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®.

Results:

Oncology APs' Research-Related Attitudes and Beliefs

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

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

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