Pharmacoeconomic impact of patient-centric oncology service model

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**Recommended Citation**

Rubin, Kasey; Jacobson, Samuel; and Buxell, Shannon, "Pharmacoeconomic impact of patient-centric oncology service model" (2020). *Providence Pharmacy PGY1 Program at Providence Portland and Providence St. Vincent Medical Centers*. 6.

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Pharmacoeconomic impact of a patient-centric oncology service model

Kasey Rubin, PharmD; Samuel Jacobson PharmD, BCOP; Shannon Buxell, PharmD

Background

- Ambulatory oncology pharmacy is an expanding discipline of pharmacy with over 20 newly approved oral chemotherapy agents since 2017.
- Clinical pharmacists are being integrated into health care teams across the country to serve as the medication experts for this specific subset of patients.
- While current research in this field exists, the impact remains unclear due to the difficulty in quantifying metrics and interventions made by pharmacists.
- Providence Health and Services employs a novel practice model, leveraging an embedded specialty pharmacy called Credena Health.
- Credena Health is licensed in 49 states, however due to limited distribution networks and regional contracting not all patients can utilize as a specialty pharmacy.
- For patient convenience, Credena Health facilities include a central distribution center, an oncology satellite, as well as concierge services available at other sites.
- Providence Cancer Institute cares for a diverse patient population. In this environment the pharmacist is a critical member of the interdisciplinary team
- In March of 2018 clinical pharmacists were embedded into the outpatient oncology clinics, removed from the dispensing role
- The impact has not been formally evaluated
- Goals include:
  - Quantify the pharmacoeconomic benefit of embedded specialty pharmacy services
  - Inform other facilities on processes to implement such services
  - Analyze the pharmacist’s clinical impact by examining patient-centric factors

Purpose

- Evaluate the pharmacoeconomic impact of a pharmacist in an ambulatory oncology practice model

Objectives

- Primary outcomes
  - Number of prescriptions filled by Credena specialty pharmacy
  - Estimated revenue generated by pharmacists based on prescription quantity
- Secondary outcomes
  - Patient reported pain scales (Numerical 1-10)
  - Patient reported nausea scores (MOSSES scale)
  - Number of i-vents completed by pharmacists

Methods

- Study design
  - Retrospective
  - Pre-Post
  - Pre-intervention: March, 2017 – February, 2018
  - Post-intervention: March, 2018 – March, 2019
- Inclusion criteria
  - >18 years old
  - Have had a visit to the ambulatory oncology clinic within the designated timeframe
- Exclusion criteria
  - Patients who were/are incarcerated
  - Patients who were/are in mental institutions
  - Patients who were/are pregnant
  - Patients with cognitive disability present

Results

Hospital Location #1

Top 10 Oral Antineoplastics

Prescriptions by Location

Hospital Location #2

Top 10 Oral Antineoplastics

Prescriptions by Location

Pharmacist Initial Consult and Follow ups Location #1 and #2

Site #1 Initial Review and Follow Up

Site #2 Initial Review and Follow Up

Revenue

Revenue 2018 - 2019

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Discussion

Number of Prescriptions

- Pharmacists utilize the home specialty site (Credena-Halsey) instead of sending the prescription out of network
- Trend of prescriptions correlates appropriately to the increase in patients being seen at Providence Cancer Institute
- In early months, pharmacists could have been under utilized as service line developed
- Examination of data outside timeline continues to show increase in prescriptions filled in house

Revenue

- Credena Health can fill prescriptions for all Providence Health Plans, a majority of Medicare Part D plans and Oregon Medicaid plans
- Medication agreements negotiated into action the start of 2019
- Revenue calculated between both sites are based off dispensing fees and reimbursement from insurance

Clinical Outcomes

- The pharmacist is ensuring that prescriptions are successfully received and are getting to the patients.
- Documentation regarding clinical outcomes were not clearly defined prior to the study, therefore found a lack of interventions
- Pharmacists reviewed supportive care, completed medication reconciliations, provided information on drug-drug interactions, coordinated lab checks, adjusted doses based on medications, labs and diagnoses.

Data Limitations

- Retrospective study with manual data collection illustrating a short time frame
- Due to 340B pricing and differences in insurance reimbursement per person, revenue is not patient specific

Conclusions & Next Steps

- Addition of pharmacists to the ambulatory care team has increased continuity of care for patients, increased revenue and prescription capture rate through Credena specialty pharmacy
- Create revenue report to allow for number of oral antineoplastic prescriptions being filled by Credena Health, specifically by Providence physicians
- Generate report that calculates revenue generated by oral antineoplastic prescriptions
- Determine standardization between the sites and clear documentation of number of pharmacist interventions (i-vents)
- Reconcile changes in medication regimens as direct result of pharmacist inclusion

References


Disclosures:

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