



2017 HMC Palliative Care Conference

Research Poster Presentations

Suicide, Hastened Death, and Death with Dignity in Home Hospice

Gerson S, Grinyer A, Bingley A

- Sheri Mila Gerson, LICSW, PhD candidate in Palliative Care at Lancaster University, United Kingdom. Acknowledgements: Anne Grinyer, PhD, and Amanda Bingley, PhD.
- The aim of this research is to understand hospice professionals' experiences with patients who died by suicide and hastened death in Washington State where the Death with Dignity Act has been implemented since 2009.
- This was a qualitative study utilizing in-depth interviews with hospice professionals, applying thematic analysis influenced by a social constructionist framework to examine how suicide is understood in relation to socio-political, personal, professional, and cultural influences.

Decision Regret in Patients with Durable Ventricular Assist Devices

Cooper SG, Whyte S, Hansell C, Horvath K, Mokadam NA, Mahr CW, Kirkpatrick J

- Cole Hansell, undergraduate at the University of Washington. Acknowledgements: University of Washington Cardiology Clinic by PI James Kirkpatrick and project lead Stephanie Cooper.
- The aim of this study was to investigate how patients felt about their decision to receive a LVAD with the goal to be able to specialize support for LVAD patients both pre- and post-implant.
- This study was conducted through an embedded out-patient palliative care service where all post-implant patients at the UW cardiology clinic were given the Decision Regret Scale to measure ambivalence towards their decision.

Incidence of Depression and Anxiety in Patients with Durable Left Ventricular Assist Device

Cooper SG, Whyte S, Hansell C, Horvath K, Mahr CW, Mokadam NA, Kirkpatrick J

- Cole Hansell, undergraduate at the University of Washington. Acknowledgements: University of Washington Cardiology Clinic, PI James Kirkpatrick and project lead Stephanie Cooper.
- Our study focused on investigating the incidence of depression and anxiety in post-implant LVAD patients with the goal to determine where advanced support might be needed for these patients.
- We implemented an out-patient palliative care service for all post-implant patients at the UW Cardiology Clinic where they were screened for depression and anxiety using the PHQ-9 and GAD-7 respectively.

Point of Care Education on Key Communication and Procedural Skills for Interns in the Intensive Care Unit

Bergam BA, Shepherd A, Hurd C, Vande Vusse LK

- Brittany Bergam, Program Coordinator for the Internal Medicine Residency Program at the University of Washington.
Acknowledgements: Collaboration with Drs. Amanda Shepherd, Caroline Hurd, and Lisa Vande Vusse.
- Our goal was to examine the impact of point-of-care education for essential communication and procedural skills on interns starting the medical intensive care unit rotation.
- We measured self-perceived confidence and independence using pre- and post-assessment questionnaires.

Testing the Utility of a Pain Management Educational Tool to Support Hospice Family Caregivers

Chi N-C, Han S, Demiris G, Lewis FM,
Walker AJ, Washington K, Oliver DP

- Nai-Ching Chi, MS, RN, Nursing PhD candidate at the University of Washington. Acknowledgements: Partial funding from an NINR grant.
- Pain management is one the most challenging tasks for family caregivers; hence, we created a pain management educational tool for hospice clinicians to support family caregivers in home hospice care.
- The educational tool included five scenarios based on real cases and suggested approaches for hospice clinicians. We also conducted an evaluation study to interview 15 hospice clinicians and gain their feedback on the educational tool.

Communicating Caregivers' Challenges with Cancer Pain Management: An Analysis of Home Hospice Visits

Han C, Chi N-C, Han S, Demiris G

- Claire Han, PhD, MSN, RN, CCRN, post-doctoral fellow in Department of Biomedical Informatics and Medical Education and School of Nursing. Acknowledgements: Dr. George Demiris and his palliative research teams funded by NLM training grant; Dr. Lee Ellington at the University of Utah
- We aim to identify how caregivers of cancer patients communicate pain management challenges and concerns to the hospice nurse during the home visit, and to assess the support or responses by hospice nurses when caregivers express such issues.
- We analyzed secondary data obtained from a Utah study. We conducted a content analysis of transcripts of audio-recorded nursing home visits to hospice cancer patients using Kelley's framework for caregiver's pain-related concerns in hospice settings.

Shared Decision-Making in Pediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care Units: Who Determines the Child's Best Interest?

