

# Sources of Information and Clinical Trial Enrollment in Gynecologic Oncology

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# Premises:

- ◆ Gynecologic cancer includes ovarian, cervical, uterine, vaginal, and vulvar
- ◆  $\approx 94,000$  women diagnosed each year
- ◆ Clinical trial enrollment  $\approx 5\%$  of gyn onc patients
- ◆ Many sources of health information outside of health providers – i.e. social media
- ◆ *Objective: To investigate what sources gyn-onc patients use to obtain health information, particularly regarding clinical trials.*

# Summer Research Goals/Aims

- ◆ **Learn how to conduct and write a systematic literature review**
- ◆ **Design and implement a survey study to assess where gyn onc patients obtain information regarding gynecologic conditions and clinical trials**
- ◆ ***Impact: We hope to tailor communications regarding cancer treatments and clinical trials more effectively, including increasing outreach to underrepresented minorities.***

## Research Plan:

- A. Conduct a literature review on sources of information with a focus on the Internet and social media and clinical trial enrollment in gynecologic oncology.**
  
- B. Develop a survey study to determine where gyn-onc clinic patients obtain information regarding their condition and clinical trials.**

# Literature Review: Methods

- ◆ **Search using Pubmed, Franklin, and Google Scholar**
- ◆ **Keywords: “sources of information for gynecologic oncology patients”, “clinical trial recruitment in gynecologic oncology”**
- ◆ **Timeframe: within last 10 years**
- ◆ **Reviewed 200 abstracts, filtered down to 18**
- ◆ **Worked with coach at Critical Writing Center to produce draft**

# Literature Review: Results

- ◆ **Patients seek information from many sources other than their providers**
- ◆ **Not all sources are valued the same - providers are trusted more**
- ◆ **Nurses and other members of gyn-onc teams are invaluable in recruitment**

# Gyn-Onc Survey: Design and Methods

- ◆ **Created survey**
- ◆ **Chose to distribute survey via MPM (email)**
- ◆ **Maintaining patient confidentiality while avoiding possible duplicated entries**
- ◆ **Beta tested with peers and others**
- ◆ **REDCap as a distribution tool and data storage platform**
- ◆ **Will analyze using univariable and bivariable statistics as appropriate, as well as logistic regressions for associations**

# Survey

## Form 1

Page 1

Please complete the survey below.

Thank you!

First and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Diagnosis (please select any that apply):

- Cervical Cancer
- Vulvar Cancer
- Vaginal Cancer
- Ovarian Cancer
- Uterine/Endometrial Cancer
- Non-Cancer Condition
- Other

If you have cancer, select your stage (please select one):

- Stage I
- Stage II
- Stage III
- Stage IV
- N/A (Do not have cancer)

Race (please select one):

- White
- Black
- Hispanic/Latino
- Asian
- Indigenous/Native American
- Multiple
- Other

Insurance Type (please select any that apply):

- Medicare
- Medicaid
- Private (Employer-based) Insurance

Do you use social media?

- Yes
- No

If you selected yes, please check all of the platform(s) you use:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- TikTok
- Other

Do you use social media to search for information on gynecologic cancer/your health?

- Yes
- No

Do you use the internet to search for information on gynecologic cancer/your health?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes, what websites do you use?

\_\_\_\_\_

If you answered no, why?

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever participated in a clinical trial to treat your cancer?

- Yes
- No

If you answered no, why? Please select any that apply:

- Don't trust clinical trials
- Don't know what clinical trials are
- Not interested
- Trials don't apply to me
- Other

Where have you gotten information on clinical trials? Please select any that apply:

- Provider
- Your hospital (not provider)
- Support group
- Family/friends
- Newspapers
- Radio
- Magazines
- Online/Internet
- Social media
- Nowhere
- Other

Are you currently using social media to connect with your hospital (your gynecologic oncology care team) (may include: following an account, reading a blog, etc.)?

- Yes
- No

If you selected yes, which platforms do you use to connect with your hospital? Please select any that apply:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- TikTok
- Other

What would be your preferred social media platform to connect with your hospital (your gynecologic oncology care team) on? Please select any that apply:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- TikTok
- Other

Do you participate in a support group(s) for gynecologic cancer patients?

- Yes
- No

If you selected yes, where did you hear about this group? Please select any that apply:

- Provider
- Your hospital (not provider)
- Online/Internet
- Family/friends
- Social media
- Other

If you select yes, can you share the name of your group?

\_\_\_\_\_



# Research Contribution

- ◆ Reviewed literature and drafted outline of prior publications regarding social media and health literacy for a manuscript
- ◆ Design a survey with relevant questions
- ◆ Created Redcap survey platform/database
- ◆ Created IRB draft application
- ◆ Created recruitment materials

# Challenges/Lessons Learned

- ◆ **Analysis and formulation of scientific writing**
- ◆ **Confidence in asking questions and sharing ideas**
- ◆ **Passion for understanding patient experiences and how they relate to care**
- ◆ **Being adaptable while doing research**

## **Future Plans:**

- ◆ **Presentation at regional Gyn Onc Conference or National Gyn Onc Conference 2023-2024.**
- ◆ **Complete manuscript and submit for publication.**
- ◆ **Develop communication strategies for Gyn-Onc Clinical Trials Unit to improve education, awareness and enrollment of patients.**
- ◆ **Improve outreach to gyn onc patients who are underrepresented minorities.**

# Thank You

## ◆ Research Mentors/Team:

- Dr. Emily Ko, MD, MSCR
- Linda Crossette
- Katie Elkins
- Diego Rodriguez

## ◆ Others:

- Joanne Levy
- ChiChi Nwadiogbu

