

Improving Goals of Care Conversations between Clinicians and Cancer Survivors

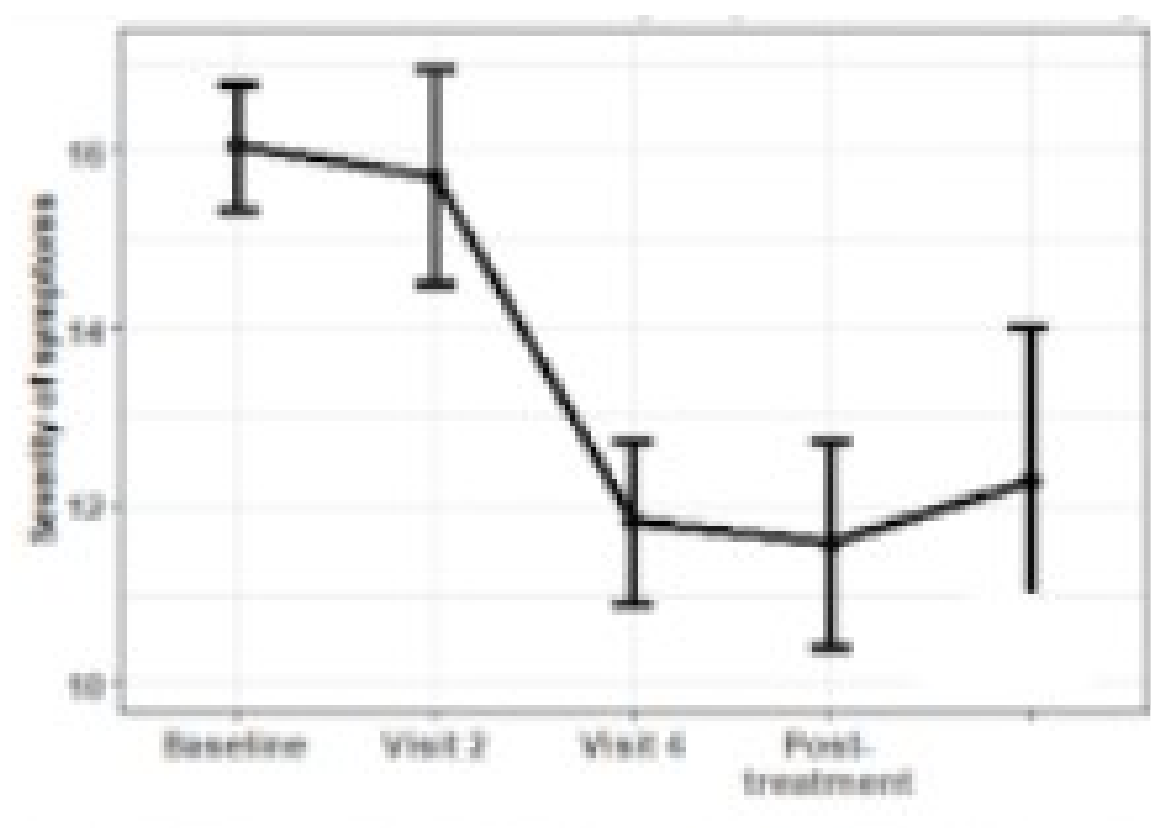


Background:

- **Cancer survivorship physicians** play a crucial role in the continuum of cancer care, focusing not just on the immediate aftermath of cancer treatment but also on the long-term health and well-being of survivors.
- Physicians are pivotal in guiding survivors through post-treatment, not only addressing medical needs but supporting the overall quality of their life.

