# exchange 2023 advocate.

### Patient and Practice Advocacy Measures



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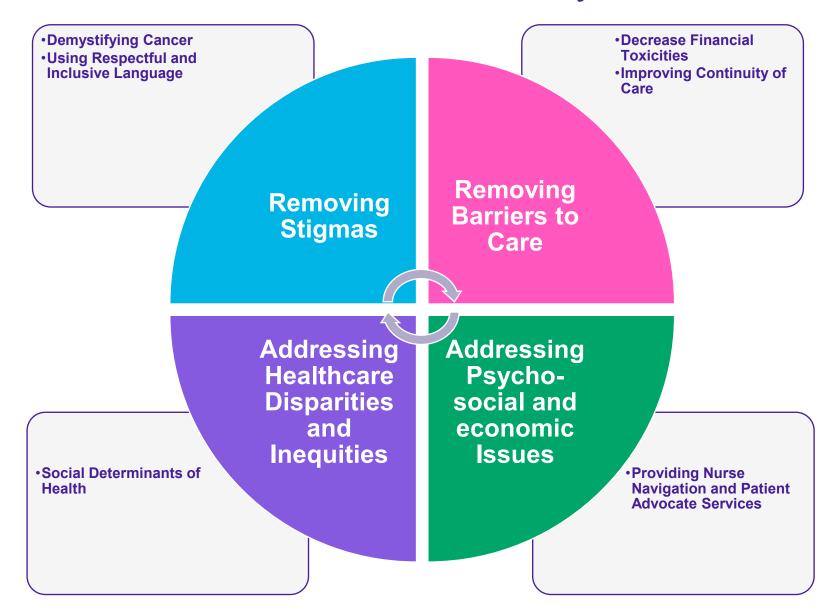
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## Agenda

- 1. Patient Advocacy Measures
- 2. The Patient Journey- Removing Stigmas
- 3. Medically Integrated Dispensing Patient Access Programs
- 4. Nurse Navigation and Life Beyond Diagnosis Support



### Patient and Practice Advocacy Measures



# Removing the Stigma: Using More Sensitive and Inclusive Language

#### Eliminate Identity-First Terminology

- Instead of "cancer survivor" use "alivers or thrivers"
- Instead of "survivorship" use "life after treatment" or "living with and beyond cancer"

#### Language without blame or stigma

- Words like "failure", "failed" or "salvage" can suggest that the patient did not try hard enough.
- Replace with words like "progression" and "subsequent"

#### Words that are inclusive of all sexual orientations and gender identities

- Instead of "Men presenting with breast cancer" say "Individuals assigned male at birth"
- Instead of "for men" say "individuals with a prostate"

#### Removing war metaphors when referring to cancer

- "fighting cancer, battle with cancer, or the war on cancer"

## Patient Advocacy through Medically Integrated Dispensing Programs

Patients are often confused, overwhelmed, and distraught. Helping them to navigate and understand the process for accessing their oral therapies is the ultimate goal.

- Improved continuity of care
  - Easier and quicker to get a hold of a real person
  - Talk to staff that cares about their care and wants to help in anyway possible. Not an automated system
- Quicker delivery most get their meds the next day
- Better/easier access to their medications
- Coordinate medication pick up with office visits whenever possible, eliminating the need for additional trips
- Acting as an advocate for the patient to help with problem solving when it relates to barriers to access of medication



# CMS Required SDOH Screening Domains



#### **Food Insecurity**

Limited or uncertain access to adequate quality and quantity of food



#### **Housing Insecurity**

Inability to pay rent/mortgage and/or limited to no access to safe and steady housing









#### Interpersonal Safety

Exposure to intimate partner violence, child abuse, elder abuse, and other physical or verbal abuse



#### Transportation Insecurity

Inability to access reliable transportation for all aspects of daily living







#### **Utilities**

Inconsistent availability of electricity, water, oil, and gas



## **Advocacy Through Nurse Navigation and Patient Advocacy Programs**

**Navigation** in oncology has demonstrated benefits for people at risk for or diagnosed with cancer.

- Nurse Navigators provide educational material and resources to assist patients in making informed decisions about care and treatment.
- Navigation is available <u>during</u> and following treatment.
- Assist with physical and emotional needs.

**Patient advocacy** also consists of:

- Improving health literacy.
- Advocating for improved cancer prevention, treatment and care.
- Organizing educational initiatives to support the translation of patients' experiences into policy and practice.
- Oncology nurses and social workers advocate for their patients by presenting and raising awareness of patients' needs and preferences in regard to the healthcare system.

Gordils-Perez et al., 2017; Munoz et al., 2018; National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, 2018; Temucin & Nahcivan, 2020; Yackzan et al., 2019

# Thank you

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