Goal 1: Provide awareness of clinical trials for academic fellows by engaging fellows in recruitment.

Goal 2: Increase the number of minorities recruited and enrolled onto oncology clinical trials at IUSCC and Eskenazi Health.

Objective 1: By end of Q2 (July 2019), all current fellows and faculty will be aware of current and upcoming clinical trials available at IUSCC and Eskenazi Health through the use of a clinical trial database.

Objective 2: By end of Q3 (Oct 2019), minority accruals onto hematologic/oncology clinical trials will have increased by an overall total of 5% at both IUSCC and Eskenazi Health recruitment sites.

Materials & Methods

Increased collaboration and communication will occur between clinical disease-oriented teams (DOT), academic fellows and other clinical trial staff at IUSCC and Eskenazi Health starting January 2019. Use of Epic software, creation of a clinical trial interface, staff attendance, participation in monthly tumor boards and DOT meetings, and review of trial portfolios will solidify outcomes.

A new interface was developed, located on the Eskenazi Health website, which fellows and community-based faculty are able to access regularly. This ensures they can familiarize themselves with clinical trials open to accrual and refer eligible patients within the health system network. This interface is in the form of a web-based spreadsheet and contains key eligibility criteria to reference prior to an encounter with a patient. Providers using the Epic program messaging system can be aware of current and upcoming clinical trials available at IUSCC and Eskenazi Health through the use of a clinical trial database.

Post Survey

Not Familiar Somewhat Familiar Familiar Very Familiar

Every Week Most Weeks Occasionally Rarely Never

In the past 3 months, how familiar have you been with the hematologic/oncology clinical trials portfolio at Eskenazi Health?

Results

How often do you attend tumor board meetings at Eskenazi Health?

Not Familiar Somewhat Familiar Familiar Very Familiar

Every Week Most Weeks Occasionally Rarely Never

In the past 3 months, how familiar have you been with the hematologic/oncology clinical trials portfolio at IUSCC?

Discussion

Overall minority accruals onto therapeutic clinical trials increased by over 23%. As the program continues, we may see more significant increases in overall minority accruals. In the course of 5 months, fellows became more aware of and familiar with the clinical trials available to their patient population. Attendance at clinical research meetings showed an increase in collaboration and communication between academic fellows and the rest of clinical research staff at IUSCC and Eskenazi Health.

Looking forward, all new IUSCC and Eskenazi Health academic fellows rotating through their academic training will receive a baseline evaluation (pre-survey) on month 1 of their service. A post-survey will be distributed to fellows during the final month of their clinical rotation. A comparison will be made using data from the post-survey to look for continued changes in attitudes and awareness. Therapeutic clinical trial accruals at IUSCC and Eskenazi Health will continue to be monitored for increases in minority population accruals. Our center plans to re-evaluate the academic curriculum and expectations of all incoming fellows with a commitment from IUSCC and Eskenazi Health to increase clinical trial participation.

Future directions are to survey patients about their perceived barriers to clinical trial recruitment and begin establishing new strategies to overcome patient-specific barriers to clinical trial recruitment. Focus will be placed on minority patients and location at Eskenazi Health clinic. The IUSCC will continue to identify other resources and opportunities to increase minority accruals.

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Conclusion

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