Introduction

- Overarching goals in palliative care of improving symptoms and quality of life
- Pharmacy services play a key role in optimizing therapy regimens and reducing side effect, symptom, and pill burden
- Student pharmacist’s experience in palliative medicine is limited due to pharmacy’s emerging role

Objectives

- Integrate pharmacy services into new outpatient palliative care clinic and assess satisfaction of patients and staff
- Quantity pharmacy-driven patient interventions

Methods

- Pharmacy services requested at initiation of outpatient palliative care clinic
- Pharmacy team included a staff pharmacist and student pharmacist
- Patient and staff satisfaction measured by Likert scales
  - Patients completed after each clinic appointment with pharmacy team (4 month duration)
  - Palliative staff completed after four months of pharmacy services for pharmacy team and student pharmacist
- Student pharmacist totaled pharmacy team interventions after each patient visit
- This project was designated as a quality improvement project by the Institutional Review Board

Results

- Average pharmacy-driven interventions: 0.84/patient
- Staff student pharmacist satisfaction survey: n=5, 5 = strongly agree
- Staff pharmacy services satisfaction survey: n=5, 5 = strongly agree

Discussion & Next Steps

- Medications play a central role in palliative care and the benefits of pharmacy involvement in this service are still being explored
- Positive response from both patients and healthcare providers shows unmet need in this ambulatory service line
- Pharmacy services develop as outpatient palliative care clinic expands
- New rotation for student pharmacists and pharmacy residents introduced

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