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Submission Title: *Outpatient Sepsis Education for Families*

Abstract Body (250 word maximum)

Background

Sepsis is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality; however, there have been few efforts toward outpatient sepsis education with at-risk patients. Our aim is to develop processes for outpatient education, with a secondary aim to determine if our educational materials are understood by families in the University of North Carolina pediatric hematology-oncology clinic.

Methods

Materials were adopted from World Sepsis Day organization, being developed by critical care and hematology-oncology physicians and nurses, sepsis survivors, and parents. The best time to administer the brochure and iPad assessment was identified over two weeks of PDSA cycles (with front desk personnel), also incorporating a retrospective evaluation of sepsis knowledge, brochure design, and assessment difficulty. After the pilot period, an iPad pre-/post-assessment was given along with the brochure.

Results

Front desk staff distributed brochures with iPad assessment to patient families, on average, 50.6% of the time during a typical clinic day (SD 23.6). After brochure education, 55.45% of families in the study reported an improved understanding of sepsis and 71.03% of the families reported an improved ability to explain the symptoms of sepsis to someone else.

Conclusions

Reliable brochure administration and increased sepsis knowledge after brochure review suggest that this is a feasible process and caregivers could benefit from sepsis education, respectively. Next steps include increasing clinic buy-in and staffing and assessing 30-day knowledge retention as part of a larger research study.