ACP PEACE: Promoting Effective and Aligned Communication in the Elderly

James A. Tulsky, MD Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Angelo Volandes, MD, MPH Massachusetts General Hospital



Advance Care Planning: Promoting Effective and Aligned Communication in the Elderly

- Pragmatic, step wedge, cluster RCT testing whether clinician communication skills training and patient video decision aids will increase advance care planning outcomes (ACP completion, resuscitation orders, pall care consults, hospice use) in advanced cancer patients
 > age 65
- 3 health systems and 36 oncology clinics
- 30,000 patients











Original Design

		UH3						
STEPS (clinic clusters)	Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	
1, 2								
3, 4								
5, 6								
7, 8								
9, 10								
11, 12								





	UH3							
STEPS (clinic clusters)		Baseline	1	2	3	4		
1, 2								
3, 4								
5, 6								
7, 8, 9								
10, 11, 12								

- Step 1&2: ACP rates before and after intervention
- Steps 3-12: Intervention effect post-COVID-19

 COVID-19 effect: Will estimate pre-COVID ACP rate from original baseline plus Step 1; post-COVID ACP rate from Step 2 data. Will also examine trends over time.



Data Challenges

TABLE 3. CHART REVIEW CONTENT OF STRUCTURED DATA ADVANCE CARE PLANNING DOCUMENTS BY CLASSIFICATION

Chart review classification N=total number of documents	Site 1 $(N=55)^{a}$	Site 2 $(N=176)^{a}$	Site 3 $(N=132)^{a}$	Overall (N=363)				
1. Data elements that represent unique advance care planning documents (correct)								
Advance directive/description of EOL wishes	14 (25.5)	104 (59.1)	1 (0.8)	119 (32.8)				
MOLST/out of hospital code status	0 (0.0)	17 (9.7)	7 (5.3)	24 (6.6)				
Post-mortem instructions	0 (0.0)	4 (2.3)	0 (0.0)	4 (1.1)				
HCP/DPOA for health care	13 (23.6)	22 (12.5)	33 (25.0)	68 (18.7)				
Total correct documents	27 (49.1)	147 (83.5)	41 (31.1)	215 (59.2)				
2. Data elements that represent blank, not available/completed docume	nts, or those	that do not a	represent AC	P (incorrect)				
Blank or incomplete document	0 (0.0)	4 (2.3)	2 (1.5)	6 (1.7)				
Reports as asked, but not completed	0(0.0)	0 (0.0)	29 (22.0)	29 (8.0)				
Reports as available, but document not present	18 (32.7)	1 (0.6)	13 (9.8)	32 (8.8)				
Wrong document (i.e., Consent Form, Procedural Safety Checklist, HIPAA Release)	2 (3.6)	11 (6.2)	6 (4.5)	19 (5.2)				
Total incorrect documents	20 (36.4)	16 (9.1)	50 (37.9)	86 (23.7)				
3. Duplicate documents (identical to another form)	8 (14.5)	13 (7.4)	41 (31.1)	62 (17.1)				

