

Role of Oncology Advanced Practitioners to Enhance Clinical Research

Authors: Christa M. Braun-Inglis, NP¹, Leigh M. Boehmer, PharmD², Laura J. Zitella, NP³, Brianna W. Hoffner, NP⁴, Yurii B. Shvetsov, PhD¹, Jessica M. Rhee, MD¹, Randall A. Oyer, MD⁵, Al B. Benson, III, MD⁶

Affiliations: ¹University of Hawaii Cancer Center, Honolulu, HI; ²Association of Community Cancer Centers, Rockville, MD; ³University of California, San Francisco, CA; ⁴Harborside, Huntington, NY;

⁵Ann B. Barshinger Cancer Institute, Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health, Lancaster, PA; ⁶Northwestern Medicine, Chicago, IL

Abstract No: 95

Background:

- Oncology Advanced Practitioners (APs), including nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, physician assistants and pharmacists, are highly trained, skilled health care providers that contribute significantly to quality cancer care.
- Given low clinical trial enrollment among adult oncology patients, understanding current research responsibilities of APs could lead to identification of opportunities to leverage this workforce to enhance accrual and conduct of clinical trials.

Methods:

- A 65-item survey of attitudes, beliefs and roles of oncology APs in clinical research was distributed via ACCC and Harborside in early 2020.
- The survey was administered, and data were analyzed, using SurveyMonkey®.

Oncology APs:

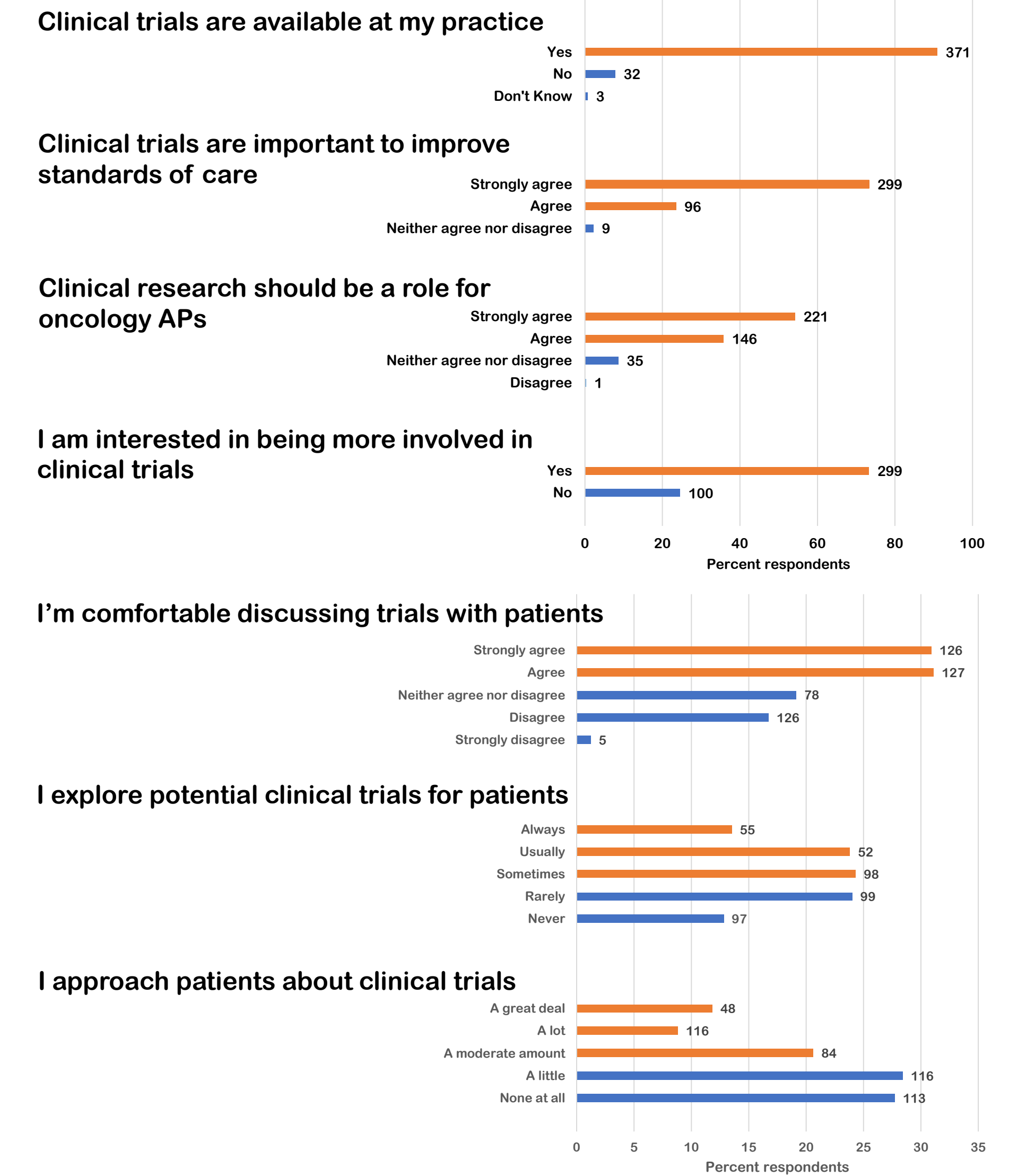
- Are engaged & interested in clinical trials
- Believe clinical research is important to improve cancer care
- Are not being utilized to their full scope

