Patient and Family Advisory Council

Cuthbert Lab & Oncology Outcomes

Welcome

We are pleased to share that the Oncology Outcomes team was successful in the Fall 2024 CIHR Project Grant competition on "Generating Synthetic Data for Oncology Use Cases to Facilitate Multi-Jurisdictional Research". Our team is excited to get started on this project!

Our teams are also hard at work preparing submissions for the March Canadian Institute of Health Research Project Grant competition. The first project, "TAI-CARE: TAi chi to Improve Chronic pain And Recovery Experiences in cancer survivors", led by Dr. Colleen Cuthbert is a re-submission that we are hopeful will be successful. The second project, "Informing Future Workforce Planning: Leveraging Health Administrative Data to Measure the Complexity of Cancer Care", led by Dr. Winson Cheung aims to quantify and estimate care complexity.

We eagerly await the results of these submissions in the Fall and will keep everyone updated as we learn more information!



Research Highlights

Oncology Outcomes

Real-world Evidence on First- and Second-line Palliative Chemotherapy in Advanced Pancreatic Cancer.

STUDY PURPOSE

The prognosis of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) remains very poor.

- Most patients of PDAC are not amenable to curative-intent treatment.
- Optimized palliative management is needed.

Summarize + assess literature on first- and secondline palliative chemotherapy in advanced PDAC.

Focusing on:

- ▶ 2 key types of literature:
 - Real-world evidence (RWE).
 - Randomized controlled trials (RCT).
- ▶ 2 of the most established first-line regiments:
 - folfirinox (FFX).
 - gemcitabine plus nab-paclitaxel (GnP).
- No restrictions placed on on focus for <u>second-line</u> regimens.

Due to lack of evidence on optimal regimen.

CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE IMPACT

First-line Therapies:

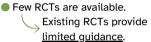
RCT and RWE literature shows...



FFX and GnP regimens are effective and reasonably safe.

Second-line Therapies:

There are considerable gaps in knowledge.



 Effects of different sequences of therapy administration is <u>not</u> addressed.

Future RWE and RCT studies should explore optimal treatment sequence.



There is a need for <u>prognostic and predictive</u>
<u>biomarkers</u> to inform clinical decision making and
enable personalized management in advanced PDAC.

Click here for full article.

Cuthbert Lab

ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN PHYSICIAN PRESCRIBING BEHAVIOR AND PERSISTENT POSTOPERATIVE OPIOID USE AMONG CANCER PATIENTS UNDERGOING CURATIVE-INTENT SURGERY: A POPULATION-BASED COHORT STUDY

Yuan Xu, Colleen A Cuthbert, Safiya Karim, Shiying Kong, Joseph C Dort, May Lynn Quan, Ashley V Hinther, Hude Quan, Brenda R Hemmelgarn, Winson Y Cheung

Opioid prescriptions have skyrocketed, contributing to misuse and overdose deaths. Canada ranks #2 globally in per capita opioid consumption, with over 21 million prescriptions filled annually. Cancer patients are especially vulnerable, receiving 22% more opioid prescriptions than non-cancer patients.

STUDY FINDINGS

- Examining the link between prescribers' opioid prescribing history and persistent postoperative opioid use in cancer patients undergoing curative-intent surgery:
 - **8.6%** of cancer patients developed **persistent opioid use** after surgery.
 - Patients with high-dose prescribing doctors were 2.4x more likely to continue opioid use long-term.
 - Other risk factors: younger age, comorbidities, pre-surgical opioid use, chemotherapy, and tumor type.

CONCLUSIONS

These results suggests that prescriber behavior plays an important role in long-term opioid use among cancer patients.

Better opioid stewardship and individualized pain management strategies are needed to reduce the risk of prolonged opioid dependency.



Study Recruitment

We are looking for **just one more** participant to meet our recruitment goals:

Remote Assessment of Physical Fitness
Measures: Reliability and Validity Study
Poster Link to Share

If you think the studies might be relevant to your contacts, please feel free to share the website or poster links. For the additional details on each study click <u>here</u>.



The next newsletter will release in April 2025.

Previous issues of the PFAC newsletter have been posted online: https://www.cuthbertlab.com/advisory-counci

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