Treatment Support Kits: Supportive Care Provided for Practices

Background
- During the dispensing of oral oncology medications, a starter/support kit is often provided to assist in managing patient education and adherence.
- Available starter kits typically contain a variety of information and products that are intended to serve as a resource for patients undergoing treatment with anti-cancer medications.
- Many branded and generic oncolytic products do not have supportive kits.
- NCODA saw clinical and educational value in analyzing and determining how support kits could be improved and developed so that patients and practices are equipped with the tools they need to have the best possible outcomes during treatment.

Objectives
- To analyze the gaps and determine best practices supportive cancer care provisions.
- To provide patients and caregivers with resources for adverse effect management during treatment with oral chemotherapy medications.
- To equip patients with the educational information and products they need to aid in their treatment course.
- To engage NCODA’s community of healthcare professionals with additional opportunities to better serve their oncology patients.

Treatment Support Kit Committee
- A committee consisting of NCODA’s membership agreed that support kits have the potential to become more useful for the course of patient treatment.
- The Treatment Support Kit committee is currently comprised of 16 NCODA members from across the United States and Canada.
- The Treatment Support Kit sub-committee, known as the TSK “Advisory Board”, is made up of 6 committee members.
- Dr. Mario Lacouture, MD (Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center) currently serves as the Director of the Advisory Board for the Treatment Support Program.

Preliminary Beta-Test Survey Results
- 84.5% of patients responded that the Treatment Support Kit is something that they need.
- 86% of patients rated the quality of the kits as high quality.
- Approximately 95% of patients reported that the products within the kit were deemed useful.
- Roughly 88% of patients reported that the educational materials were somewhat useful or very useful.
- Nearly 88% of patients reported using the products at multiple days a week.
- 100% of providers surveyed ranked the quality of the kits to be of high quality or very high quality.
- 100% of providers surveyed ranked the Treatment Support Kits as useful.

Discussion
- Over 200 Treatment Support Kits (TSK) for capecitabine were distributed to NCODA member practices across the country to beta-test numerous variables (such as packaging and products) for future use.
- Twenty four (24) NCODA member practices were enrolled in the initial TSK beta-test.
- Both practices and patients have provided feedback in the form of survey responses. This survey data will facilitate clinical and operational iterations for future support kits.
- 136 patient surveys and 22 practice surveys were collected and tabulated.

Conclusion
- Findings from the NCODA Treatment Support Kit beta-test demonstrated a positive uptake by patients and providers for the need of optimized, patient- and agent-specific tools to ensure safe and effective use of oral anti-cancer medications.
- Majority of patients reported that the urea-based products for the capecitabine kit were highly utilized in preventing capecitabine-induced hand-foot syndrome.
- Results from our beta-test demonstrate a need for better tools for symptom control and education for patients on oral anti-cancer medications.