Improving Patient Health Literacy for Oncology Patients Initiating Chemotherapy Treatment

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No disclosures
• Only 12% of adults in the United States possess proficient health literacy skills\(^1\).

• Poor health literacy makes it difficult for patients with cancer to navigate the health system and understand rapidly evolving cancer therapies.

• Novel approaches to increase patient health literacy may lead to improved patient-provider communication, patient understanding, and patient experience.
Methods

• Observational study
• Patient population: Patients with cancer beginning chemotherapy treatment.
• Intervention: Patients distributed study flyer containing QR code and URL for Qualtrics survey. Participants complete a demographic survey, pre-video survey, educational video on various cancer therapies, and post-video survey. Pre- and post-video surveys are the same and assess participants’ understanding of common cancer therapies.
• Main Outcome Measure: Results from the pre-video and post-video surveys are assessed and compared to determine the gain in knowledge of cancer therapies, if any, from the educational video.
Results

- Limited data; 22 participants completed pre-video survey and 16 participants completed post-video survey.
- Positive trend in % correct of survey questions post-video.

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<th>Question 1</th>
<th>Question 2</th>
<th>Question 3</th>
<th>Question 4</th>
<th>Question 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Video</td>
<td>81.8%</td>
<td>86.4%</td>
<td>95.5%</td>
<td>86.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(18/22)</td>
<td>(19/22)</td>
<td>(21/22)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-Video</td>
<td>93.8%</td>
<td>93.8%</td>
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<td>93.8%</td>
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<td>(15/16)</td>
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<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>+14.7%</td>
<td>+8.6%</td>
<td>+4.7%</td>
<td>+8.6%</td>
<td>+15.7%</td>
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</table>
Conclusion

- Implementation of an educational video regarding cancer therapies may lead to an increase in patient knowledge; however, more data must be collected to increase the significance and power of the early results.
- Improving health literacy for patients with newly diagnosed cancer who are initiating treatment has the potential to improve patient adherence, experience, and health outcomes.
- If this study continues to demonstrate positive results, the goal is to expand the accessibility of this educational tool to other oncology clinics within the ECU Health system.