What Stakeholders Can Do to Drive Clinical Research on Rare Cancers

Medical Practice / Clinical Research

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EONS

- European Oncology Nursing Society
- Represents 31 member societies, 28 European countries
  - Established in 1984
  - Promote practice of cancer nursing
  - Educational, research and practice-based initiatives
- Nurses represent approx. 33 % of the healthcare workforce
- Have the most contact with patients throughout all phases of the cancer journey
Awareness

- Rare Cancers can be addressed
  - by disseminating information to nurses where such cancers can be treated
  - in continuing education courses for nurses throughout Europe
  - in palliative settings where many of the patients will be cared for
Role of nurses in clinical trials

What we do, we can do

- Nurses can be of influence in the development and review of clinical trials.
Depending on the country, institution, internal structures:

- Nurses can
  - participate in the trial review board (is it feasible in the clinical setting?)
  - be involved in the recruitment of patients
  - help determine if the informed consent clearly formulated
  - can take a position about the number of test planned (acceptable for the patient?)
And as well can ...

- take an active part guiding the patients, carers understanding the protocol,
- support to understand ethical questions,
- help understand complicated therapy regimens
- educate patients about side effects of drugs and their management
- help patients and carers understand changes in daily matters
- encourage contact with special patient support groups
- Integrate nursing sub-studies within a trial to enhance the supportive care issues accompanying trial therapies
- Integrate existing symptom management guidelines
• consult and give information for patients’ carers re. self-management of taking drugs
• Nurses can help raise the compliance/adherence of the patients to continue in a study
www.cancernurse.eu

Raising Awareness ....

Communication-Newsletter & Website