INTRODUCTION

- Socioeconomically disadvantaged patients experience disparities in cancer care.
- The intersection between the social determinants of health (SDOH) and oncologic outcomes is not well understood because we do not routinely collect data on specific SDOH.
- Zip code of residence, median income, and insurance status are currently used as proxy markers to measure socioeconomic disadvantage.
- One cross-sectional study of US hospitals showed that only 24% of hospitals reported screening for the full spectrum of SDOH.

AIM: To leverage an underutilized screening tool to collect the social determinants of health and to identify specific SDOH domains which exist in our gastrointestinal cancer population.

METHODS

Patients over the age of 18 with a newly diagnosed GI cancer at Vidant Medical Center were included in the study.

We screened patients using a screening tool within Epic. It covers 9 SDOH domains: Transportation, Stress, Food Insecurity, Depression, Tobacco, Alcohol, Social Connections, Physical Activity, and Financial Strain.

 Patients with identified needs were referred to a social worker.

![Image of patient demographics](image1.png)

**Table 1. Patient Demographics (Summer 2021)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age Range</td>
<td>18-70</td>
<td>18-70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Age</td>
<td>66.2</td>
<td>69.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Dev Age</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>12.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Distance Traveled to Vidant (miles)</td>
<td>30.4</td>
<td>22.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DISCUSSION

- Most patients to date (n = 112) had 1-2 moderate or severe needs (Figure 2).
- Most common severe needs include physical activity (n=60), stress (n=52), tobacco (n=22), and food insecurity (n=9).
- Most common moderate needs include social isolation (n=71), tobacco (n=43), physical activity (n=19), and financial strain (n=12).
- SDOH screening will continue for a period of 1 year. We will assess for associations between specific SDOH domains and oncologic outcomes.

REFERENCES


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