Education and Patient Involvement – A patient view
13 January 2022

Dr Erik Briers MS PHD
Education and Patient Involvement

ON ME

Prostate cancer patient
Diagnosis of PC 2001
RPE January 2002
Vice Chair Us Too Belgium (patient support)
Co-founder and Vice Chair Europa Uomo [European Prostate Cancer Coalition]
Past Member PCWP EMA
Member of the ESR-PAG
Alternate patient member CAT (Committee on advanced therapies) EMA 2016-2019
Patient member EAU guidelines committee on prostate cancer

Education – PhD science chemistry
Education and Patient Involvement

Project objective

Promote constant improvement in quality and safety of radiology, radiotherapy and nuclear medicine through the implementation of clinical audit as part of Member States’ healthcare systems.
Education and Patient Involvement

Quality from the patients’ perspective

#1 Correct and timely diagnosis leading to a curative treatment or a treatment that controls the disease with optimal outcome and quality of life
But, the result may NOT require any treatment
Education and Patient Involvement

Quality from the patients’ perspective

#2 Having access to state of the art equipment, dedicated and trained staff, adequate environment, the best medical experts
The service takes care of the patient
Education and Patient Involvement

Safety from the patients’ perspective

#1 Radiation safety should not be a concern for the patient, it is considered acquired

The service shall use all possibilities to minimize exposure without compromising the diagnostic or therapeutic result
Education and Patient Involvement

Safety from the patients’ perspective

#2 The journey through the service should be safe also on non radiation exposure aspects, pain from manipulation, anxiety, delays, trust...
Education and Patient Involvement

AUDIT

A formal examination of an organization’s “situation”
Audits can be external, internal
Based on a systematic review of quality systems – safety systems and their implementation
Education and Patient Involvement

Audit trail is adjusted to the specific requirements of the “process unit”

Ex – mammography, emergency plain X for rib-cage…
Education and Patient Involvement

AUDIT—radiation safety

Specialist evaluate if the objectives are met

Patients should accept expert advice to minimize exposure (use low dose diagnostics, not using RX…)

Clinicians accept to discuss this with patients (shielding…)

QuaDRANT 2022  Dr Erik Briers MS PhD
Education and Patient Involvement

AUDIT – other safety / comfort

Patients are “going” through the system and they really undergo the consequences of procedures and habits.

Patients are central to the audits for this level of safety and compliance. Use questionnaires, patient reported outcomes.

[ECR 2022 patient in focus: IF 8 Listen to your patients - Listening to the patient to improve the quality of service to your patients]
Education and Patient Involvement

AUDIT – quality

Patients are at the heart, they have been submitted to procedures, but clinicians (radiologists & prescribers) should verify if the diagnosis is optimal. Peer to peer validation, training, audit needs to verify if radiological staff is adequately trained (for new procedures)…
Education and Patient Involvement

AUDIT—patient involvement

#1 Radiation safety—end report
#2 Other safety (comfort)—setting up of the audit, questionnaires, reporting
#3 Quality—setting up the audit, reporting and end report.
#4 Overall, patients should be part of the auditing team at the level of the department and at the level of the hospital.
Education and Patient Involvement

AUDIT—patient involvement

To date, little or no involvement by patients in audit
This should change and first for those aspect that are touching the patient like comfort, safety, quality
Departments using ionizing radiation should have a patient advisory board to assist in making the department(s) patient friendly. These patients should be involved in audits.
Education and Patient Involvement

Thank you for your attention.