Cancer Registry Data Use: Really Outside the Box

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Really Outside the Box

Know your Database
- What do you have?
  - A database with hundreds of data elements and the ability to retrieve that information in a customized format

Really Outside the Box

How can others use your data?
- They can’t ask for something until they know what you have
  - Be an advocate for your registry
  - When you hear others talk, always keep your data set in mind
Don’t Wait to be Asked!

- Listen to your fellow employees
  - What are they doing in their departments
    - Motion for Life
    - Vitamin D use
    - Quality of Life

Don’t Wait to be Asked!

- Offer to warehouse data instead of building more databases
  - AfterCare Program
  - Naturopathy

Don’t Wait to be Asked!

- Always keep your ear to the ground
  - Research protocols
    - Do your researchers know if your patient population can support a study’s criteria?
    - Develop a Core Data Set
Don’t Wait to Be Asked!

- Does your finance department know what cancers get the best reimbursement?

Don’t Wait to Be Asked!

- Does your finance department know how much is charged for a lung cancer that has surgery vs. a lung cancer that gets radiation therapy?
  - Is there a difference when bringing stage of disease into the equation?

Don’t Wait to Be Asked!

- Reimbursement ratio for intravenous chemotherapy vs. oral
- What is the financial benefit to your institution for offering screening programs?
- Based on co-morbid codes, are there more services that can be offered to your oncology patient?
Get the Word Out!
◆ Recently acknowledged for contributing to a policy change in the Georgia legislature on determining the definitions for Certificates of Need
◆ Supporting bench research
  – Ovarian vaccine study

Use Your Software!
◆ Using your software user defined fields
  – Allows you to:
    ◆ Increase the number of data fields
    ◆ Customizes your database

Teaming Up With Other Departments
◆ AfterCare Program
  – Who is eligible
  – When were they last seen
  – What is the patients cancer status
### Teaming Up With Other Departments

**Administration**
- Patient satisfaction survey
- Where are your patients coming from, locally or nationally
- Index only cases
  - How many come for consult, but don’t stay for cancer directed therapy
    - *This has been a big project of the Board of Directors*

**Nutrition Department**
- Vitamin D
  - Height at diagnosis
  - Weight at diagnosis
  - Menopause status

**Physicians**
- Warehouse data elements specific to a disease
  - Pancreas
    - Evidence of jaundice, abdominal pain, weight loss history of pancreatitis, on-set from symptoms to diagnosis
Patient Profiles

- Developing patient profiles for your Marketing Department
  - Compare your incidence to national data
    - Age at diagnosis
    - Gender
    - Co-morbid conditions

Patient profiles

- Are there services you could be offering
  - How many facilities has a patient been to prior to coming to your facility
  - Smoking history
  - Treatments offered by both disease sites and stage
  - Specific radiation therapy treatment data
    - IMRT etc
The Surveyor Helps Those Who Help Themselves!

- Helping yourself with survey
  - Use 2 fields
    - Was case eligible for TNM staging?
    - Was TNM documented in the treatment plan by the attending physician?
      - Combine with the attending physician name to see who is completing and who is not
The Surveyor Helps Those Who Help Themselves!

- If you don’t have data fields for CAP protocols, use a user defined field

The Surveyor Helps Those Who Help Themselves!

- Document the percentage of patients going on research protocols
  - Develop a procedure with your Research Department that notifies you which patients go on study and which study they went on

Summary

- Listen
- Learn
- Volunteer
- Be the data guru at your facility
Tip

When you are always offering, and producing a usable product, you and your staff will not be overlooked

Questions?

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Thank You!