

Update to the Oncology Patient Navigator Training: The Fundamentals (September 2021)

In 2015, The GW Cancer Center (formerly the GW Cancer Institute) created the first consensus-based competencies for oncology patient navigators without a clinical license, which was accompanied by the Oncology Patient Navigator Training: The Fundamentals and an accompanying Guide. While most of the content in the Training and the Guide are still applicable, this document provides important updates for patient navigators taking the training after 2020.

Given the training and guide’s international reach and potential application, we also offer suggestions for where to adapt with regional-specific resources.

Notes on terminology

Since releasing the Oncology Patient Navigation Training: The Fundamentals, we have tried to optimize culturally competent, affirming terminology. We respectfully acknowledge that we have used some of the terms we now suggest navigators in practice avoid that are listed below:

- *Avoid the following terms:* target population, vulnerable, marginalized and high-risk – these terms may be stigmatizing and may imply that the health condition is inherent to the population rather than the underlying causal factors when used as adjectives
- *Consider using one or more of these terms:* disproportionately affected, groups placed at higher risk/put at higher risk, groups experiencing disadvantages, groups experiencing disproportionate effects, population of focus, and under-resourced communities.

For more tips on using a health equity lens, see our [Health Equity Tip Sheet \(PDF\)](#).

Location	Update	For Navigators outside of the U.S.
<p>Module 3: The Basics of Healthcare</p> <p>Lesson 1: Medical Terminology</p>		<p>Health Translations - Multilingual Cancer Glossary webpage: 8 bilingual glossaries for professional translators, interpreters and bilingual health professionals working in the cancer field.</p> <p>MedlinePlus - Cancer: Multiple Languages webpage: Cancer information in over 15 languages that can be arranged by health topic.</p> <p>Health Information Translations - webpage: Easy to read and culturally appropriate health education resources in over 20 languages for health care professionals and others to use in the community.</p> <p>IMIA - Terminology Resource Database webpage: This database includes glossaries, dictionaries, and more (>50 languages) to help users whether a resource will helpful.</p>

Location	Update	For Navigators outside of the U.S.
<p>Module 3: The Basics of Healthcare</p> <p>Lesson 2: Cancer Basics</p>	<p>Current cancer screening guidelines: USPSTF - Cervical Cancer Screening Guidelines webpage: To include cotesting with both cytology and HPV testing.</p> <p>USPSTF - Colorectal Cancer Screening Guidelines webpage: To include stool-based testing and change to starting age of 45.</p> <p>Current data on cancer risk factors and outcomes: US Cancer Statistics Data Visualization Tool</p>	<p>International learners should refer to relevant guidelines and well as statistics for their region.</p> <p>WHO - Report on Traditional and Complementary Medicine webpage: National practices, providers, and education.</p> <p>WHO - Screening Programmes: A Short Guide webpage: Provides international screening-specific guidance.</p> <p>ESMO - Interactive Guidelines webpage: Recommendations for helping patients with the best care options.</p> <p>ICISG - Cancer Information in Other Languages webpage: Cancer organizations with information in >20 languages</p> <p>ACS - Cancer Information in Other Languages webpage: Information about cancer in >10 languages.</p>
<p>Module 3: The Basics of Healthcare</p> <p>Lesson 3: Clinical Trials</p>	<p>Current clinical trial participation rates: Journal of the National Cancer Institute - Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Cancer Clinical Trial Participation webpage</p> <p>Steps to finding a clinical trial: NCI - Steps to Find a Clinical Trial webpage</p> <p>Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology - Glossary webpage</p>	<p>WHO - International Clinical Trials Registry Platform webpage: Search portal for clinical trials in 10 languages.</p> <p>EORTC - Clinical Trials Database webpage: Search portal for ongoing and future cancer clinical trials.</p>

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<p>Module 3: The Basics of Healthcare</p> <p>Lesson 5: U.S. Health Care System</p>	<p>Current U.S. Federal Poverty Guidelines: 2021 U.S. Federal Poverty Level (webpage)</p> <p>Additional resources that may be helpful: Cancer.Net - The Oncology Team webpage: A topic not included in the lesson.</p>	<p>Replace U.S. Health Care System with regional-specific health care infrastructure information.</p> <p>The Commonwealth Fund - International Health Care System Profiles webpage: Information about health care systems from 20 countries.</p> <p>OECD - Country Health Profiles webpage: Overview of health and health systems in 2019.</p>
<p>Module 3: The Basics of Healthcare</p> <p>Lesson 6: U.S. Health Care Payment and Financing</p>	<p>Affordable Care Act's impact on health insurance coverage throughout the cancer care continuum: ACS - The Affordable Care Act: How It Helps People with Cancer and Their Families webpage</p>	<p>Replace U.S. Health Care Payment and Financing with regional-specific health care insurance and financing information.</p>
<p>Module 4: The Basics of Patient Navigation</p> <p>Lesson 1: The Role of the Patient Navigator</p>		<p>Incorporate regional example scenarios and available psychosocial tools to assess distress.</p>
<p>Module 4: The Basics of Patient Navigation</p> <p>Lesson 2: Patient Assessment</p>		<p>Confirm examples of patient assessments are relevant to the regional populations.</p> <p>NACHS - Translated versions of the PRAPARE assessment tool (webpage): National Association of Community Health Centers offers assessment tools in multiple languages</p>

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Module 4: The Basics of Patient Navigation Lesson 4: Identifying Resources		Refer to global or regional cancer organizations.
Module 7: Enhancing Practice Lesson 3: Program Evaluation and Quality Improvement	Current Commission on Cancer accreditation standards: Commission on Cancer 2020 Standards and Resources GW - Implementing the Commission on Cancer Standard 8.1: Addressing Barriers to Care webpage No-cost tool for your program evaluation: Patient Navigation Barriers and Outcomes Tool (PN-BOT) webpage	

Refer to the [GW Cancer Center's Online Academy webpage](#) for a complete list of updated resources for the Oncology Patient Navigation Training: The Fundamentals.