cancer.org/vcu-partnership. Then attend the ACCC 39th National Oncology Conference, Oct. 12-14, to learn how to develop and implement a similar program at your institution: acc-cancer.org/NOC.



Quality Improvement Tool

This ASCO-ACCC Research Site Self-Assessment helps clinical trial sites and research teams identify opportunities to improve equity, diversity, and inclusion in clinical trials while doing an internal review of existing policies, programs, and procedures that offer evidence-based strategies to improve the diversity of trial participants. redcap.asco.org/surveys/?s=MNXW38WFA3.



RESOURCE

Online Implicit Bias Training Program

Just ASK™ educates learners about the broader context of structural and systemic racism and the role of implicit bias in clinical trial selection, offering vignettes with real-world examples of implicit bias and guidance for mitigating disparities in cancer research settings. Take it today at: acc-cancer.org/just-ask-course.



PODCAST

Digital Literacy in Older Adults with Cancer

While telehealth has expanded the delivery of healthcare services, many populations—including older adults with cancer—lack the know-how to use technology to their advantage during their cancer journey. Lower levels of digital literacy impede patients from accessing timely information, feeling empowered to ask questions, and seeking the best treatment for their diagnosis. To help older patients become digitally literate, the Patient Empowerment Network offers a free program that teaches older adults with cancer valuable technology skills. Listen at: acc-cancer.org/digital-literacy-podcast.



WEBINAR

Using Telemedicine to Assess Psychological Health

Telehealth has forever changed the way cancer care team members interact with patients. A panel of supportive care specialists share practical tips on the use of psychosocial screening tools and how to effectively integrate them into practice, including the order, timing, and adaptation of various tools. A case study highlights the journey of a patient with metastatic breast cancer, then panelists discuss ways to efficiently capture what matters most to patients when communicating in a virtual care environment. Learn more at: acc-cancer.org/using-telemedicine-webinar.

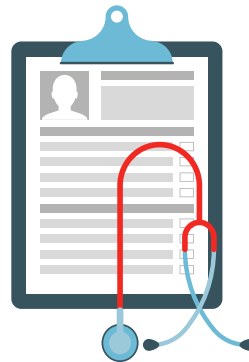
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Physicians Share Top Strategies for Addressing Their Patients' Social Drivers of Health



- Investing in community capacity to address patients' social drivers of health.
- Investing in technological and human capacity to connect patients with community resources they need to be healthy.
- Screening patients to identify social needs.
- Significantly reducing existing payer reporting requirements and other administrative burdens to provide the necessary time to address social drivers of health.
- Creating financial incentives for physician-directed efforts to address social drivers of health.
- Including social drivers of health in risk scoring.

Source: The Physicians Foundation. 2022 Survey of America's Physicians. physiciansfoundation.org/physician-and-patient-surveys/the-physicians-foundation-2022-physician-survey-part-1.



Patients Believe Their Personal Health Data Could Help Cure Cancer

- Almost all survey respondents—nearly **90%**—support all patients with cancer sharing their health data anonymously to advance treatment research and discovery.
- **87%** indicated that they would not care if their data have already been anonymously shared.
- **86%** believe oncologists should be actively discussing the value of sharing patient data with researchers as part of patient-provider interactions.
- **85%** would agree to share their anonymous data if asked by their doctor.
- **53%** of respondents believe that a cure for cancer would already be available if all patient data were collected and combined.

Source: June 2021 survey by COTA, Inc., conducted by independent research firm PureSpectrum. cotahealthcare.com.

5 Benefits of Identifying Patient Care Gaps

- 1. Saving Time.** Consistently maximizing the number of patients seen and treated will increase practice revenue. For patients, a faster timeline supports early intervention and improved pain management. Instant access to patient data can result in faster diagnoses and treatment plans.
- 2. Better Patient Care.** Work with primary care provider to note gaps and more closely coordinate treatment plans. Involve patients more actively in their own care to reduce office visits, lower costs, and improve outcomes.
- 3. Improved Population Health.** Use data to identify patients who fall into a healthcare gap. For example, generate a list of patients who need immunizations, lab tests, or preventive screenings, and work to schedule them appointments. This generates a constant flow of revenue, but also ensures that patients are taking all necessary proactive health measures.
- 4. Faster Reimbursement.** Payers demand different information and reject claims due to a lack of information. Using a digital program to gather and provide quality metrics makes it easier to communicate with public and private payers.



Source: 5 Ways Identifying Patient Care Gaps Will Benefit Your Independent Medical Practice. Amazing Charts: A Harris Healthcare Company. amazingcharts.com.

Report Card Shows Access to Palliative Care Continues to Increase

The U.S. shows continued growth in the overall number of hospital palliative care teams: **72%** of U.S. hospitals with **50** or more beds report a palliative care team—up from **67%** in 2015, **53%** in 2008, and **7%** in 2001. These hospitals currently serve **87%** of all hospitalized patients in the U.S.

Source: America's Care of Serious Illness: 2019 State-by-State Report Card on Access to Palliative Care in Our Nation's Hospitals. reportcard.capc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/CAPC_State-by-State-Report-Card_051120.pdf.



AUTHORIZED

4 Best Practices for Handling Prior Authorizations

- 1. Keep lists and references handy.** Keep payer requirements, state law, and common “trigger” medication information on hand and update often, so physicians and staff know what to include in requests. Focus on your major payers.
- 2. Assign 1 (or 2) payers per staff member.** Each staff member should be familiar with their assigned payer's processes, including preferred methods of communication (fax, phone, or electronic), and serve as a “go-to” for questions about that payer.
- 3. Encourage nurses and staff to keep physicians informed.** That way when prior authorization issues arise, physicians are not blindsided with extra administrative work and can prepare secondary plans for care if needed.
- 4. Put a system in place to follow prior authorization requests to completion.** Regularly track your denials, research the reasons behind these denials, and apply those learnings to fix processes.

Source: Prior authorizations: relieving the burden. Athenahealth, Inc. athenahealth.com.

