Implementation of Nutrition Screening Process in Outpatient Cancer Center

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METHODS

New Patient Nutrition Screening Process

Screening tool created from adapted form of PG-SGA, a validated tool. All new patients complete form during registration, may self refer to dietitian. Nutrition assistant scores form for level of nutrition risk, identifies patient’s with high nutrition risk diagnosed based on cancer type. Registered Dietitian validates risk assessment. Nursing notified of elevated nutrition risk, discuss with patient role of nutrition & encourage appointment to initiate nutrition interventions. Nutrition Care plan developed during consultation. Interventions initiated and follow-up appointment planned as needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Percent Completed Forms (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total New</td>
<td>4451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forms Received</td>
<td>3991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forms Completed</td>
<td>3899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At Risk</td>
<td>1190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not At Risk</td>
<td>2719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Risk Diagnosis</td>
<td>493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request RD</td>
<td>665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notify NP</td>
<td>1066</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESULTS

- 38.5% of patient completing screen were nutritionally at risk.
- 69.7% of patients screened were not at nutrition risk.
- 12.4% of patient identified with increased nutrition risk based on cancer type.
- 17.5% of patient completing the screen requested to see a dietitian.
- 27.3% of patient screened indicated nurse communication of elevated nutrition risk.
- Standardized process evaluating patient nutritional risk in place.

CONCLUSIONS

Implementation of Nutrition Screening Process is important and vital in efforts to identify patients at greatest nutritional risk.

- A standardized Nutrition Screening Process initiated nutrition interventions in a timely manner.
- Implementation of the Nutrition Screening Process increased multidisciplinary staff awareness of nutrition.
- Nutrition Screening has increased nutrition consultations.

Future goals are to imbed our tool within a multidisciplinary patient screening initiative.

REFERENCES

1. Guidelines for the detection and management of nutrition: a report of the multidisciplinary advisory group. Malubberd, UK: British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (BAPEN);2009.