

DOMINICAN HOSPITAL

Quality Improvement Study

2016

Study coordinator: Michael Alexander, MD

Study population: Ovarian cancer patients diagnosed and/or treated at Dominican Hospital between 2014 and 2015

Total number: 12 patients

PROBLEM IDENTIFIED/SUMMARY:

At a recent tumor board presentation, two patients with ovarian cancer did not have evidence of BRCA testing. We decided to explore this further to determine if patients were being appropriately referred for testing. BRCA testing was first recommended by NCCN in 2007 to detect hereditary cancer syndromes in women at risk for breast and epithelial ovarian cancers.

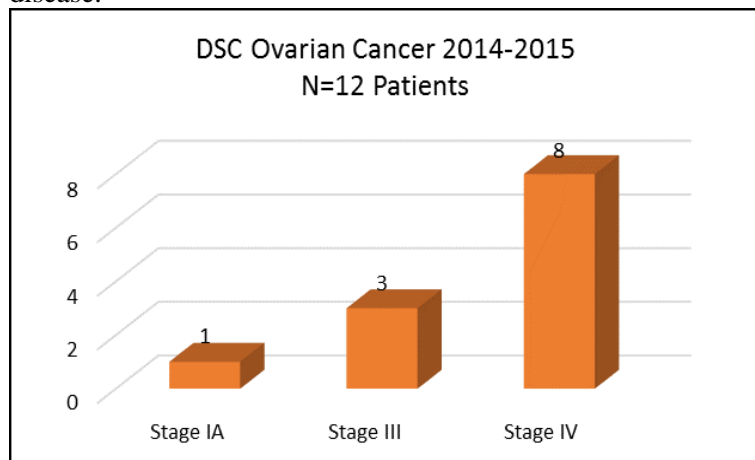
CRITERIA USED TO STUDY PROBLEM:

100% of patient charts and path reports were reviewed for documentation of BRCA testing. Managing physicians and Medical Oncologists were contacted for information regarding their respective patients if no information was found in the charts.

FINDINGS:

BRCA Positive	1
BRCA Negative	2
BRCA Testing Declined	2
BRCA Unknown if Performed	4
Patient Expired before testing could be done	3

The 4 patients that did not have documented BRCA testing done in their medical record out-migrated to other facilities in the County. Attempts at contacting outside physicians were unsuccessful. 3 patients expired before testing could be done, which were all stage IV patients. Interestingly, 8 of the 13 cases presented with stage IV disease.



NATIONAL BENCHMARKS USED:

BRCA testing was first recommended in 2007 by NCCN to detect hereditary cancer syndrome in women at risk for breast and ovarian cancers. BRCA testing is recommended for anyone with a personal history of ovarian cancer at any age. In addition, anyone found to be BRCA+ is recommended to have risk-reducing salpingo-oophorectomy (RRSO). The 1 patient that did test positive already had TAHBSO and was offered risk reducing bilateral mastectomy but declined.

OUTCOME/DISCUSSION:

During the study we discovered that all of our oncologists are offering BRCA testing but several patients had declined. We also found that 3 of the 13 patients died before testing could be offered or completed. This raises a question on how we can identify these late stage patients sooner. 4 of the patient migrated out of the Dignity Health network. Attempts at contacting outside physicians were unsuccessful.

ACTION TAKEN:

Michael Alexander, MD will present the findings to the OB-GYN department meeting. In addition, the study will be emailed to all members of the OB-GYN department and the Oncology department.

PLAN TO MONITOR FOLLOW UP:

BRCA testing will be discussed at tumor board for all patients with ovarian cancer. This study will be repeated in Q1 of 2018 to determine if documented results of testing have increased.

Update: 2018 showed 3 ovarian cancers, 2 were tested for BRCA, 1 patient migrated out of the Dignity network and attempts at collecting information was unsuccessful.