

THE ROLE OF THE PIVOT NURSE IN ONCOLOGY

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OUTLINE

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- Definition of Infirmière Pivot en Oncologie
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- Role of the IPO (nursing process)
- Interdisciplinary team
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- Outcome and Rewards

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Background

- The recommendation from le programme québécois de la lutte contre le cancer (PQLC) is that each person with a cancer diagnosis should have an « *intervenant pivot* » (1998) (de Serres & Beauchesne 2000)
- IPO = *Infirmière Pivot en Oncologie* translates to Pivot Nurse in Oncology

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Trajectory of the cancer experience

- Diagnosis
- Treatments
 - Surgery
 - Radiation
 - Chemotherapy
- Remission
- Recurrence
- Treatment
- Palliative care
- Bereavement

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Definition of Infirmière Pivot

- Resource-person
- Easily accessible
- Expert
- Intervenes from diagnosis and throughout the trajectory of the cancer experience
- Works closely with the interdisciplinary team
- Assures a link between members of the interdisciplinary team and the community



(Comité de L'évolution de la pratique infirmière)
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Patient referrals to IPO

- Health care professionals including nurses refer patients to IPO to see complex cases
- Pt must have a diagnosis of cancer and one or more of the following risk factors:
 - Co-morbidities
 - Issues with compliance
 - Difficulty in coping with illness and treatment
 - Identified Psychosocial issues
 - Weak or absent social support

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Role of the IPO and the Nursing Process

Assessment/planning / implementation/Evaluation

- Getting to know the patient and family
- Identify support system
- Knowledge about cancer in general
- Knowledge about their disease
- Impact of the disease on their lives
- Resources to involve
- Ongoing Evaluation
- Health promotion

Role of the IPO Patient Teaching

- Patient and family focused
- The goal is to empower patients
- Patient and family recognize the IPO as a valuable source of information
- IPO relies on family as an important ally and resource

Role of the IPO Symptom Management

- Is one of the main components of role
- Is involved during active phase of treatment
- Addresses post-treatment side effects
- Shared responsibility
- Initiates telephone calls (systematic f/u)
- Decreases or potentially prevent patient deterioration

Outil de suivi de symptômes

symptômes	VAS
Fatigue	
Anxiété	
Dépression	
Douleur	
Appétit	
Nausée vomissement	
Problèmes intestinaux	
Dyspnée	
toux	

Role of the IPO Telephone Triage

- Telephone Intervention Documentation Tool is used to assess and monitor patients; based on Cancer Care Ontario guidelines
- Communication tool that contributes greatly to continuity of care
- At least 60% of interventions are conducted over the phone

MUHC nursing study on practice pattern of IPO

- Retrospective review nursing notes
 - 60% of the interventions were conducted by telephone and
 - 40% were conducted during clinic visits.
 - 4 main categories of nursing interventions
 - symptom assessment,
 - teaching symptom management,
 - monitoring and surveillance, and
 - continuity of care.
- (Saucier, Skrutkowski, Eades, & Swidzinski, 2006)

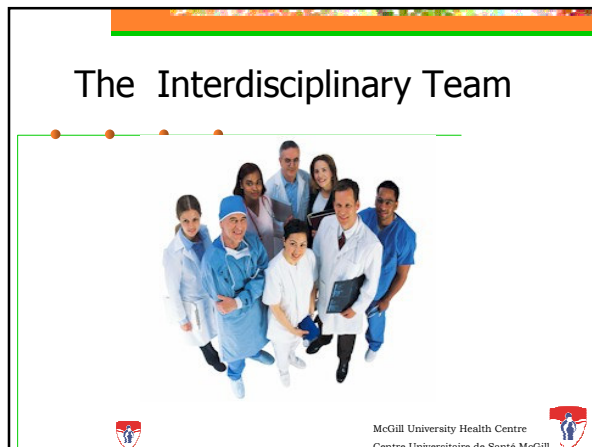



MUHC nursing study Practice pattern of IPO

Intervention	Descriptions from Nurse's Notes
Symptom Assessment	Review of new symptoms identified/reported Symptom grading scale (0-10) by pt
Teach Symptom Mgmt	Strategies to improve symptoms, eg. energy saving for fatigue, eg. anti-emetic medication for nausea
Monitor/ Surveillance	F/up changes with symptoms assessed initially Review of symptom outcomes
Continuity of Care	Coordination of care with services and professionals; Communication with team on treatment plan & pt f/up; reporting back to team
Referral/ Consult	Formal request to service or HCP - community, ER, PCU, family MD, SW...
Data Gathering	Initial patient assessment for baseline profile on PMH, cancer dx, coping skills, support/resources
Family Assessment	Genogram; Social support assessment
Support Family-Patient	Review of coping skills; Support to express emotion, giving encouragement; Give info assist with decision making
Advocacy for patient	Speaking on behalf of the patient; influence HCP; Mobilizing the physician; <u>modify care plan</u>

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- ## Role of the IPO Interdisciplinary Communication
- Coordination of care throughout the continuum
 - Sharing information with the team
 - Link with the community and other resources
 - Advocacy
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- ## Building team partnerships
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- Clarity of each other's role – each brings own expertise to address needs of the person in a holistic approach
 - Collaborative relationships
 - Familiarity with available resources
 - Referrals
 - Team composition:
 - Physicians, Nurses, Social worker, Nutritionist, Psychology, Clerks, Secretaries, PT, OT, Rehab, Community services
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- ## Interdisciplinary rounds
- Guidelines for case review:
- Goal is to improve patient care
 - Any health care professional is invited to submit a case for review
 - Complex symptoms include physical and/or psychosocial components
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- ## The Challenges
- New role within the MUHC
 - Adapting to the role
 - Learning curve
 - Acquiring expertise
 - Building trust
 - Meeting the needs
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Outcomes and Rewards

- Partial remedy to a fragmented system
- Preventing patients from getting lost in the system
- Provides a sense of security to patient
- Prevention of frequent visits to the Emergency Department
- Improved communication within the team
- Health care professionals are getting more comfortable referring patients to the IPO
- Patients and families provide positive feedback



Thank you

