

A Multispecialty Approach to Immuno-Oncology Education for Community Providers

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INTRODUCTION

The Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC) Immuno-Oncology Institute was developed in 2015 to prepare all members of the multidisciplinary cancer care team for the complex implementation of immuno-oncology in the community setting.

Today, with more than 50 cancer immunotherapy indications and over 2,500 clinical trials with cancer immunotherapies, the challenges and issues related to recognizing and managing immune-related adverse events (irAEs) have grown even more complex for community practitioners.

METHODOLOGY

The ACCC Immuno-Oncology Institute assembled 4 working groups focused on addressing the diverse issues around the delivery and management of patients on cancer immunotherapies.

The working groups were divided by 4 topics:

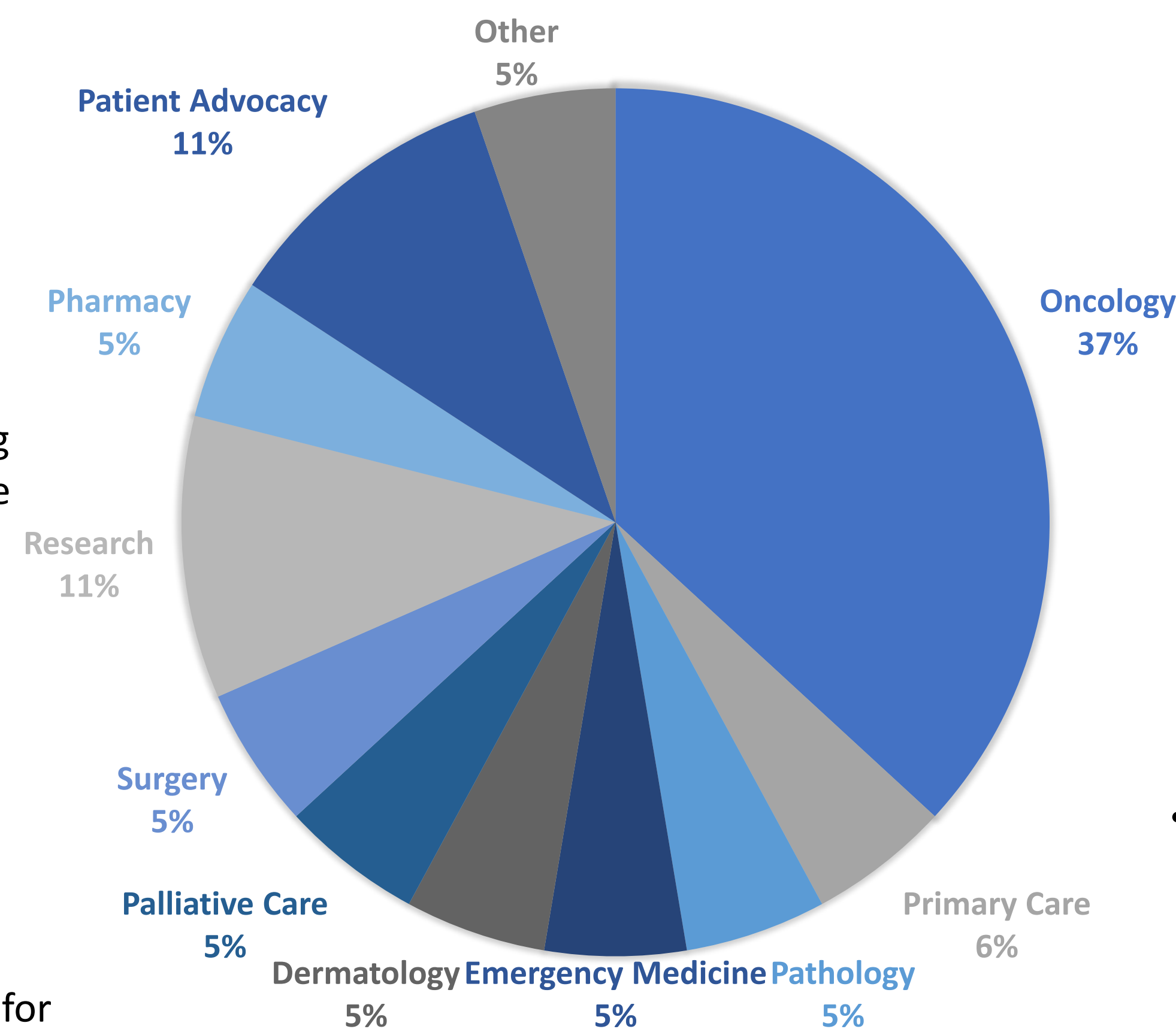
- Multispecialty care coordination and communication
- Cancer care teams training and education
- Telemedicine, technology, and virtual patient navigation
- Applying big data and research into practice

A detailed systemic review of the literature was conducted for each topic in the context of immuno-oncology, to determine the current landscape of information and available resources. The findings were then shared with the working group members and collaborative discussions ensued over 12 virtual meetings.

DEMOGRAPHICS

The 19 working group members are diverse by discipline, including specialties such as emergency medicine, dermatology, primary care, survivorship, pathology, and academic researchers.

Working Group Members by Discipline:



IO Working Group Members represent 11 unique disciplines across 16 geographically diverse institutions.

