

Panel Discussion: Pharmacist Integration in an Outpatient Clinic

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Objectives

- Define the role of a pharmacist in the education of oncology patients in an outpatient clinic
- Identify barriers in providing optimal pharmacy support in the care of oncology patients
- Select appropriate tools available to support pharmacist-led patient education
- Construct a plan to enhance current interactions in your own practice through evaluation of other practice sites



Cancer Care Team

Pharmacist

Oncologist

Midlevel Provider

Pharmacist

Pharmacy Technician

Clinic Nurse

Infusion Nurse

Nurse Navigator

Administration Liaison

Financial Counselor

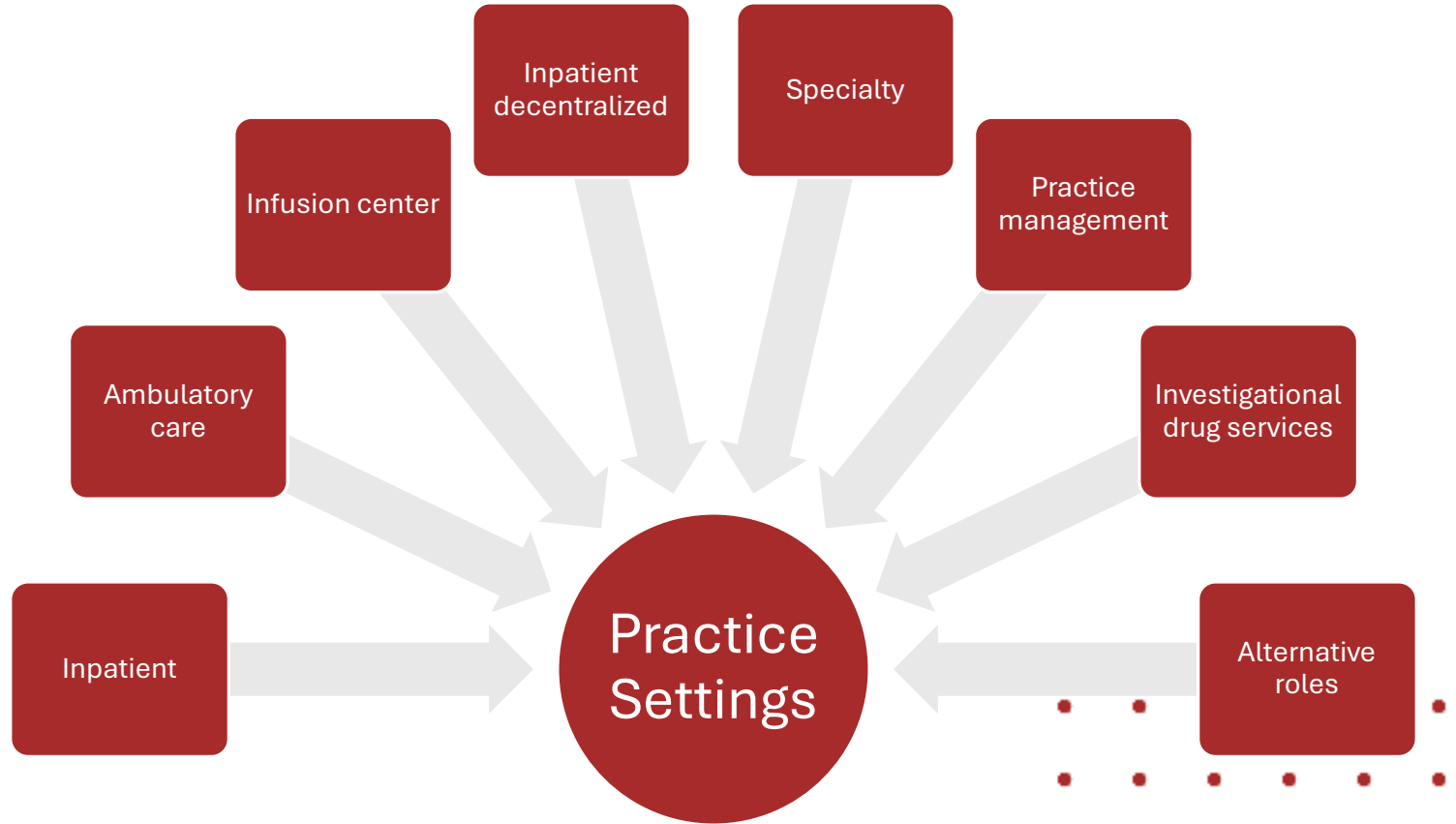
Nutritionist

Social Worker



Oncology Pharmacists

“Oncology pharmacists are, first and foremost, educators.”

