Participant Evaluation of an advanced practitioner Cancer Education program for new APP in Hematology/Oncology

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Background

Based on recent survey there will be a significant need for Practitioners to fill the gap of the increasing demand for Hematology/oncology services for the millennial generation.

New practitioners are graduating with inadequate training to integrate into clinical practice.

Methods:

- The education program that is relevant, practical and evidenced based for APP.
- A needs assessment for the program was made and it was determined that such a program was needed.
- A one day course was conducted February 27, 2016 in Tampa, Florida. Assessment of educational goals, participant satisfaction and goal/task oriented competence were evaluated through a post course survey with plan for future surveys.
- A physician with 7 APP led the course.

Results:

- A total of 26 individuals participated in the course representing 18 different practices in the state of Florida.
- 21/26 participants agreed to fill up the survey. 17/21 (81%) were nurse practitioner, 4/21 (19%) physician assistants, and 10/21 (47.6%) had 0-5 years of experience in H/O.
- 16/20 gave the course an excellent rating and 4/20 rated it very good. Overall satisfaction with the program was 100%.

Results

- Most important topics that were relevant
- include History and physical examination 9/20, basic pharmacology 9/20, hematology 6/20 oncologic emergencies 6/20. 16/20 rates it as practice changing.
- In a separate survey form Several targeted questions were asked which included did it filled a professional gap 23/23 (100%), increase knowledge significantly 16/23 (69%), change competence significantly and moderately 21/23 (91%), change and motivate them to change patient care 19/21 (83%) of the time.
- Overall satisfaction of the course was 100% The quality was excellent 90% and they would recommend it to others 100%.

Conclusion:

An education program for new APP organized by experienced faculty fill up a gap in knowledge and increased knowledge, change competence, and motivated APP to change practice. Overall satisfaction was overwhelming.