Richards CA, Starks H, O'Connor R, Doorenbos AZ

- Claire Richards, PhD(c), BSN, RN, CHPN, Doctoral Candidate, University of Washington, School of Nursing. Acknowledgements: University of Washington and Seattle Children's Hospital. Mentors include Ardith Doorenbos, Helene Starks, and Rebecca O'Connor. We were funded by the ITHS TL1 #TR000422, #R01NR011179 and #K24NR015340.
- Our objective was to understand how neonatal and pediatric critical care physicians balance and integrate the interests of the child and family in decisions about life sustaining treatment.
- We conducted a content analysis of semi-structured interviews with 22 physicians from neonatal, pediatric and cardiothoracic intensive care units in a single quaternary care pediatric hospital.

Health Care Utilization and Costs at End of Life among Patients with Cancer in a Regional Cancer Registry-Insurance Claims Linked Database

McDermott C, Fedorenko C, Kreizenbeck K,
Conklin T, Smith B, Lyman G, Ramsey S

- Cara McDermott, PharmD, PhD, MSc, post-doctoral fellow with Cambia Palliative Care Center of Excellence. Acknowledgements: Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, and primary mentor, Dr. Scott Ramsey.
- Our aim was to describe costs in the last month of life from the payer and patient perspectives for commercially insured patients with cancer.
- We analyzed insurance claims from Premera Blue Cross and Regence Blue Shield, linked to clinical information from the Puget Sound Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) registry to examine costs for hospitalization, ED visits, and chemotherapy use in the last 30 days of life for patients diagnosed with breast, colorectal, or lung cancer, leukemia, or lymphoma in western Washington State between 2007 and 2015.

Using Twitter for Recruitment, Patients' Engagement, and Data Collection in a Study about how Adolescent and Young Adults with Late Stage Cancer Engage in Clinical Decision-Making

Figueroa Gray M, Ludman E, Beatty T, Wernli KJ

- Marlaine Figueroa Gray, PhD, Research Associate, Kaiser Permanente Washington. Acknowledgements: Evette Ludman, Tara Beatty, Karen Wernli From Kaiser Permanente Washington Research Institute. This research was funded by an internal development grant.
- We conducted an exploratory study to examine what matters most to young adults with advanced cancer as they make medical decisions.
- We used social media to recruit participants, engage with them throughout the study, and collect qualitative data with very promising results.

Balancing Hope and Risk for Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Patients with Late Stage Cancer

Figueroa Gray M, Ludman R, Beatty T, Wernli KJ

- Marlaine Figueroa Gray, PhD, Research Associate, Kaiser Permanente Washington. Acknowledgements: Evette Ludman, Tara Beatty, Karen Wernli From Kaiser Permanente Washington Research Institute. This research was funded by an internal development grant.
- We conducted an exploratory study to examine what matters most to young adults with advanced cancer as they make medical decisions.
- We conducted semi-structured interviews with 12 patients, 5 providers and 5 caregivers and held two tweet chats.

Examining Family Resilience in Adolescents and Young Adults with Cancer

Lau N, Yi-Frazier J, Bradford MC, Shaffer ML, Bona K, Wolfe J, Baker S, Rosenberg A

- Nancy Lau, PhD, post-doctoral research fellow with the University of Washington Cambia Center's T32 Palliative Care Research Fellowship Program.
- Our Palliative Care and Resilience Research Program asks, "How can we help adolescents and young adults, their parents, and their whole families cope with cancer?" My project assesses prospective relationships between parent- and child-reported resilience, hope, distress, and benefit finding.
- A multi-site prospective mixed-methods cohort study of adolescents and young adults with cancer and their parents.

The Growth of SNFists from 2007-2014

Bunker J, Gozalo PL, Trivedi A, Mitchell SL, Mor V, Teno JM

- Jennifer Bunker, MPH, Research Coordinator at the University of Washington. Acknowledgements: Dr. Joan Teno and researchers from Harvard and Brown Universities; funding from the National Institute of Aging.
- Our goal was to both identify and document the growth of what we call “SNFists” in the US from 2007 through 2014 while noting any geographic trends.
- We conducted a secondary analysis of 20% Medicare Part B Carrier File Evaluation and Management Codes in years 2007, 2010, and 2014 to identify SNFists, to understand the percentage of SNFists accounting for all SNF visits nationally and by state, and to characterize the growth of SNFists over time. Visit my poster for the exciting conclusion!

