

Community Extend Case Conference to Improve Lymphoma Care

Pfizer Final Report



University of Nebraska
Medical Center

Goal and Objectives

Goal

Improve the care of patients with lymphoma treated by community oncologists by implementing an educational program embedded in a community extended multidisciplinary case conferences (MCC) or tumor board meetings (EXTEND Program)

Objectives

- Apply NCCN recommended guidelines for treatment of common forms of lymphoma (follicular NHL, diffuse large B-cell NHL)
- Employ the treatment options for relapse lymphoma
- Identify the indications for autologous or allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation
- Monitor and manage the most common treatment-related complications
- Recognize the indications for use of clinical trials for treatment of relapsed lymphoma



Process

1. Community oncologists submitted patient radiology and pathology reports to UNMC.
2. Reports were reviewed by UNMC radiologists and pathologist.
3. Community oncologists and UNMC oncologist experts met using Vidyo on an iPad.
 - a) The iPad provided flexibility access
4. Diagnosis and treatment plans were discussed.
 - a) Vidyo allowed all participants to view reports
 - b) All participants were able to have live-time discussions
5. Community oncologists contacted UNMC oncologist experts for advice between meetings.



Participation & Challenges

Participation

Number of meetings	24
Average number of participants per meeting	6
Total number of cases/patients reviewed	45

Nebraska locations: Grand Island, Kearney, Hastings, and Lincoln

Challenges

1. Principal Investigator left UNMC
2. Conference put on hold to train community oncologists on the following:
 - a) Use of iPad Vidyo
 - b) Process for submitting pathology/radiology reports to UNMC
3. Nebraska has two time zones
 - a) This resulted in lower participation than originally projected



Conclusion

- The primary goals of this educational program were very ambitious and in foresight not attainable with the principal investigator leaving UNMC.
- The concept of providing conference in this format was successful and is now being utilized in other conferences at UNMC.
- Participating community oncologists have expressed a desire to continue these programs as they have seen a difference it has made in patient care.
- Patients benefited in multiple ways: 1) expert diagnosis, 2) treatment plans, 3) access to experts without having to travel.

This has been a helpful conference to help with our collegiality with the UNMC experts and has kept an open channel of communication that will in the end help with referral of patients to UNMC for more advanced treatments.

- Community oncologist participant





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