Innovations in Oncology Care: Survivorship Nurse Practitioner

Kristina Morrison, MSN, NP(F)
Family Nurse Practitioner
Primary Care & Oncology
Provincial Survivorship Program

November 1, 2013
Problem

- ~ 700 unattached cancer survivors in the Vancouver area
- Oncologist attending to primary care needs
- Surveillance recommendations not followed
- Survivorship issues not addressed
Family Nurse Practitioner
Primary Care & Oncology

- NP4BC Campaign
  - Proposal to Ministry

- Initiated February 2013

- Location: UBC Family Practice Centre
  - 400-750 West Broadway, Vancouver
Patient Referral

- Referral Process
- Patient Criteria
Supportive Practices

- Established Primary Health Care Facility
  - 8 Physicians
  - 2 Nurse Practitioners
- Education
  - GPO Training Program
  - Clinic time with Oncologists
- Networking
  - Health Care Professionals (Dieticians (811), PFC, Nursing staff, MSJ Breast Clinic, Social Worker, etc)
  - Adverts/E-mails/Presentations
- Quick and easy referral process
- FAQ e-mail
Case Study

- 70yr old female- hx of right breast cancer
- Presenting with an ipsilateral breast tumor
- Hospital admission in Feb for PE- started on Warfarin
- Moved from Ontario to Vancouver in July/13
- INR levels not followed
- Oncologist monitoring INR levels and Warfarin dosage changes
- Referred to NP for ongoing primary care
- Seen within one week
Practice Barriers

- New Role
- Awareness
- Communication
New Role

Role clarification

- LPN vs RN vs NP
- NP scope of practice
- Primary Care
- Oncology Care
  - Surveillance
  - Survivorship
Awareness

- Health Care Professionals
- Public
  - Patient
  - Family members
Communication

- Patient Status
  - Active patients
  - Discharged patients
- General consults- telephone/e-mail
- Dictation
- Different EMR systems
- Double charting
Eliminating Barriers

- Role Clarification
- Role Awareness
- Communication Strategies
Role Clarification

- Nurse Practitioner scope of practice
- Primary Care services
- Oncology training

“We need to consider the expectation that the Survivorship NP should be an expert in oncology. She is a primary care provider with training related to post-treatment surveillance and monitoring. The role is not the same as a GPO. The primary purpose of the Survivorship NP is to provide primary care.”

-Director, Clinical Operations - Systemic Therapy, BCCA Vancouver Centre
Awareness

- In-person/over the phone
- Rack Cards
  - Mail out
  - BCCA
- Newsletters
  - Brain Tumor Foundation of Canada- E-news
  - Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada- Patient Services Newsletter
  - BCCA Survivorship E-brief
- Press release
Communication

- Oncologist preferences
- Current communication between GPs and Oncologists
- Dictation
- Degree of communication required
Case Study

- 44yr old female
- Recent diagnosis of CLL with splenomegaly
- Requiring splenectomy
- Need for specific immunizations immediately
- Referred to NP for ongoing primary care and preparation for surgery
- Seen within one week and immunizations given