

BACKGROUND

A cancer diagnosis for pediatric patients and their caregivers is a devastating event. Along with the emotional and mental tolls comes the necessity to gain a large amount of knowledge about this new diagnosis and how to safely care for and manage it at home^{2,3,5}. This raises the question of how best to provide this overwhelming amount of education to patients and their caregivers. Does a multimodal education strategy given at different stages improve patient and caregiver knowledge related to caring for the child at home?

Numerous positive effects happen when patients and caregivers receive appropriate and effective education^{1, 3}.

- Enhanced knowledge
- Quality of life
- Positive health outcomes
- Empowerment
- Active role in care

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EVALUATION

Several evaluation strategies have been constructed to gather information and data on the success of newly implemented educational resources. The information gathered from the evaluation methods will assist with changing and updating current resources or including further additional resources. Evaluation data will be gathered through the following methods:

- Pre- and post-surveys of multidisciplinary staff
- Survey of patients and caregivers on resources utilized during their education
- Chart audits of methods utilized
- Continued exploration and development of additional resources



METHODS

A lit review identified four major themes related to this topic:

- **Theme 1:** Barriers to Enhanced Learning
- **Theme 2:** Individualized Education Plans
- **Theme 3:** Health Information Literacy
- **Theme 4:** Importance of the Nurse in Educational Processes

Utilizing these themes and the Iowa Model Revised (IMR) as a framework, a quality improvement project was designed to look at an educational process utilizing a multimodal educational strategy.

- **Step 1:** Development of a multidisciplinary team
- **Step 2:** Deliverables construction
- **Step 3/4:** Pre-survey and education sessions for the multidisciplinary team
- **Step 5/6:** Implementation; ongoing survey of patients and caregivers
- **Step 7/8:** Post-survey of staff; compilation of data



CONCLUSIONS

Effective education for patients and caregivers should be multifactorial and can take many forms^{1,3}:

- Written materials
- Videos
- Online resources
- Interactive smartphone apps
- Narrated PowerPoints
- Oral dialog



Note: Image supplied by PowerPoint

Patients and caregivers must have access to various educational resources. Effective patient education is a critical component of high-quality healthcare. Individualized patient education that uses a multimodal approach is essential for creating positive healthcare outcomes^{1,2,4}.



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