CURRENT RESEARCH

Using data collection and coordination to improve quality of life

Approximately one in two men and one in three women will be diagnosed with cancer at some point in their lifetime. In 2012, there were approximately 14 million cancer survivors living in the United States, and this number is expected to grow to 18 million by 2022. These cancer survivors have a variety of healthcare needs, including follow-up for their cancer and its effects, general primary and preventive care, and in many cases, care for conditions other than their cancer (such as diabetes or heart disease).

Dr. Claire Snyder of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Bloomberg School of Public Health aims to transform cancer care by making patients’ well-being just as much a part of treatment monitoring as laboratory tests, imaging studies, and other clinical information.

- Dr. Snyder and her colleague Dr. Albert Wu have developed the PatientViewpoint Web tool (www.PatientViewpoint.org) to facilitate the collection and use of quality-of-life data in clinical care. PatientViewpoint allows clinicians to order questionnaires for patients to complete, much in the same way that they would order a laboratory test or imaging study. The results are provided to both patients and clinicians and help identify well-being issues (such as sexual function and body image) to promote better communication between patients and care providers.
- The individual patients’ quality-of-life data can be combined in a database, creating a powerful resource to track how populations of patients are doing and inform quality improvement. The data become even more powerful when linked with clinical information from, for example, the electronic medical record. The team can then...

AFFILIATION

Johns Hopkins University

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., in Health Policy & Management, 2005, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- M.H.S., in Health Policy, 2000, Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health

AWARDS

- National Institutes of Health Merit Award, 2004
- Delta Omega Honor Society, Member
- New Investigator Award Finalist, International Society for Quality of Life Research, 2008

RESEARCH AREAS

Life Science, Health IT, IOT, Devices, Data, Oncology / Cancer

FUNDING REQUEST

Because Dr. Snyder’s research is clinically oriented, improvements in care can be made on an ongoing basis. Your donations will support research that assesses quality of life and care and develops interventions to improve them, such as the PatientViewpoint web tool. Your funding will also help build research on lifestyle, outcomes, and care delivery locally, nationally, and internationally.