RESULTS

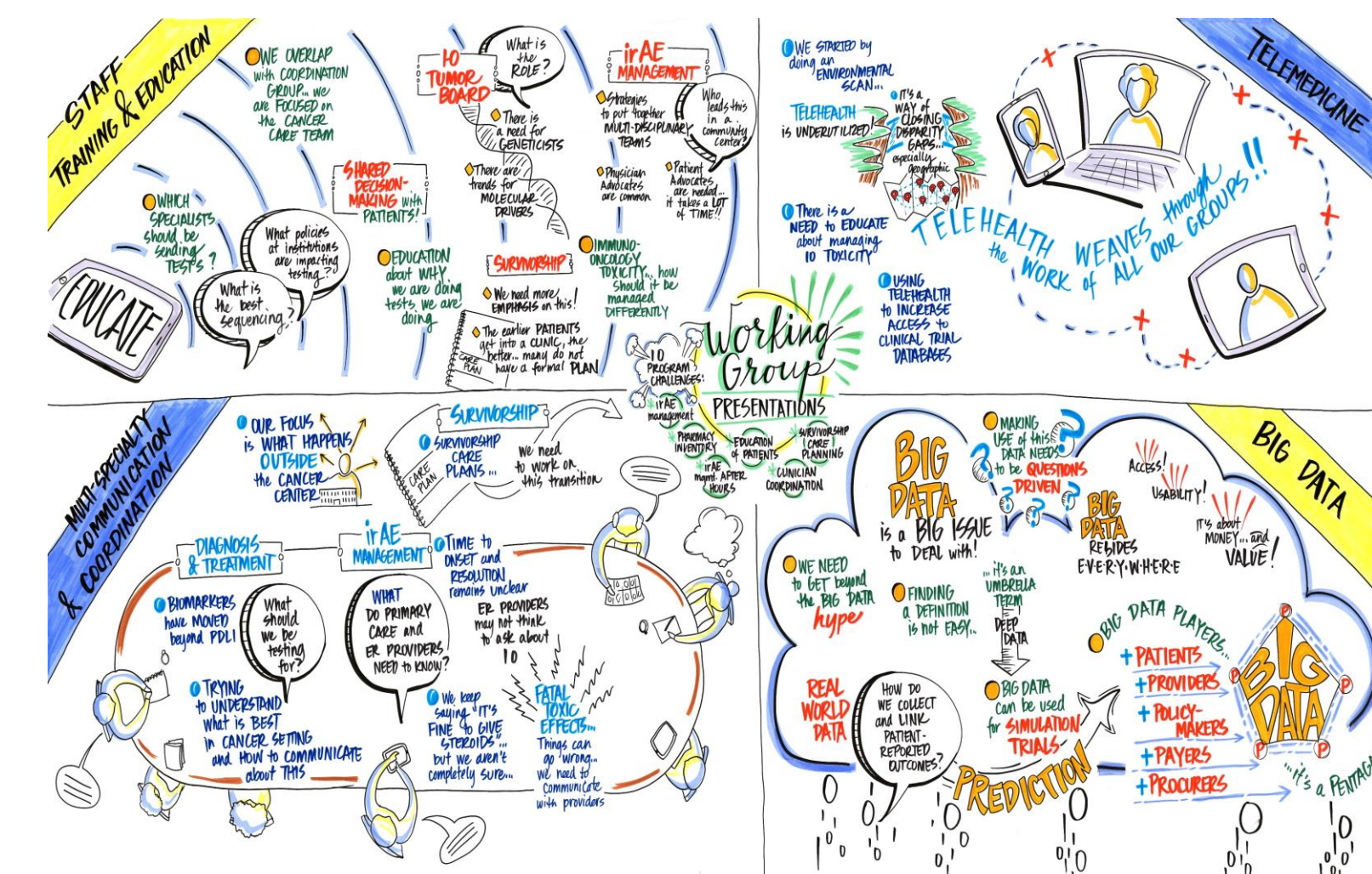
The ACCC Working Group Summit convened in September 2018 to develop innovative educational opportunities for community practitioners related to managing irAEs across the 4 topic areas.

- 20+ “Immuno-Oncology Insights” briefs were developed, including the following topics:
 - Big Data, Deep Analytics, Better Outcomes
 - Powering Personalized Immuno-Oncology: Big Data’s Role
 - Harnessing Real-Time, Real-World Data to Improve Care
 - Checkpoint Inhibitors for Those with Complex Medical Needs
 - Managing Survivorship Care After Immunotherapy
 - IO Patients in the Emergency Department
 - IO Reimbursement: Be Proactive and Prepared
- For each of the 4 key areas, working group members identified a list of opportunities that would improve how clinicians are managing irAEs for patients being treated with immunotherapy.

CONCLUSIONS

It is critical for future educational interventions to encompass the multispecialty team perspective related to the management of irAEs.

Future research directions should explore evidence-based solutions to educate non-oncology specialists on the nuances related to care coordination and effective management of irAEs for patients who are treated with cancer immunotherapies. Big data and telehealth opportunities should be piloted to enhance IO education and resources for community providers.



To access ACCC’s educational resources for the multidisciplinary cancer care team, visit: acc-cancer.org

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