Current Nursing Roles

Lisa Hansen, RN, MS, AOCN®

History of Nurses’ Involvement in Protocol Development

- Protocol review
  - Started with inception of Research and Protocol Liaison Subcommittee in 1983
  - Goal was to establish a mechanism for nurses to review all protocols in development
  - Nursing roles in SWOG were evolving but protocol review didn’t take off

- Disease & Discipline Subcommittee established in 1985 – 1986
- Review form developed
- Challenges with nurses receiving protocols for review; steep learning curve for some nurses
- Late 1990s – present: More formal protocol review process, email networking for liaisons, development of Fast Fact Sheets
History of Nurses’ Involvement in Protocol Development

- First Nurse Study Coordinator
  - June Strickland, PhD., RN – S8817 BSE
- Other Nurse Study Coordinators
  - Donna Berry, PhD, RN S9916 Prostate Cancer Symptoms & QOL
  - Lisa Hansen, RN, MS S9418 Promotora Study
- Nurses cannot be primary study coordinators on trials that include drug treatment

History of Nurses’ Involvement in Protocol Development

- Nurse Coordinators on QOL Trials
  - Kathy Hayden, RN, SWOG 8313 Breast, S8994 Prostate
  - Patra Grevstad, RN, MN, S9509 Lung
  - Nancy Vaught, RN, OCN®, S0205 Pancreas
  - Karen Baranowski, APRN-BC, S0421 Prostate
  - Donna Berry, PhD, RN – Multiple prostate trials

History of Nurses’ Involvement in Protocol Development

- Nurse Coordinators on Symptom Management Trials
  - Lisa Hansen, RN, MS – S9908 Mucositis; S0702 ONJ; S0715 Neuropathy
  - Anna Schwartz, RN, PhD – S0229 Dyspnea
Current Nursing Roles

In SWOG Protocol Development

Nurse Liaisons

- Protocol Review
- Fast Fact Sheets
- Ongoing Protocol Communication
- Attend Disease & Research Committee meetings
- Contribute to Disease & Research Committee meetings

Protocol Review by Nurse Liaisons

- Review protocol in development for:
  - Clarity – particularly eligibility, treatment and dose modification sections
  - Consistency – Between eligibility and study calendar, treatment plan and study calendar
  - Identify QOL or symptom management research opportunities
Nurse QOL Coordinators

- Educate CRAs & Nurses on PRO/QOL questionnaire procedures
- Serve as resource to institutions
- Send reminders to sites when PRO questionnaires due
- Implements quality improvement if questionnaire submission is below standard
- Assists/contributes to QOL manuscript

Enhancing Nursing Contributions to SWOG Trials

How can we share our expertise in a meaningful way?

Possibilities for Enhancing Nursing Contributions

*Nurse Consultant – Some examples*

- Nurse with special expertise/experience
- Symptom management and quality of life issues, e.g., S0715 Neuropathy
- Feasibility and recruitment e.g., S9917 High Grade PIN
- Subject retention, compliance e.g., SELECT, other chemoprevention trials
Possibilities for Enhancing Nursing Contributions

*Nurse Scientist – Some examples*
- Present pilot data as justification for possible SWOG trial development – Pain trial
- Recommend PRO instruments for SWOG trials – Prostate QOL trials
- Provide consultation on science of symptom management
- Serve as Study Coordinator for symptom management trial

Possibilities for Enhancing Nursing Contributions

*Nurse Expert – This could be you!*
- Special knowledge or expertise in a disease site, symptom management, clinical trials management
- Provide expertise to protocol development team
- Provide suggestions for study start-up, collaborating with other disciplines, patient recruitment
- Provide information on symptom management, patient education

Scientists
Physicians
Statisticians
Nurses
Clinical Research Associates
Public
Patients & Participants

NCI