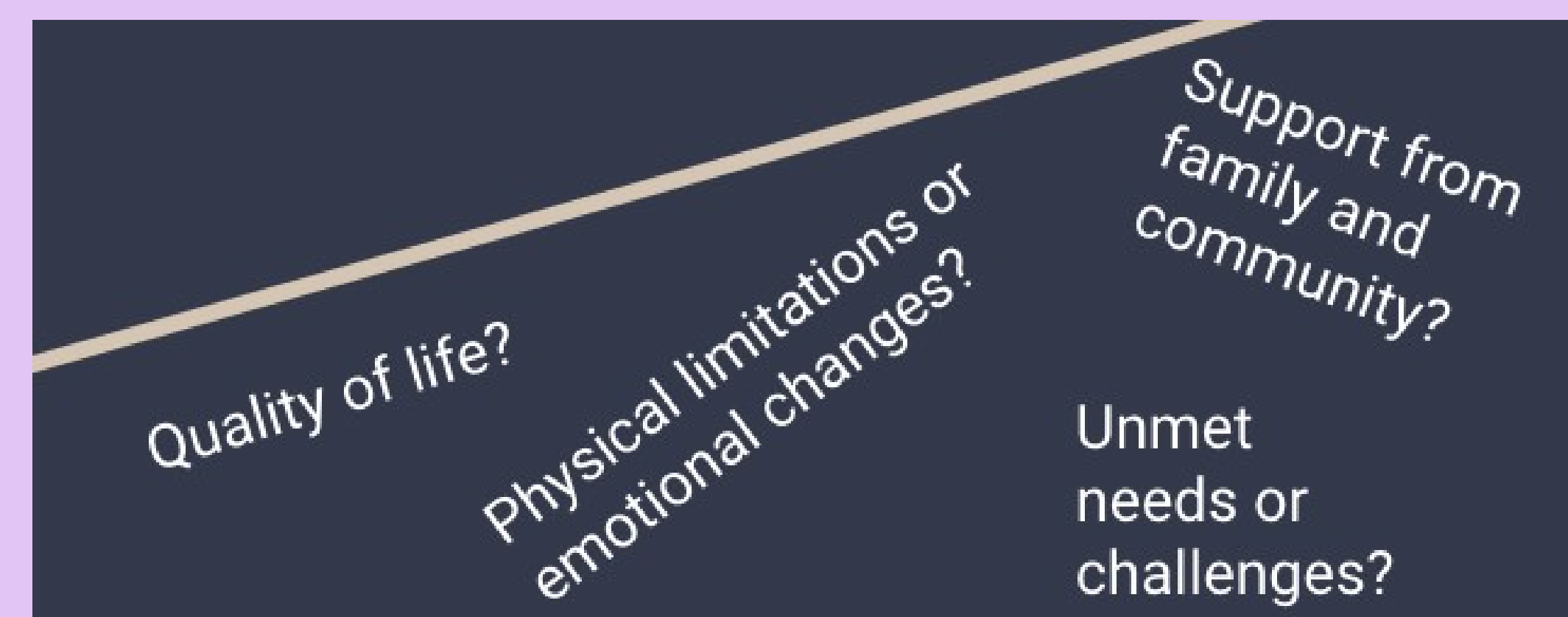
There is a critical need for an intervention that facilitates meaningful and effective goals of care conversations (GOCCs) between clinicians and cancer survivors.

- Clinicians should be encouraged to engage in comprehensive GOCCs
- Foster a collaborative care approach that aligns with the survivors' life goals in addressing the long-term effects of cancer and its treatment



Intervention:

Our proposed intervention involves the electronic health record system, where patients will be able to **input updates on their progress** before health check-ups, alongside a **mandatory "check box"** for clinicians to confirm they have reviewed the patient's chart prior to subsequent consultations.



Methods:

- Location: Duke Oncology Department → Survivorship Care
- Main Players:
 - Providers
 - Patients
 - Family Members
 - Administrative/ IT Staff



Efficacy:

Data collection:

1. Assess baseline frequency and post-intervention frequency of GOCC as documented in patient medical records
2. Document patient-reported outcomes via survey (assessing overall satisfaction, quality of life).
3. Chart review of healthcare utilization after implementation.

Long-Term Viability:

- Training and Education
- Policy and Compliance
- Evaluation and Quality Improvement

Conclusion:

Our two goals:

- 1) Increased frequency and patient reported quality of documented GOCC
- 2) Improved overall patient satisfaction and quality of life in cancer survivors, decreased hospital admissions and aggressive treatment

Sources:

1. Dy, S. M., Isenberg, S. R., & Al Hamayel, N. A. (2017). Palliative Care for Cancer Survivors. *The Medical clinics of North America*, 101(6), 1181–1196. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mcna.2017.06.009>
2. He, L., Qu, H., Wu, Q., & Song, Y. (2020). Lymphedema in survivors of breast cancer. *Oncology letters*, 19(3), 2085–2096. <https://doi.org/10.3892/ol.2020.11307>
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