



BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Family Practice Oncology Network

Family Practice Oncology Network

Progress Report and Strategic Direction

Dr. Phil White, Chair and Medical Director

December 3, 2011

www.fpon.ca

Rationale

To improve cancer care in BC by providing support and connection to physicians in the community.

- Practical resources and tools to enhance primary cancer care
- Helpful link between family physicians and BC Cancer Agency



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Brief History

Network formed by BC Cancer Agency in 2002 in recognition of family physicians' growing role in cancer care

- Prevention
- Diagnosis,
- Treatment
- Follow-up care
- Survivorship
- Palliative care
- Managing cancer as a chronic disease

Family physicians, oncologists, medical educators and CDM experts determined the focus and priorities.



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Network Focus and Priorities

- Enhanced oncology training for rural family physicians – Preceptor Program
- Brief, accessible cancer care guidelines for family physicians
- Practical CME opportunities for family physicians online and in communities
- National and provincial partnerships
- Newsletter and Website
- Research and evaluation



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Preceptor Program

To ensure every BC community over 15,000 has at least one physician with oncology expertise including the ability to administer chemotherapy and support all aspects of cancer care.

- 65 graduates to date from 34 BC communities
- New Agency GPOs also trained through program
- 8-week program: flexible, modular format
- 2-week introductory module at Vancouver Centre offered 2x yearly
- Stipend provided and expenses covered for rural family physicians
- Applicants must have support from their community



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Cancer Care Guidelines

Partnership with the Ministry of Health and BCMA/MSC Guidelines and Protocols Advisory Committee to develop brief, accessible guidelines for family physicians. Guidelines have patient information handouts with flow sheets for the physician to manage patients over time and appendices where appropriate to elaborate on and provide rationale for some of the recommendations as well as a bibliography. They are incorporated into EMRs once approved.

- Palliative Care set now complete
- Breast guideline underway to be followed by prostate and colorectal
- Available at www.bcguidelines.ca and soon for download to iPhone, Blackberry or PDA



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CME Opportunities

Online and community based accredited oncology CME for family physicians

Monthly free CME Webcast program,

- in partnership with UBC CPD
- 3rd Thurs, 8-9:00 a.m.
- interactive oncologist and specialist presentations
- Community oncology workshops
 - in partnership with UBC CPD
 - 8 topics, 40 communities a year for 3 years
 - Breast cancer workshops underway now
 - Prostate cancer workshops to begin in spring 2012
- Annual Family Practice Oncology CME Day



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National and Provincial Partnerships

Close affiliation with Canadian Association of General Practitioners in Oncology (CAGPO) and other provinces' primary care oncology groups

- Exploring national online accredited CME program with CAGPO
- Link with CancerCare Manitoba
- Interest from other province's in our Preceptor Program and guidelines.



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Newsletter and Website

Newsletter: produced twice yearly and distributed to all family physicians in BC

- Updates from oncologists and specialists
- Review of new resources for family physicians
- Insights from key Agency and primary care oncology providers

www.fpon.ca: Full details and links to all of the above.



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Research and Evaluation

Periodic analyses and evaluations to improve our effectiveness as a resource to family physicians – including ongoing relevance and value.

New initiatives in survivorship will provide greater opportunities in these areas as we endeavor to provide more cancer care in the community and take pressure off oncologists at the agencies. Our research and evaluation committee will become significantly more active in 2012.



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