GOALS OF CARE FOR CANCER PATIENTS

VISION STATEMENT: Discussing a cancer patient’s goals of care soon after diagnosis — where the provider clearly explains what is happening and the patient shares what matters most to him or her — provides both provider and patient with a foundation of communication, trust, and information sharing that can improve overall cancer care.

INTERVENTION DESIGN

GOALS OF CARE DISCUSSION
Initial conversations soon after diagnosis

PROVIDER/CLINIC TRAINING FOR:
Reimbursement via CPT codes
Promote awareness and provide training
Support IT functionality

PROVIDER TRAINING FOR:
How to have a Goals of Care discussion
Distribute conversation guides
Provide education to clinicians

EVALUATION
Track conversations via CPT codes and compare outcomes

Goals of Care Discussion
Focus on patient values, priorities, and treatment expectations:
Initial Conversation [Around diagnosis]
- Clearly explain diagnosis/prognosis
- Ask patient...
  - What matters to you?
  - Confirm how the patient would like to communicate

Ongoing Conversations [Continuous]
- Use a conversation guide, as appropriate
- Ask patient...
  - What matters to you?
  - Discuss intent of treatment

Reimbursement
Increase CPT utilization
- Raise clinician awareness of CPT billing codes
- Training in CPT code use
- Engage administration and IT
- Develop business infrastructure

Provider Training
Provide clinicians with:
- Resource support and tools
- Training on having Goals of Care discussions
- Include partners
- Utilize established programs

WORKING GROUP PROGRESS
- Two grant applications submitted (Fall 2016):
  - NIH R01
  - PCORI: collaboration between Cambia Palliative Care Center of Excellence (PCCE) and HICOR
- Stakeholder review of prototype Goals of Care Conversation Guide at regional Palliative Care Summit hosted by Cambia PCCE and HICOR
- Completed survey of cancer care delivery systems on Goals of Care training, challenges, access and coding in our region

NEXT STEPS
- Pilot test intervention design

ADVANCED CARE PLANNING (ACP) CPT CODE USE IN OUR REGION
- 354 cancer patients used the ACP code in 2016
- 93% of those patients had 1 discussion
- Very low usage of code for cancer patients

Usage by month (for cancer patients), by number of ACP coded discussions

- 17 cancer patients had an ACP coded discussion associated with their diagnosis (1 month prior or after diagnosis)

If you are interested in joining this working group please email: ValueSummit@fredhutch.org. One-hour meetings convene on a quarterly basis over webinar/teleconference.