

Presentation Title: Passport For Care (PFC)

Author: David G. Poplack, M.D.; Marc Horowitz, M.D.; Michael Fordis, M.D.

Description:

The PFC is an innovative project that addresses the need to provide patients and survivors of childhood cancer with increased access to their medical information/healthcare guidelines. This interactive Internet resource provides the user accurate, timely, and individualized healthcare information on a "just-in-time" basis. It is anticipated that eventually the PFC will offer a model that address the needs of individuals with a wide range of medical conditions, including adult cancers.

The PFC is being developed in collaboration with the NCI, Children's Oncology Group, and the National Childhood Cancer Survivor Study to address the needs of the estimated 270,000 long-term survivors of childhood cancer in the United States. The IOM and President's Cancer Panel have identified the provision of comprehensive follow-up medical care to long-term survivors of cancer as an important national health priority. Child and young adult survivors are often at risk for serious medical problems that result from cancer and its treatment; obtaining consistent medical follow-up for cancer survivors is confounded by several factors.

Our goal is to develop a national resource to address the health management needs of childhood cancer survivors. Initially, the PFC will be tested in a population of survivors and their healthcare providers to determine whether its use improves physician and survivor knowledge of, and compliance with, the best available surveillance recommendations. The implementation, testing, and modification of the PFC will be an iterative process with the eventual goal of producing an effective instrument that optimally serves the healthcare information needs of this growing population.

Grant Number and Funding Source: Abell Hanger Foundation, Alexander, Joan and Stanford Foundation, Armstrong, Lance Foundation, Bass, Harry W. Foundation, Hearst Foundations, Huffington Foundation, Meadows Foundation, Ronald McDonald House Houston, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Houston/Galveston, Inc., Ronald McDonald House Charities, Texas Cancer Council, private individuals

References:

Poplack, DG, Horowitz, ME, Fordis, M, et al. (2006). The Passport for Care (PFC), Improving the Lives of Childhood Cancer Survivors: Development of a Novel Internet Resource for Managing Long-Term Health Risks. *Implementing Cancer Survivorship Care Planning: A National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship and Institute of Medicine National Cancer Policy Forum Workshop In Partnership with The Lance Armstrong Foundation and The National Cancer Institute*. Washington, D.C.: National Academies Press; in press.