CanIMPACT: Canadian Team to Improve Community-Based Cancer Care along the Continuum

Brouwers M1, Waldron T1, Grunfeld G2, Fitch M3, O’Brien M2, Rogers J4, Urquhart R5, Walker M6, and Webster F2, for CanIMPACT

1Department of Oncology, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON; 2Department of Family and Community Medicine, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON; 3Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Toronto, ON; 4Centre for Effective Practice, Toronto, ON; 5Department of Surgery, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS; 6Division of Cancer Care Epidemiology, Queens University, Kingston, ON.

INTRODUCTION

• Challenges associated with coordination of care between oncology specialists and community-based primary health care (CBPHC) providers can lead to fragmentation along the continuum of care for cancer patients.
• Establishing continuity between points of care along the continuum is critical to improving quality of care and patient outcomes.
• This poster describes the objectives, methods and progress to date of the knowledge translation (KT) component of the CanIMPACT research program.

CanIMPACT OVERALL OBJECTIVES

• To develop an inter-disciplinary, multi-jurisdictional, coordinated program of research and knowledge transfer that will:
  - Enhance the capacity of CBPHC to provide care to patients with breast and colorectal cancer
  - Improve linkages between CBPHC and specialty care along the cancer care continuum
• Four streams of inquiry that will be included in this program are:
  - Diagnosis of symptomatic cancer
  - Cancer Treatment
  - Survivorship
  - Personalized Medicine

SPECIFIC KT OBJECTIVES

• To identify existing initiatives in Canada, and internationally, aimed at improving coordination between CBPHC providers and oncology care.
• Initiatives will be profiled in a Casebook and used to identify best practices and care gaps, and inform the design of a shared care framework to be evaluated in a community-based randomized trial.
• The Casebook will comprise a summary of initiative themes, findings, and tools and resources supporting implementation, as well as individual initiative profiles.

RESEARCH APPROACH

Overview of Research Methods

• A variety of methods will be used to identify and retrieve information on initiatives, including:
  - Semi-structured phone interviews with initiative staff
  - Online surveys
  - Searches of the peer-reviewed and grey literature

Key Stakeholder Consultation

Identification of Key Initiatives:

• 2-4 key stakeholders will be sought from each province; they will be asked to nominate initiatives based on the following criteria:
  - A specific challenge or issue within one of the four phases of inquiry was identified
  - The solution to the challenge or issue involved a role for CBPHC
  - An organized and deliberate effort was developed and implemented to address the challenge or issue
• Key stakeholders will be asked to complete a nomination form to provide relevant information about an initiative and key contact information for initiative staff.
• All nominations will be reviewed for eligibility and those meeting the criteria for inclusion will be profiled in the Casebook.

Development of Initiative Profiles:

• A draft profile will be created for each initiative based on the preliminary information provided in the nomination forms.
• Initiative profiles will be completed through semi-structured phone interviews with initiative staff to gather in-depth information related to types of providers and patients, roles and responsibilities, communication, governance, indicators of success and lessons learned.
• Completed profiles will be sent to initiative staff for final review and approval.

Online Survey:

• An online survey will be sent to all key stakeholders and initiative staff to capture quantitative data about enablers/barriers to engaging CBPHC providers into the cancer system.

Search of the Literature

• Purposeful sampling of the peer-reviewed and grey literature will be performed to identify examples of local, national, and international CBPHC initiatives in breast and colorectal cancer care.

Peer-Reviewed Literature Search:

• The following health databases will be searched to identify relevant indexed English-language literature:
  - Medline
  - Embase
  - CINAHL
  - Centre for Reviews and Dissemination
  - Cochrane Library Database of Systematic Reviews
  - Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials

Grey Literature Search:

• The following specialized databases will be searched to identify relevant unpublished or non-indexed literature:
  - SAGE Inventory of Cancer Guidelines
  - National Guideline Clearinghouse
  - CPAC Service Delivery Models Directory
• Purposeful and general searches will also be conducted using the Google search engine.

PROGRESS TO DATE & NEXT STEPS

• Nomination forms have been distributed and responses are being received.
• Phone interview questions have been pilot tested and revised.
• Initiative staff will be contacted to schedule further approval.
• Literature searches of the peer-reviewed and grey literature on initiatives, including:
  - CPAC Service Delivery Models Directory
  - SAGE Inventory of Cancer Guidelines
  - National Guideline Clearinghouse

The Canadian Team to Improve Community-Based Cancer Care along the Continuum is supported by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.