

Foundations of Cancer Care

Various Institutions*

OVERVIEW: Opportunities for cancer nursing education in Africa are limited and in Ghana and Tanzania there is a lack of specialist cancer care and knowledge among nurses. This one-year initiative aimed to identify current levels of competence and then develop a culturally sensitive training programme for nurses in practice and peer support advocates delivering cancer care.



Area of focus:

Educating patients & HCPs about ABC/mBC



Target population:

Nurses working with patients with cancer

Objectives: Understand existing competencies and educate nurses and peer support advocates in delivering cancer care by developing culturally sensitive, transferable educational materials and resources

Unmet needs addressed:

- Lack of specialist cancer knowledge and care among nurses
- Low applicability and cultural relevance of existing training programmes developed elsewhere

Key components:

- Literature review and nurse learning needs analysis to assess competency
- Development of a culturally sensitive training materials delivered through a 5-day teaching programme using a 'train the trainer' model
- Ongoing mentorship and support by weekly Zoom meetings, as well as follow-up assessment

Challenges: Pre-organisation of the clinical sites was required to allow nurses to be released for teaching, as well as gathering real patient examples for application of learnings. The 5-day training programme was perceived as intense for both teachers and participants

Outcomes: A pre- and post-training assessment showed significant improvement in confidence and knowledge after completion of the training. The 'train the trainer' model has resulted in participants sharing their new skills

Development: Core team of 6 Royal Marsden staff, 2 from ORCI and 3 from PLH

Cost: >€30,000 (Global Challenge Research Fund grant through the Institute of Cancer Research)

Timeline: One year (2019–2020)

Targeted to reach: >300



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For more information:

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Based on written submission from initiative leads, 2020. The Hard-to-Reach ABC/mBC Communities Toolkit was developed as a collaboration between Pfizer Oncology and the ABC Global Alliance, with funding and support provided by Pfizer. ABC Global Alliance members and Pfizer colleagues were invited to submit breast cancer community-based initiatives that address specific needs of underserved patient populations with advanced/metastatic breast cancer. Initiatives were evaluated against criteria determined by a steering committee with members from both Pfizer and the ABC Global Alliance. Initiatives were selected for inclusion in the toolkit to highlight best practices in addressing the unique needs of this patient population. All organizations who submitted their initiatives for consideration have provided permission for the initiative information to be included in the toolkit and shared publicly. Pfizer and the ABC Global Alliance bear no responsibility for the contents of the toolkit.



Ethnic, religious, indigenous/native population and/or other minorities



Low income patients



Older patients



Rural patients



Low health knowledge patients