A Community Needs Assessment for the Development of an Interprofessional Palliative Care Training Curriculum

Coats H, Paganelli T, Doorenbos A

- Heather Coats, PhD, APRN-BC, post-doctoral fellow.
Acknowledgements: Cambia Health Foundation, National Institute of Nursing Research (NIH) and the National Heart, Blood and Lung Institute.
- Our aims were to describe the results of a multi-phase community needs assessment for the development of an inter-professional palliative care training curriculum.
- Using a cross-sectional descriptive design, a mixed-method inquiry was conducted through several phases: identifying key informants, collecting key informant interviews and surveys, then reviewing results by steering committee endorsement.

Shifting Paradigms in End-of-Life Decision-Making and the Promise of Advance Directives

Sathitratanacheewin S, Engelberg RA, Downey L,
Curtis JR, & the Cambia Metrics Investigators

- Seelwan Sathitratanacheewin, MD from Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand. Acknowledgements: Recipient of the Prince Mahidol Award Youth Program scholarship to conduct one year research project with Professor J. Randall Curtis and the Cambia Metrics Investigators team.
- My research question was to examine changes over time (2010-2015) in advance care planning documentation and intensity of end-of-life care for patients with serious illness receiving care at UW Medicine.
- Using regression methods, we assessed trends in advance care planning documentation and utilization collected from the UW Medicine EHR and Washington State death certificate data, controlling for confounders as indicated.

Socioeconomic and Racial Differences in Mechanical Ventilation in the Last 30 Days of Life

Brown CE, Dunlab B, Downey L, Engelberg R, Curtis JR

- Ben Dunlap, MPH, Research Consultant, University of Washington. Acknowledgements: Crystal Brown, Randy Curtis, Lois Downey, Ruth Engelberg. Funded by the Cambia Health Foundation
- Study aims: 1) To examine how race and other socio-economic factors were associated with the use of mechanical ventilation at the end of life; and 2) To identify a model that might explain the relationship between race, socio-economic factors and use of mechanical ventilation.
- We completed a cross-sectional association study among Washington State decedents who received care at UW Medicine; we developed an explanatory path model to show how these factors are related in this population.

Post-ICU PTSD Symptoms in Family Members of ARDS Survivors are Associated with Family-Specific, Not Patient-Specific Characteristics

Lee RY, Engelberg RA, Curtis JR, Hough CL, Kross EK

- Bob Lee, MD, Cambia T32 research fellow, and Pulmonary/Critical Care fellow at Harborview. Acknowledgements: I am mentored by Erin Kross and Randy Curtis.
- Our research aim was to examine risk factors for psychological symptoms in family members of those who survived ARDS.
- We assembled a prospective cohort of ARDS survivors, and then surveyed their family members for symptoms of PTSD, depression, and anxiety ~6 months after discharge.

Late Transitions and Bereaved Family Member Perceptions of Quality of End-of-Life Care

Makaroun LK, Teno JM, Freedman V, Kasper JD, Gozalo P, Mor V

- Lena Makaroun, MD, Geriatrician and Health Services Research and Development research fellow at the VA Puget Sound Healthcare System. Acknowledgements: Mentorship of Joan Teno at the Cambia Palliative Care Center of Excellence.
- Our study aim was to examine the relationship between healthcare transitions in the last three days of life and end-of-life quality of care.
- We examined information from family member surveys of deceased patients from waves 2-5 of the National Health and Aging Trends Study (NHATS) to analyze if health care transitions in the last three days of life to locations other than home were associated with bereaved family member perceptions of unmet needs, problems in communication, and concerns with quality of care.

Exploring Outpatient Palliative Care Needs of Adults with Cystic Fibrosis

Hobler M, Engelberg RA, Curtis JR, Ramos KJ,
Zander MI, Howard SS, Goss CH, Aitken ML

- Mara Hobler, PhD, Research Consultant with the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine. Acknowledgements: funded by a Cystic Fibrosis Foundation grant awarded to Dr. Moira Aitken, director of the CF clinic at UW Medicine, with co-investigator Dr. Chris Goss, and mentors Dr. Randy Curtis and Dr. Ruth Engelberg.
- Our aim was to identify and assess palliative care and advance care planning needs by studying patients with CF and family members involved in their care.
- Recruitment took place at the Adult CF Clinic at University of Washington Medical Center. We used semi-structured interviews and questionnaires and received input from 49 patients and 35 family member participants.