Recommendations:

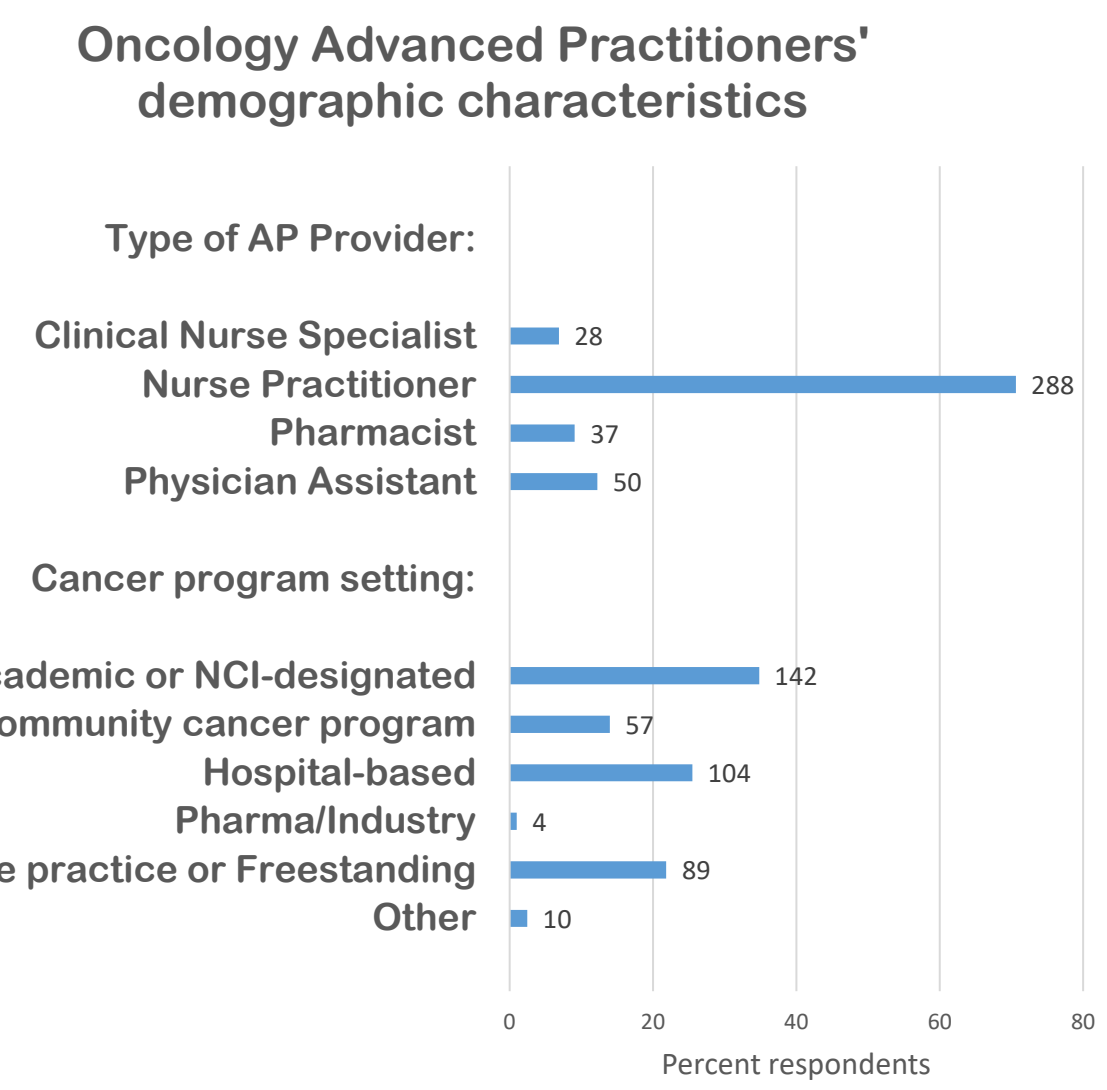
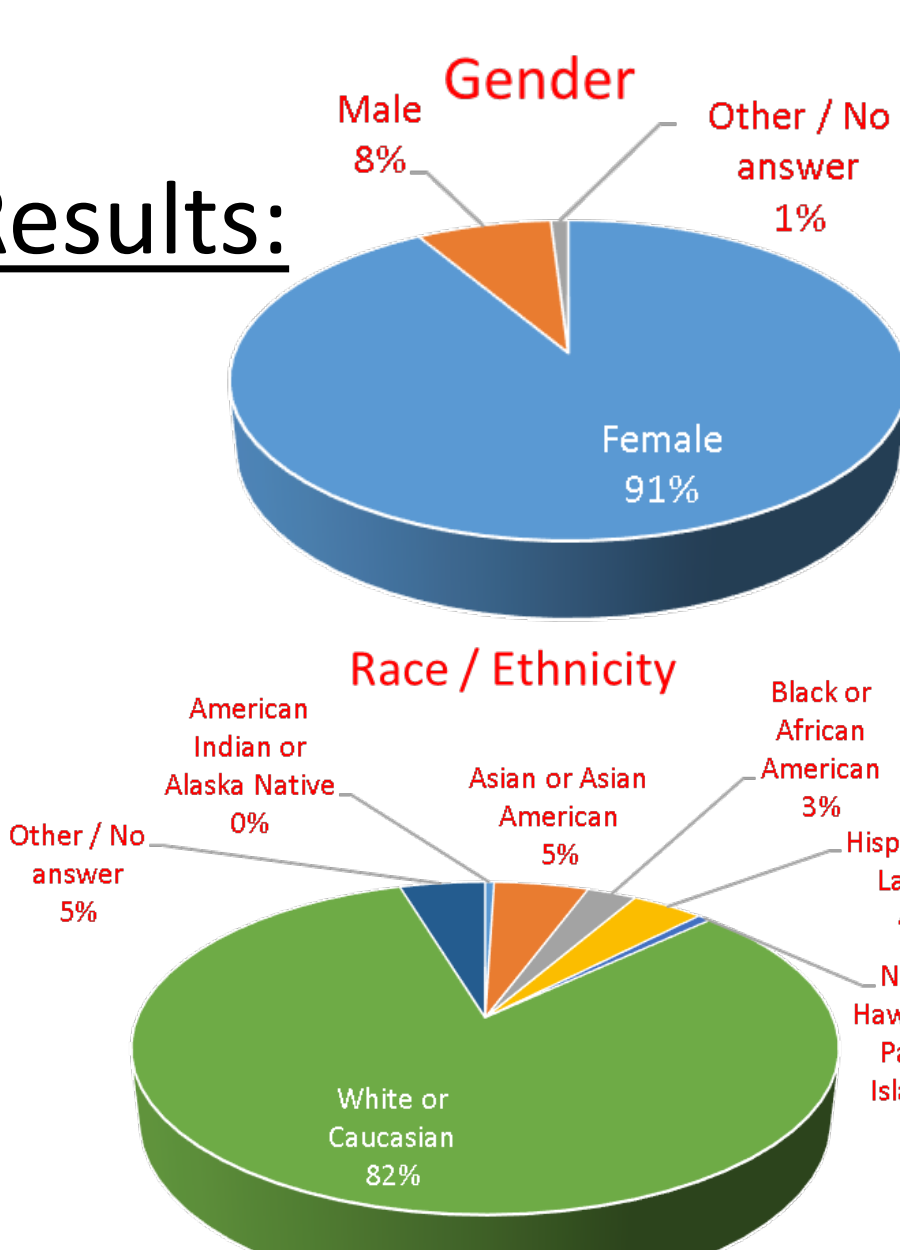
- Research-related education for oncology APs is essential
- Oncology APs must be fully integrated members of the multidisciplinary cancer care team
- Federal and state policy and regulatory changes are necessary

Results:

Oncology APs' Research-Related Attitudes and Beliefs



Results:



AUTHOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Christa M. Braun-Inglis, NP, University of Hawaii Cancer Center, CBraunInglis@cc.Hawaii.edu

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors would like to thank the Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC) and Harborside for their assistance with survey creation and review, dissemination, and data analysis.



Barriers to greater involvement of Oncology APs in clinical trials include:

- lack of time
- inadequate awareness of clinical trials
- under-representation on research committees