

Pancreatic Cancer Patient Navigation in Trinidad and Tobago



2018 'ImpactPANC' Award for Innovation

1. Overview

The goal of the John E. Sabga Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Initiative is to provide support for pancreatic cancer patients, their families and their caregivers. The program has two elements:

1. The Cancer Navigator Program provides one-on-one support, education and guidance to those affected by cancer and their families. Through the CCRI's cancer navigators, patients' needs are assessed, prioritized and addressed. The JESF provides funding for pancreatic cancer patients to access this service.
2. A JESF Patient and Caregiver Support Group with bimonthly workshops that provides information and allows for sharing. This is supported by call-in access to the JESF.

2. Objectives

Goal: To develop a Pancreatic Cancer Patient Navigation and JESF Support Group in Trinidad and Tobago

Objectives:

1. Provide a forum for caregivers and patients to meet and discuss their challenges, and to provide trained professionals to educate and offer support for the caregivers
2. Develop a referral pathway to identify pancreatic cancer patients upon diagnosis
3. Develop key program characteristics and strategies for continuous training
4. Develop a comprehensive list of service providers to meet patient needs

3. Methodology

1. The JESF has a robust awareness program that uses social media and PR to educate and give caregivers and patients access to a direct line to program support. The call-in feature of the JESF care system and the one-on-one meetings and workshops provide information and emotional support on a daily basis. Bimonthly workshops reinforce education and information through professional presentations.
2. The Caribbean Cancer Research Initiative (CCRI) identifies pancreatic cancer patients with an established referral process through the public sector or JESF referral. CCRI then assigns a navigator who conducts informed consent, needs assessment, and addresses these needs or barriers to care. Each patient is allotted a maximum of 10 hours navigation time.

4. Results and Conclusions

Most frequent barriers: Nutrition and lack of information about treatment and diagnosis

Other barriers addressed: Anxiety, depression, pain, fatigue

Number of patients self-referred: 6

Number of patients referred by physicians: 4

Key Indicators	
Number of pancreatic cancer patients enrolled	10
Number of navigators with pancreatic cancer patients	3
Number of hours of pancreatic navigation completed*	40
Number of barriers and/or challenges indicated and addressed	19
Total number of contacts	53

Contact type	N (%)
Phone	38 (73.1)
In-person	2 (0.04)
Pre-appt prep	8 (15.4)
Post-appt notes	4 (0.08)

5. Measurements, Impact and Timeline

Established: November 2018 and currently ongoing

JESF Patient and Caregivers Support Group

1. Attendance records from workshops
2. Attendee survey and feedback from meetings
3. Referrals to other medical professionals and feedback on outcomes

CCRI quarterly reports are produced on the following:

1. Number of patients navigated and amount of time and contact
2. Barriers identified, resolved and unresolved
3. Patient satisfaction with the service
4. Assessment of challenges and strategies for improvement

Contact



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