Improving the Quality of Cancer Care: Addressing the Challenges of an Aging Population

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ONS Vision and Mission

ONS Vision
To lead the transformation of cancer care

ONS Mission
To promote excellence in oncology nursing and quality cancer care
Cancer Statistics

• Cancer is primarily a disease of advancing age.
• ACS estimates > 1.6 million new cases in 2012.
  – 577,000 deaths
• CDC/NCI estimates 12 million living cancer survivors, and that number is growing.

(CDC, 2011; Howlader et al., 2012; Siegel, Naishadham, & Jemal, 2012)
Challenges Anticipated for the Baby Boomer Generation

• Accumulation of comorbid conditions
  – May affect ability to tolerate cancer treatments
  – May increase the rate of significant side effects

• Physical, psychosocial, and financial changes
  – Mobility
  – Mental capacity
  – Fixed or reduced income
  – Geographic access to care and family caregivers

(Extermann, 2007; Ryan, Smith, Antonucci, & Jackson, 2011)
Nurses as Interprofessional Partners in Evidence-Based, Patient-Centered Care

• Patients are frustrated by the complexity of the healthcare system.
  – Nurses in navigator/case manager roles fill a need.

• Major goal of nursing is to prevent harm.
  – Provide proactive risk assessment and mitigation.

• Nurses coordinate care and transition.
  – Ensure patient-centered care across settings and health issues.
ONS Is Committed to Quality

• Quality is a pillar in 2012-2016 Strategic Plan.

• We believe that
  – The nursing perspective, gained from real-world chair- or bedside experience, is crucial to successful management of complex patients.
  – Nurses can contribute to design of a national healthcare system that nurtures excellence.
  – People with cancer require long-term, coordinated care from multiple clinicians and community resources.
Quality Measurement (QM)

- The ONS Foundation has developed QM focused on the care of patients with breast cancer receiving chemotherapy and during the first year of post-treatment survivorship.
  - Many common symptoms and IOM recommendations for survivorship care are not addressed consistently.
  - The burden of data collection is high, and results are not returned in a timely manner.

(Campbell et al., 2011; Grunfeld et al., 2011; Hewitt, Bamundo, Day, & Harvey, 2007; Hewitt & Ganz, 2007; Salz, Oeffinger, McCabe, Layne, & Bach, 2012)
In Summary

• Nurses are needed across all settings to meet the growing needs of an aging population.
• Patient-centeredness and a true partnership between the patient and the interprofessional team is the model for the future.
  – Formal competencies
  – Innovative, collaborative curricula needed
• ONS is pleased to sponsor and be part of this consensus study.