Update to the Oncology Patient Navigator Training: The Fundamentals
January 2024

At the GW Cancer Center Technical Assistance Program (GW TAP), we are committed to providing you with FREE, up-to-date, evidence-based resources. 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 followed by the GW Oncology Patient Navigator Training: The Fundamentals and an accompanying Guide. While the content in the training and the guide provide a solid foundation to patient navigators who are just getting started, there have been important developments in the research and policy fields since we released these resources. Given the international reach of the GW training and guide, we also offer suggestions for where to adapt with regional-specific resources.

> **Starting January 1, 2024, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) began paying for community health worker (CHW) and patient navigation services. This training with the following resources should get you up to speed for competency, training, credentialing and reimbursement standards under the new CMS CY24 Physician Payment Rule.**

Since releasing the Oncology Patient Navigation Training: The Fundamentals, we have tried to optimize culturally humble, affirming terminology. We respectfully acknowledge that we have used 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).

Can I adapt these materials?

If you would like to adapt the training content or any of the supplemental resources to customize to your local context to help document eligibility for reimbursement for your navigation program, PowerPoint decks covering most of the training content (sans videos) are freely available for your use and adaptation at bit.ly/PNGuides2023. Please include the following acknowledgment if materials are adapted:

This content was adapted from the GW Cancer Center the Oncology Patient Navigation Training: The Fundamentals (PI: Pratt-Chapman) developed and maintained by CDC cooperative agreements #NU38DP004972, #5NU58DP006461 and #NU58DP007539. The content added, changed, or adapted by our organization do not necessarily represent the views of the GW Cancer Center or the CDC.

Location	Update	For Navigators outside of the U.S.
Lesson 2: An Overview of Patient Navigation and Competencies	PONT Standards C3 CW Core Competencies – Resource Guide – links out to specific state-based credentialing requirements Certificate or Certification: What's the Difference?	
Module 3: The Basics of Healthcare **Lesson 1: Medical Terminology**		Health Translations – Multilingual Cancer Glossary: 8 bilingual glossaries for professional translators, interpreters and bilingual health professionals working in the cancer field. MedlinePlus – Cancer: Multiple Languages: Cancer information in over 15 languages that can be arranged by health topic. Health Information Translations: Easy to read and culturally appropriate health education resources in over 20 languages for health care professionals and others to use in the community. IMIA – Terminology Resource Database: This database includes glossaries, dictionaries, and more (>50 languages) to help users whether a resource will helpful.

January 2024

Location	Update	For Navigators outside of the U.S.
Module 3: The Basics of Healthcare **Lesson 2: Cancer Basics**	**Current cancer screening guidelines:** American College of Radiology guidance on transgender breast cancer screening USPSTF – Breast Cancer: Screening Guidelines (currently being updated) USPSTF – Cervical Cancer Screening Guidelines (currently being updated) USPSTF – Colorectal Cancer Screening Guidelines USPSTF – Lung Cancer Screening Guidelines USPSTF – Prostate Cancer Screening Guidelines (currently being updated; see Clinical Considerations section for special considerations for African American individuals with a prostate and those with a family history of prostate cancer) **Current data on cancer risk factors and outcomes:** US Cancer Statistics Data Visualization Tool	**International learners should refer to relevant guidelines and well as statistics for their region.** WHO – Report on Traditional and Complementary Medicine: National practices, providers, and education. WHO – Screening Programmes: A Short Guide: Provides international screening-specific guidance. ESMO – Interactive Guidelines: Recommendations for helping patients with the best care options. ICISG – Cancer Information in Other Languages webpage: Cancer organizations with information in >20 languages ACS – Cancer Information in Other Languages webpage: Information about cancer in >10 languages.
Module 3: The Basics of Healthcare **Lesson 3: Clinical Trials**	**Current clinical trial participation rates:** Journal of the National Cancer Institute – Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Cancer Clinical Trial Participation webpage **Steps to finding a clinical trial:** NCI – Steps to Find a Clinical Trial webpage Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology – Glossary	WHO – International Clinical Trials Registry Platform: Search portal for clinical trials in 10 languages. EORTC – Clinical Trials Database: Search portal for ongoing and future cancer clinical trials.

January 2024

Location	Update	For Navigators outside of the U.S.
Module 3: The Basics of Healthcare **Lesson 5: U.S. Health Care System**	**Current U.S. Federal Poverty Guidelines:** 2024 Federal Poverty Guidelines **Additional resources that may be helpful:** Cancer.Net – The Oncology Team webpage	**Replace U.S. Health Care System with regional-specific health care infrastructure information**. The Commonwealth Fund – International Health Care System Profiles: Information about health care systems from 20 countries. OECD – Country Health Profiles: Overview of health and health systems in 2023.
Module 3: The Basics of Healthcare **Lesson 6: U.S. Health Care Payment and Financing**	**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 Federal Register: CY24 CMS Physician Payment Rule AMA CPT Code Guide Medicare Learning Network Booklet: Chronic Care Management Services Frequently Asked Questions about Billing Medicare for Chronic Care Management Services	**Replace U.S. Health Care Payment and Financing with regional-specific health care insurance and financing information.**
Module 4: The Basics of Patient Navigation **Lesson 1: The Role of the Patient Navigator**		**Incorporate regional example scenarios and available psychosocial tools to assess distress.**

January 2024

Location	Update	For Navigators outside of the U.S.
Module 4: The Basics of Patient Navigation **Lesson 2: Patient Assessment**		**Confirm examples of patient assessments are relevant to the regional populations.** NACHS – Translated versions of the PRAPARE assessment tool (webpage): National Association of Community Health Centers offers assessment tools in multiple languages
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 **No-cost tool for your program evaluation:** Patient Navigation Barriers and Outcomes Tool (PN-BOT) webpage AONN+ Evidence-Based Evaluation Metrics AONN+ Navigation Metrics Toolkit	

January 2024