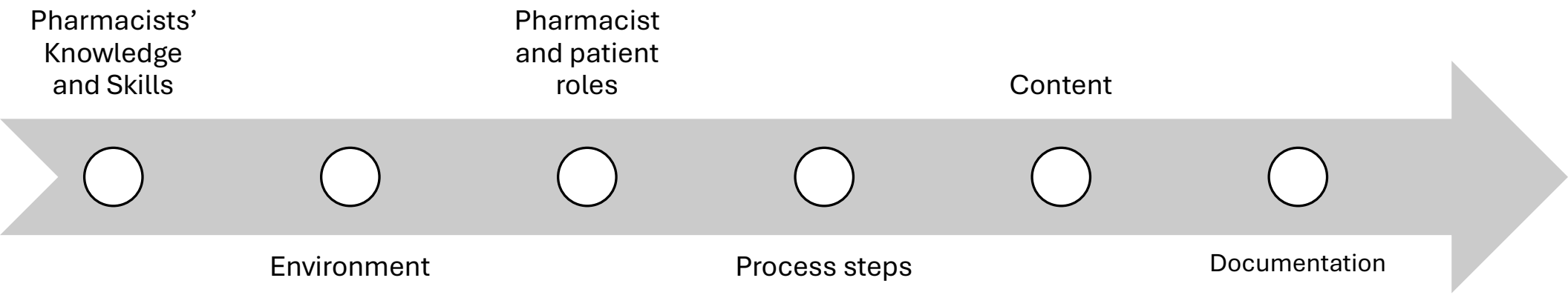


Value of Oncology Pharmacists

- Decreasing physician time
- Revenue generation
- Improving quality/clinic care
- Improving medication safety
- Impacting patient outcomes
- Supportive care management
- Laboratory monitoring
- Pharmacist-driven cost savings
- Patient/provider satisfaction
- Decreasing hospitalization
- Informatics
- Patient education
- Increased documentation
- Medication errors evaluation
- Drug shortage mitigation



ASHP Guidelines on Pharmacist-Conducted Patient Education and Counseling



ASHP Guidelines on Preventing Medication Errors with Antineoplastic Agents

- Include information regarding:
 - Primary treatment plan and all ancillary and supportive care medications
 - Precautions to prevent exposure of hazardous medications
 - Oncology specific resources

“Well-informed patients (and their authorized caregivers) are the vital last link in the safety chain to prevent errors related to antineoplastic medications.”



Why is Oncology Patient Education Needed?

- Increasing complexity of regimens
- Requiring knowledge of potential adverse effects
- Aging population
- Improving prognoses
- Reducing feelings of anxiety
- Informing patients

Holle LM, Segal EM, Jeffers KD. *Pharmacy (Basel)*. 2020;8(3):130.
Lambourne T, Minard LV, Deal H et al. *J Cancer Educ*. 2019;34(5):1024-1030
Seung AH, Palatine J, Merten J. *Pharmacy Times Oncology Edition*. 2023;5(2).
Avery M, Williams F. *J Pharm Pract*. 2015;28(1):26-30.
Schapira L. *ASCO Connection*, 2018.



Barriers to Providing Optimal Support

- Complexity of regimens
- Emotionally-charged diagnosis
- Costs of cancer
- Language
- Health literacy
- Lack of support system
- Time constraints of staff members
- Abundance of information

Lambourne T, Minard LV, Deal H et al. *J Cancer Educ.* 2019;34(5):1024-1030.

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Available Resources

- American Cancer Society (ACS)
- Professional Pharmacy Organizations
 - Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association (HOPA)
 - Network for Collaborative Oncology Development & Advancement (NCODA)
- National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN)
- American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)
- Medication Databases
- Medication Prescribing Information
- Medication Manufacturer



Panel Discussion

Pharmacist
integration in the
ambulatory care
setting

Tracking metrics

Barriers to the
pharmacist role in
the ambulatory
care setting



Panelists



Julia Bass, PharmD, BCOP

- Lymphoma Clinical Pharmacy Specialist
- Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center; New York, NY



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- Cancer Care Service Line & Research Clinical Pharmacist
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