How Patient Navigation Models in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Care Programs in the US Can Be Improved

Navigating through the many tiers of the healthcare system can be challenging for patients with non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) in the US.

Multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) and patient navigation models are instrumental in elevating patients’ quality of life and improving the overall patient experience through the system, from diagnosis to recovery.

A National Quality Survey asked, “how effective are patient navigation models in NSCLC care programs in the US?”

Survey responses show:

- Significant shortage of navigators across cancer programs to assist patients with NSCLC: 22% of respondents reported no nurse or lay navigator in their program.
- 90% of respondents worked in programs with no formal health literacy assessments for patients with NSCLC.
- Programs with navigators for patients with NSCLC better promoted and coordinated shared decision-making (SDM) practices.

Patient navigation services are instrumental in improving the patient experience and patient outcomes in NSCLC, and their implementation must be expanded to maximize patient benefits in advanced stage NSCLC.

accc-cancer.org/NSCLC-navigation

Improving Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Care Delivery: Learnings for Oncology Nurses and Patient Navigation From a National Quality Survey

Aversano et al. (2020)