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work and would consider a similar initiative in the future. **Keywords:** Patient experience, survey

P39.08

The Effect of COVID-19 on Anxiety in Canadian Lung Cancer Patients



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Introduction: As of the March 20, 2020, the COVID-19 caseload in Canada was still fairly low. There were 917 reported cases compared to 13,882 by April 4, 2020. Recognizing the respiratory nature of the disease, and possible effect on anxiety levels particularly in lung cancer patients, a survey was fielded to measure and better understand how the pandemic was affecting the anxiety levels of lung cancer patients in Canada. **Methods:** OBJECTIVE: To measure the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Canadian lung cancer patient anxiety levels. STUDY DESIGN: An iterative approach was used in the survey design. A round table discussion made up of lung cancer patients was utilized to provide qualitative input. The resulting themes were converted into a quantitative survey, which was fielded digitally. A focus group was then gathered to analyze and discuss the results. **Results:** The study population was Canadian lung cancer patients. The responses ($n = 113$) were collected from 20 - 23 March 2020. All results were descriptive only. (Answer scale 1 to 10: 1 = not anxious at all; 10 = extremely anxious, $m =$ weighted average). The results were as follows: Respondent's anxiety levels at time of survey, $m = 6.01$. Anxiety levels compared to prior to the pandemic, $m = 6.26$. Extent to which the outbreak affected feelings of isolation ($m = 6.42$), being in control ($m = 6.01$), hope ($m = 5.57$), vulnerability ($m = 7.03$). Anxiety experienced due to worry about impact on aspects of their lives: complete life goals ($m = 6.17$), ability to spend quality time with family and loved ones ($m = 7.27$), participate in life events with those they love ($m = 7.38$). Importance of supports to help relieve feelings of anxiety, the most important was clear communication from healthcare team followed by increased communication from lung cancer organizations. **Conclusion:** The results of the survey suggest participants developed an increase in anxiety levels around certain aspects of such as enjoyment of life and quality of life. Results also indicated patients desired resources to increase awareness and education, which would help allay anxiety and improve well being during an outbreak. Variables that may have affected the data: Distribution shapes across the board were not even, with some clustering which potentially reflected the different levels of the outbreak of the across the country. Survey was carried out at the beginning of Canada's COVID-19 response and a state of emergency had not been declared in all the provinces across the country. Due to the early nature of the outbreak at the time of the survey, and as the pandemic continued to evolve, patient anxiety levels were continuously measured. These are preliminary results based on the first survey. Patient mental health is an important aspect of care and influences outcomes. These results highlight areas that may be used to inform cancer care policy and stresses the importance of the inclusion of mental health considerations. **Keywords:** Lung Cancer Patients, COVID-19, Anxiety

P39.09

Social Media Support of Lung Cancer Patient Associations During the Lockdown Restrictions in Italy: A Breath of Life During the COVID-19 Pandemic.



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Introduction: Unprecedented emergency measures applied in Italy, plagued by COVID-19 have determined the development of new patients associations strategies to support oncological patients, particularly lung cancer patients, experiencing increased fear and anxiety to contract COVID-19 for the higher risk of pulmonary complications. In this context, social networking platform have represented a privileged support tool, especially Facebook for the numbers of active users, patient communities and cancer advocacy and support activities. The objective of this study is to evaluate how Italian lung cancer patient associations have used Facebook to support patients during lockdown period in Italy. **Methods:** Data have been obtained by the analysis of posts inserted on Facebook pages by the Italian lung cancer patient associations between 31 January 2020 (first cases reported in Italy in Rome) and 4 May 2020 (start-up phase II after lockdown). The search of associations was conducted on Facebook and web search engines. **Results:** A total of eight Facebook pages of lung cancer patient associations have been analysed. Two associations have not updated their pages in the referred period. Published posts in all examined pages are in total 155, related to vademecum and guidelines for oncological patients (26,4%); information about the COVID-19 and indications to prevent transmission (20%); updates on cancer treatments (5,2%); fundraising (7%) to donate medical devices for COVID-19 emergency. The most frequent hashtags have been: #covid19, #distantimauniti (Distant but United), #coronavirus. Several care emojis have been used in the different posts, including the virtual HUG, launched in the late April 2020 to help people to stay connected and express mutual love and support during the COVID-19 crisis (Figure 1). The most liked post, promoting a vademecum for caregivers to support lung cancer patients during lockdown period, has obtained 2700 like. Moreover, several initiatives have been carried out on Facebook such as the programs of digital solidarity, to share emotions, support and spend time together.



Figure 1: Emojis recorded in reactions to Facebook posts of Italian lung cancer patient associations in the period 31 January- 04 May 2020

Conclusion: The use of Facebook during COVID-19 lockdown has represented for Italian lung cancer patient associations a new virtual space of meeting and supporting and a tool to reduce distances and the concerns related not only to cancer, but also to the danger of COVID-19. **Keywords:** lung cancer patient association, COVID-19, Facebook

P40 RISK REDUCTION AND TOBACCO CONTROL

P40.01

Tobacco use in Adolescence and Associated Factors: Products, School, Family, Peers and Movies in Pandemic Period



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Introduction: Tobacco smoking among adolescents is still frequent and stalling in the last decades, so the main purpose of this research is to know if the COVID-19 pandemic had an impact on adolescents'