ASSESSING CONTENT VALIDITY IN DEVELOPING THE PROSTATE CANCER SYMPTOM SCALE (PCSS-QL), A QUALITY OF LIFE (QL) AND PRO INSTRUMENT, IN 2128 PATIENTS: USING AN INTERNET-BASED METHOD TO DETERMINE ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE FOR PATIENTS

RJ Grolla, PJ Hollem, BJ Davis, JA Petersen
1New York Lung Cancer Alliance, New York, NY; 2University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA; 3NexCura, Seattle WA; USA

Abstract

Background: Assessing content has been a topic of considerable interest to oncology researchers. The PCSS-QL (Prostate Cancer Symptom Scale- Quality of Life) is a disease-specific QL and PRO instrument based on the LCSS (Lung Cancer Symptom Scale). In developing a PTQ and PRO instrument for patients with prostate cancer, issues lower than patients without recurrent prostate cancer, and not unexpectedly rated pain control as more important.

Methods

Two instruments were used in this computer-assisted survey:

1. The established patient base of the web-based NexCura® patient information resource was used to survey patients with prostate cancer. Patients who had previously visited this website (www.nexcura.com) were invited to participate.

2. To obtain information from a large sample of patients, thus allowing subgroup analysis representing treatment and extent of disease status.

The established patient base of the web-based NexCura® patient information resource was used to survey patients with prostate cancer. Patients who had previously visited this website (www.nexcura.com) were invited to participate.

3. The current study was undertaken as a new effort for collecting patient input for a large sample of all the available patients.

Results

TABLE 4. The 6 Lowest Ranked Items By: All Patients, by Background (no recurrent disease, and by status-post radical prostatectomy (Radical Prostatectomy)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>ALL PATIENTS</th>
<th>N=2128</th>
<th>NO RECURRENT</th>
<th>n=1385</th>
<th>RADICAL</th>
<th>n=1010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Having Constipation</td>
<td>18 (40)</td>
<td>9 (18)</td>
<td>15 (27)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having Pain</td>
<td>15 (30)</td>
<td>12 (24)</td>
<td>17 (29)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Being Fatigued</td>
<td>15 (30)</td>
<td>12 (24)</td>
<td>17 (29)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty with Sexuality</td>
<td>14 (30)</td>
<td>11 (22)</td>
<td>15 (25)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problems with Urination</td>
<td>14 (30)</td>
<td>10 (20)</td>
<td>17 (27)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problems with Bowel Function</td>
<td>14 (30)</td>
<td>11 (22)</td>
<td>15 (25)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusions

In conclusion, the use of an internet-based survey method allows for a large sample of patients to be surveyed, and to identify issues that may be overlooked by other methods. This method can also be used for other diseases, and for patients with recurrent disease.

Acknowledgements

This research was supported by an unrestricted grant from ECOG-ACRIN Research, a not-for-profit cancer research organization.

References

5. Grolla, R.J., & Kris, M.G. (2010). The Lung Cancer Symptom Scale (LCSS). Quality of Life Research, 19(8), 1191-1201.

Examples of Pocket PC Screens and Computer Reports

For a copy of this poster, please go to: www.isoqrl.com

The authors would like to acknowledge the support of the government and members of the American Society of Radiation Oncology, Rochester, New York, USA.