

Exploring the multifaceted role of the APP in caring for patients with CLL

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Background

Advance Practice Providers (APPs)*, have become integral to the care of oncology patients over the last decades. As of 2018, there were an estimated 5,350-7,000 Oncology-based APPs practicing in the US. Due to different state laws and practice models, there is still a lack of understanding of the role of the APP.

Objective(s)

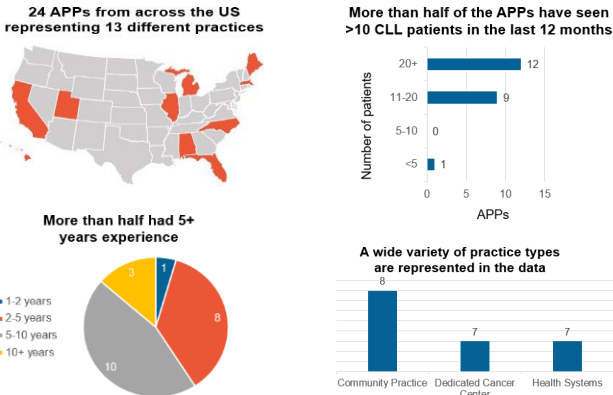
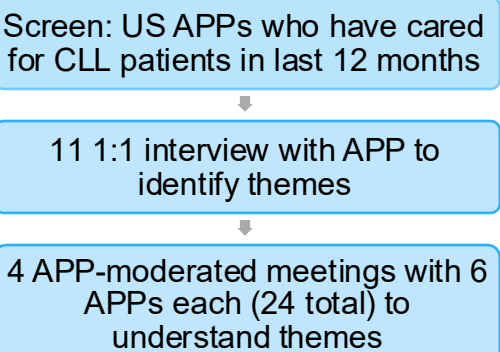
Identify key responsibilities of the APP role when caring for patients with CLL.

Disclosure

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* Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants
** Real-World Evidence

Methods and Demographics



Results

Core APP Role Themes

Navigate

APPs have a vital role to help CLL patients navigate the health care system.

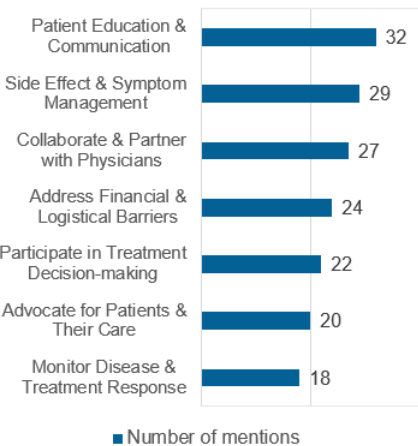
Educate

APPs provide education to patients and care partners empowering them to understand their diagnosis, treatment and symptom management.

Advocate

APPs advocate to mitigate financial and logistical barriers to help patients achieve optimal outcomes.

Facets of the APP Role



Discussion

APPs play an integral role in the multi-disciplinary oncology care team for CLL patients. Their role is multi-faceted and role themes were consistent across practice settings.

Future initiatives and research to enhance APP practice should include:

- Integrate MIPs or pharmacy staff to manage oral oncolytic and facilitate oral oncology drug acquisition and adherence to allow APPs to focus on patient care.
- Gathering of RWE** for APPs who often uniquely understand and consider non-disease related factors when making treatment decisions or recommendations.
- Prioritize research or dissemination of data focused on treatment side effect management strategies allowing APPs to manage symptoms using evidence-based strategies.

Reference(s)

1 First Large-Scale Survey of APPs in Oncology Shows Growing Role for Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants. The ASCO Post, Sept 10, 2018.