Award ID: PP100157

Project Title:

Integrated Professional Oncology Curriculum for Texas Primary Care Providers: Enhancing Care and Quality of Life for Breast, Colon and Prostate Cancer Survivors

Award Mechanism: Health Care Professional Education and Training

Principal Investigator: Foxhall, Lewis

Entity:

The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

Lay Summary:

With a projected shortage of oncologists and trends of improvements in survival following a cancer diagnosis, there is a clear need for primary care providers to assume an increasing role in the long-term care of cancer survivors. Family medicine and internal medicine physicians and physician assistants currently have limited formal education in cancer surveillance, management of long-term sequelae, screening for second malignancies and identifying psychosocial issues experienced by cancer survivors. This program provides a professional oncology distance education program for primary care providers (physicians and physician assistants) to improve their abilities to care for cancer survivors. The course will focus on the care of patients with a prior diagnosis of breast, colon and prostate cancer. The course will cover a variety of topics including follow-up care for patients for early diagnosis of cancer recurrence, prevention and early diagnosis of other cancers, long-term side effects of cancer treatment, psychosocial concerns such as body image and sexual function, and supportive care such as pain management.