

Implementing Oral Chemotherapy Education Sessions at BIDMC Boston and Needham Cancer Centers – A Pilot Program

Dan Roberts, Christina Cibotti, Mary Yenulovich, Kelsey Trillo, Scott Devlin, Chris Rodrigues, Ayad Hamdan, Rebekah Hartwell, Morgan Smith, Holly Dowling, Meghan Shea, Jessica Zerillo

Introduction/Problem

Oral chemotherapy is becoming more widely utilized in oncology therapeutics since the advent of tyrosine kinase inhibitors and their application to a wide variety of cancers, shifting a process once solely occurring in the clinic to patients' homes. Given the complex process of administering oral chemotherapy – including from prescription to disposal – concerns regarding poor adherence and excessive toxicity have arisen which are supported in the literature. Therefore, we sought to implement an “Initial Education Session” for patients who are newly prescribed oral chemotherapy at both the BIDMC Boston Cancer Center and BID Needham Cancer Center.

Aim/Goal

The primary aim of the intervention is to successfully implement an independent, nurse or pharmacist-led oral chemotherapy education session for the patient. Secondary aims include improving the practice's adherence to 2013 ASCO/ONS chemotherapy administration safety standards, specifically Standard 20 A and B, which were carried through in the updated 2016 standards.

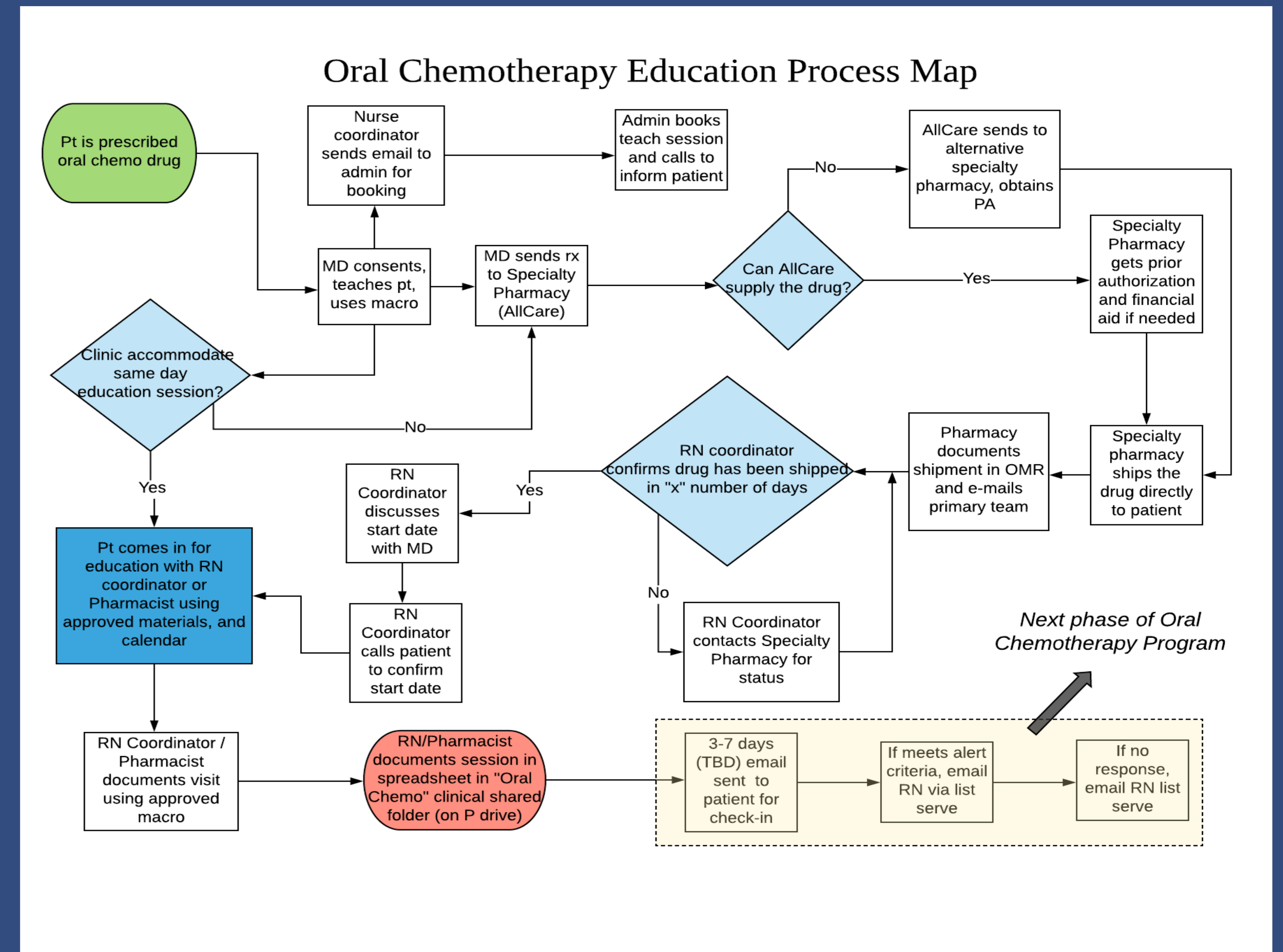
The Team

- Sponsor: Ayad Hamdan, MD
- Project “Coach”: Chris Rodrigues
- BIDMC Cancer Center in Boston Gastrointestinal Oncology Division, BIDMC-Needham Cancer Center, AllCare Plus at BIDMC Specialty Pharmacy

The Interventions

- Successfully implement independent oral chemotherapy teach sessions at BID Boston and Needham Cancer Centers
- Provide an education packet which includes drug-specific information, a personalized drug schedule calendar, and clinic contact numbers.
- Patient will undergo teaching assessment with MOATT teaching tool for patients receiving Oral Agents for Cancer V1.2

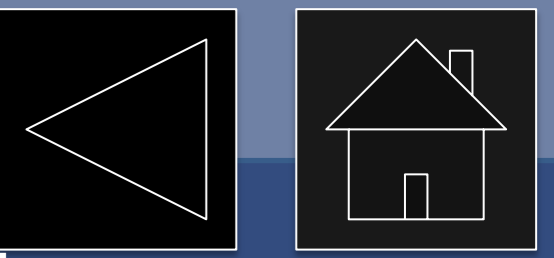
Results/Progress to Date



The above figure illustrates the process map for implementing oral chemotherapy education sessions at both Boston and Needham campuses.

For more information, contact:

