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Patient-defined treatment success and preferences in stage IV lung cancer patients

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Advanced non-small cell lung cancer is a fatal disease disproportionately affecting older patients. Several treatments exist that have similar effectiveness; however, types and frequencies of toxic effects differ and may determine the preferred regimen for an individual patient. Optimal treatment planning involves decision making processes which actively involve patients and physicians together. No guidelines exist for communicating patient preferences of adverse events to physicians. Lack of such knowledge is a major problem because integration of patient preferences into clinical decision-making is expected to improve patient satisfaction, quality of life, and treatment adherence. Our research goal was to integrate lung cancer patient treatment preferences into clinical treatment planning. Our objective was to determine the best approach for translating patient adverse events preferences into real-life drug choices, and assess the impact of communicating these choices to physicians. Our central hypothesis was that toxicity profiles and other treatment-related adverse events are important determinants of patient-centered treatment choices. We collaborated with ten community based cancer treatment centers in four states and engaged dozens of clinicians. We tracked patient preferences through at least two chemotherapy cycles. Our UNMC three-year Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute study was completed the end of June 2016. We will present patient centered tools developed in collaboration with patients and their caregivers that may be replicated at low cost. We will offer preliminary findings of the study in this poster presentation including patient's definition of treatment success and results of our physician survey indicating their use of patient preference data.

Biography

An Associate Professor, Dr. Islam has been at the University of Nebraska College of Public Health since 2007. He is currently Chair, Department of Epidemiology Graduate Program Studies and PI for the PCORI grant on late stage lung cancer treatment. In 2014, Dr Islam received the UNMC College of Public Health Faculty Research Award. He has taught numerous graduate level courses in disease epidemiology and infectious disease. He served on the Editorial Board, Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health from 2009-present and on the Editorial Board, Journal of International Cancer Education from 2013 to the present.

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