AccessHope's expert reviews show positive clinical and cost impacts on lung cancer cases

Case Study

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The organization

AccessHope offers an employer-paid benefit of cancer support services. Employees and families can utilize these services to send their cancer cases to AccessHope's multidisciplinary specialists with National Cancer Institute (NCI)-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers. These subspecialists then provide insights that the employee or family member's community doctor may use to optimize their treatment plans for the best-possible outcomes.

The cancer cases

The cases that AccessHope receives can be requested by employees or automatically triggered when an employee receives a complex- or rare-cancer diagnosis with a challenging prognosis. From April 2019 to November 2020 (during the COVID-19 pandemic), the company received 110 cases specifically for lung cancer......

The expert reviews

For each case, AccessHope's subspecialist leveraged leading subspecialty expertise to develop a report with commentary on the prior workup and therapies as well as the current treatment. The report also included suggestions for any potential changes in management and future options. The subspecialist then sent the report to the community doctor and encouraged them to engage in a collegial

collaboration on the recommendations. Meanwhile, their patient continued to receive care close to home.

85% of the cases were from community-based oncologists

55% nd 45% and their median age was 62.5

18% were never smokers

57% were past smokers



26% were current smokers

were unclassified, which reflected the medical oncology clinic population

The positive impacts

AccessHope's subspecialist agreed completely with the community oncologist's treatment plan, offering **no additional recommendations, in only 7% of cases.** Our subspecialists provided evidence-based recommendations to influence the treatment plan in:

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In 93% of cases, the subspecialist provided evidencebased recommendations for current or subsequent care while proactively engaging the community doctor in a collegial collaboration to discuss the case review. Of the 93% of cases:

- 28% included significant changes to the treatment plans, when the subspecialist disagreed with the current management based on available clinical evidence
- 65% included more-modest refinements to treatment plans, including subsequent treatments, supportive care interventions, and other plan details based on available

clinical evidence

The recommendations were associated with clinical outcomes such as improving efficacy, reducing toxicity, and enhancing care.

AccessHope also identified low-value interventions that could be eliminated, such as surveillance with serial PET/CT scans or costly treatments with no anticipated benefit. In these cases, the recommendations saved an average of nearly \$150K per case. Across the entire population of cases reviewed, the recommendations saved an average of more than \$19K per patient.

The peer-reviewed medical journal JCO Oncology Practice published the study online and will publish it in print early 2022—validating AccessHope's remote model of expert case reviews.¹

References

1 West JW, Tan YA, Barzi A, Wong D, Parsley R, Sachs T. Novel program offering remote, asynchronous subspecialist input in thoracic oncology: Early experience and insights gained during the COVID-19 pandemic [published online ahead of print December 3, 2021]. JCO Oncology Practice. doi:10.1200/OP.21.00339

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