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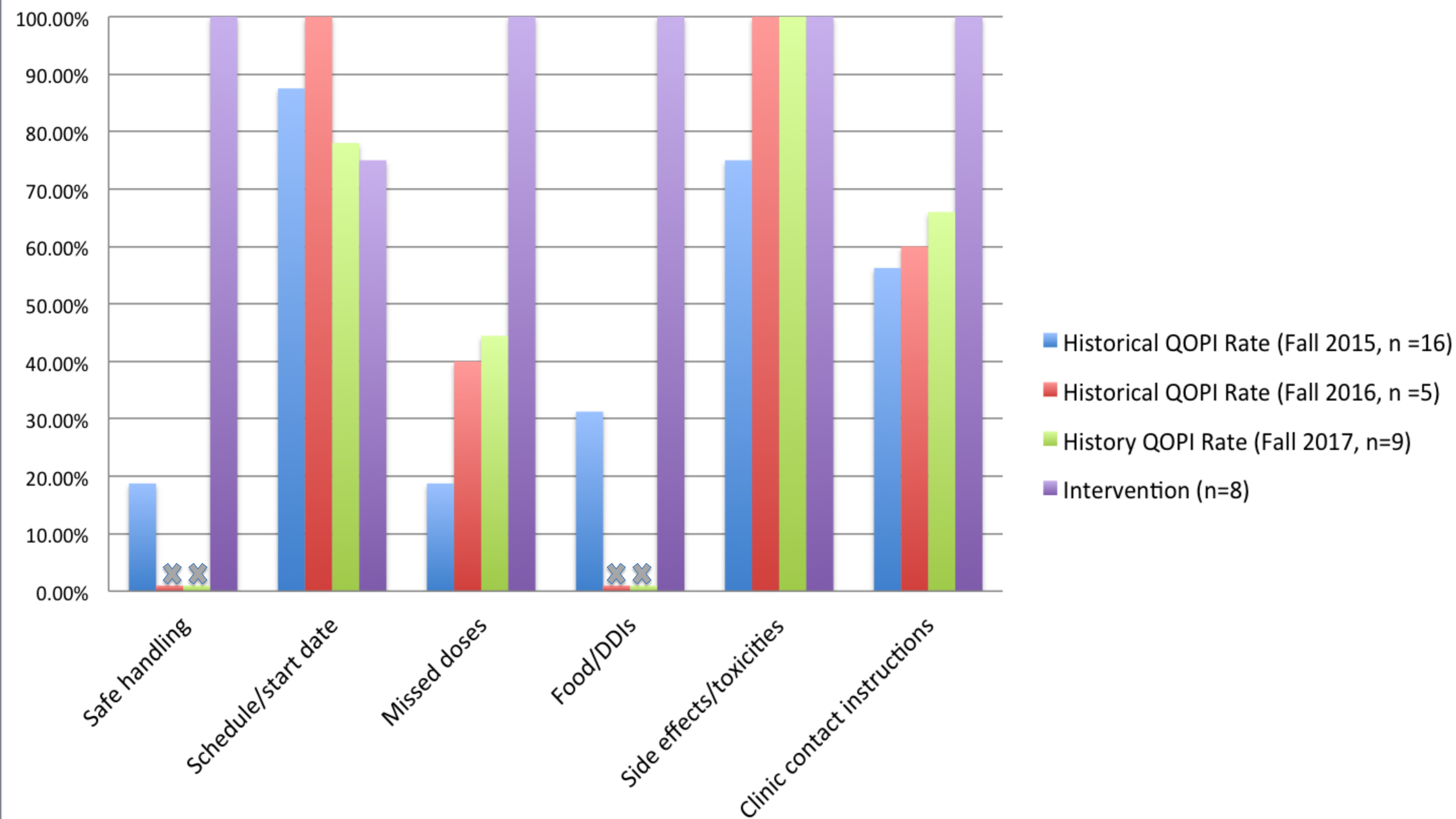


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More Results/Progress to Date

Documentation of ASCO/ONS Oral Chemotherapy Administration Safety Standards



The above figure depicts the percent of each ASCO/ONS oral chemotherapy standard documented in the BIDMC online medical record before and after the intervention of patients undergoing an independent education session. The “X” above four of the bars indicate no available data. The documentation of standards has improved when compared to our rates found in QOPI data for all categories except “Schedule/Start date”. Major improvements were seen in discussing safe handling, plan for missed doses, and giving clinic contact instructions.

Lessons Learned

- The new specialty pharmacy, AllCare, which has recently become available to the BIDMC Cancer Center at Boston and Needham illustrated the challenge of implementing an intervention that crosses multiple disciplines with many providers. However, it also has brought us lucrative new resources and opened up opportunities for making the process more efficient with direct communication with the approval process between the pharmacy and provider teams.

Next Steps

- Begin implementation in the Boston GI Medical Oncology division during the month of March 2018
- Successfully incorporate our designated pharmacist from AllCare into the education sessions in Boston along with the GI nurse coordinators.
- Solidify our process for booking the teach sessions in Boston with nursing and administrative leadership.
- Obtain “capture rate” of all new oral chemotherapy prescriptions being referred for formal teach sessions.

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