

Development of an RCN Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) model of care

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"Why are the types of treatment young adults receive not specific to this age range? We have different issues than the other age ranges. We have issues such as fertility. We have young nerves that aren't able to withstand the effects of chemo and radiation without long-term damage." – JL, ovarian cancer, 29 at diagnosis

INTRODUCTION

- The McGill AYA Oncology Program, founded in 2003, is the first AYA specific program in Canada.
- The program is open to patients diagnosed with cancer at age 39 and under as well as older adults suffering from pediatric type malignancies.
- The program is delivered by an interdisciplinary team of physicians and support care professionals addressing patients' medical and psychosocial needs.

A NEED FOR AN RCN AYA MODEL OF CARE

Development of an RCN model of care is important in order to:

- Address current disparities in access to the AYA program across our network
- Standardize a process for identification of supportive care needs of young cancer patients
- Respond to areas of care delivery of importance to the AYA population

ELEMENTS OF THE RCN AYA MODEL OF CARE

The overall goal of this project is to develop an AYA model of care that is accessible to patients across the Rossy Cancer Network.

This will be achieved through:

- Creation of a standardized AYA referral process across RCN
- Development of an RCN tailored supportive care needs assessment tool

OUR APPROACH

UNDERSTAND PATIENT PERSPECTIVE

- Compare AOPSS scores of younger patient population (age 18-44) to older patient population (age 45+)

EXAMINE CURRENT REFERRAL PATTERNS

- Patient volume
- Reason for referral
- Referral rate by RCN site

DETERMINE ACCESS TO MEDICAL AND SUPPORTIVE CARE SERVICES

- % pts. receiving medical treatment within 3 weeks from first contact
- % pts. seen by a supportive care professional

EVALUATE APPLICABILITY OF THE BEST AYA PRACTICES TO THE RCN CONTEXT

- Review of the existing national and international AYA models of care
- Review recommendations of the Canadian National AYA Task Force

DEVELOP TOOLS TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW AYA MODEL OF CARE

- RCN AYA referral form
- RCN AYA supportive care services assessment tool

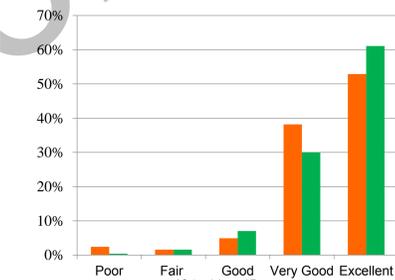
THE "LOST TRIBE": PATIENT PERSPECTIVE

Do younger cancer patients have different impression of patient experience and satisfaction compared to older cancer patients?

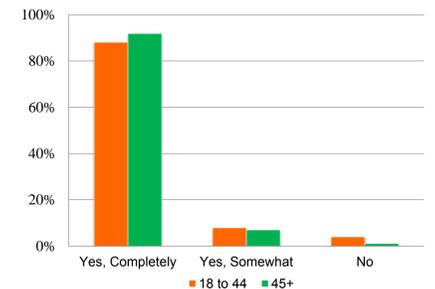
Overall satisfaction with the quality of care

- An analysis of AOPSS scores for 127 patients (age 18-44), seen across the RCN from 2012 to 2016, revealed that young patients are less satisfied with the overall quality of care compared to patients age 45+ (n=2,163)

Q89: "Overall, how would you rate the quality of all your care in the past 6 months?"



Q80: "Would you recommend the health care providers in RCN to your family and friends?"



Emotional support – an important aspect of care for RCN AYA

- Only 32.0% of the 18 to 44 year olds rated their emotional health as very good or excellent compared to 51.9% of those over the age of 45
- Conversely, 68% of 18 to 44 year olds rated their emotional health as poor / fair / good compared to 48.1% of respondents age 45+
- 60.3% of the 18 to 44 year olds were referred to a support care professional for help with anxiety/fears compared to 48.8% of those 45+ years of age

"Being diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 30 with a newborn baby is nothing like being diagnosed with breast cancer post menopause."
DS, breast cancer, 30 at diagnosis

"People treat you differently when they hear you have cancer. Peer support is very important to relieve some of the isolation you feel."
PM, acute lymphocytic leukemia, 18 at diagnosis



"Cancer treatment affects the way you look and basically ruins your body. It's pretty hard to imagine anyone could be attracted to you in that state."
PM, acute lymphocytic leukemia, 18 at diagnosis

"Every patient diagnosed with cancer needs a psych consult. We're brave and head-strong, so check back later because we may seem fine at first."
DS, breast cancer, 30 at diagnosis