

Since January 2020 Elsevier has created a COVID-19 resource centre with free information in English and Mandarin on the novel coronavirus COVID-19. The COVID-19 resource centre is hosted on Elsevier Connect, the company's public news and information website.

Elsevier hereby grants permission to make all its COVID-19-related research that is available on the COVID-19 resource centre - including this research content - immediately available in PubMed Central and other publicly funded repositories, such as the WHO COVID database with rights for unrestricted research re-use and analyses in any form or by any means with acknowledgement of the original source. These permissions are granted for free by Elsevier for as long as the COVID-19 resource centre remains active. 158, 55.9% - females 125, 44.1%; median age 67 years, range 28-89) were observed among a total population of 40894 patients receiving active treatment between January 15 and May 4 2020. 65 of 283 (23%) had cardiovascular comorbidities and 7 (2%) pre-existent pulmonary disease. 239/283 patients (84.4%) were receiving treatment for metastatic disease and 44 (15.6%) in the adjuvant setting. Breast, lung, colon and prostate cancer were the main tumor types accounting for 61% of cases.

**Conclusions:** The occurrence of COVID-19 among cancer patients receiving active antitumor treatment appears to reflect tumor epidemiology. Full analysis of the distribution of COVID-19 occurrence and clinical course by tumor type, stage and oncologic treatment will be presented.

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## 1706P Implementing oncology virtual clinics (VC) in response to COVID-19 pandemic: A transformation driven by a crisis

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**Background:** In response to COVID-19 pandemic, we launched VC to minimize hospital visits, decrease exposures to infection and ensure continuity of care to all cancer patients. Our project aimed to assess the value of VC in management of oncology patients and the level of patient and staff satisfaction with it.

**Methods:** On March 18, 2020, we introduced VC to all specialties at the Oncology Department, King Abdulaziz Medical City, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Medical records were reviewed by the oncologists to identify patients who can be evaluated through VC, those who need to come personally, and those whose appointment can be deferred. Scheduled patients in VC were contacted through locally developed application (EIADATY) or by phone call. Performing laboratory testing near home and shipping medications were done when feasible. We reviewed the data of VC from March 18 to April 30, 2020 including satisfaction results of patients and staff using Likert scale from 1 to 5 with 1 being very dissatisfied and 5 being very satisfied).

**Results:** A total of 29 clinic sessions/week were established for different oncology services. Out of 1319 scheduled patients, 1152 (87%) answered the call (90% via phone, 5% via application and 5% used both). Of the 149 patients surveyed, their overall satisfaction (Score > 3 out of 5) with punctuality was (92%), physician interaction (90%), duration of visit (90%), medication requesting (91%), medication shipping (79%) and satisfaction with whole experience (92%). Out of 89 involved physicians, 74 (83%) completed the survey with overall satisfaction (93%). 93% of physicians believed that patients were satisfied with the experience and 81 % expected to continue VC beyond the pandemic. Survey of 44 support staff (nurses, coordinators, and pharmacists) revealed similar results.

**Conclusions:** The transition to VC was well accepted by both patients and clinicians. Optimizing the video communication tool and the process of performing pre-visit laboratory and radiology tests closer to patients home and shipping medications are essential for the enhancement of the VC function.

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## 1707P CureCancer digital tool in the routine clinical oncology practice facilitates PROs, communicating with HCPs, treatment adherence and "distancing interventions" during COVID-19 and reduces costs: A feasibility and satisfaction study

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Background: CureCancer is a patient-centered/patient-driven digital tool integrated in the routine oncology practice. Patients self-create their medical profile, record their symptoms and communicate them to health care professionals (HCPs). We aimed to assess the tool's feasibility and patients' satisfaction.

Methods: 14 Centers participated, starting from 02.2020. COVID-19 epidemic period was included. Patients signed consent to upload their data, report their symptoms

and complete 2 questionnaires. Results following the completion of the  $\mathbf{1}^{st}$  questionnaire are reported.

**Results:** 78 patients were enrolled and 68 (87%) uploaded their data to date; 60 of 68 (88%), 30 males and 30 females, median age 53 years, completed the 1<sup>st</sup> questionnaire. Thirty-seven (61.6%) were University graduates. Cancer types included breast cancer (21.6%), Head/Neck cancer, pancreatic cancer and other cancers. Ten patients reported "other", 4 reported multiple cancers, 28 had metastatic disease and 45 active treatment. Registration and use of the platform was reported as "very to very much" easy by 52 (86.6%) and 50 (83.3%) patients, respectively. File uploading was "very to very much" easy for 33 (55%) patients; 49 (81.6%) preferred the digital way and 50 (83.3%) will introduce it to others. Patients highlighted that CureCancer improved communication with HCPs, increased their sense of safety, facilitated treatment adherence and interventions at distance, particularly when outside the Cancer Center and during the COVID-19 pandemic, reduced the number of visits, time and out-of-pocket expenses. Benefits liked best were easy data access, improved communication and sense of safety.

**Conclusions:** CureCancer use was feasible, increased communication with HCPs, patients' sense of safety, treatment adherence and medical interventions at distancing, reduced visits and saved time and money. Continuing integration of CureCancer to embed PROs in routine cancer care is expected to improve treatment outcomes within or outside the Cancer Center and in pandemics and to reduce costs.

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## 1708P Online survey on SARS-CoV-2 infections in cancer patients during a nationwide lockdown in France

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Background: The COVID 19 pandemic outbreak caused 143427 cases and more than 28000 deaths in France. To contain this highly contagious and potentially deadly disease, the French government decided an unprecedented nationwide lockdown. We investigated in a large cohort of cancer patients from Hauts-de-France, the third French region most stricken by COVID-19, the frequency of symptoms, how cancer navigated the health care system during these very difficult circumstances, and their feelings.

Methods: We made a flash survey among 6900 patients treated at our cancer center within March 2019 and March 2020. Respondents were asked by email to fill in a short web-based survey sent on April 30 and closed on May 14.

**Results:** We received reports from 2224 cancer patients. Mean age was 63 years, 72% were women, only 9% were smokers, 26% had hypertension, 9% diabetes, and 5% asthma. The most represented cancers were breast (45%), gynecologic cancers (12%), digestive (8%), and head and neck cancer (6%). Most patients were in follow up, 13% were receiving chemotherapy. The majority did not develop symptoms associated with COVID during the COVID wave; one third experienced symptoms. The main symptoms reported were headache (38%), myalgia and arthralgia (31%), cough (25%), digestive signs (20%), intense fatigue (19%), or fever (13%). Among patients with symptoms, 58% did not seek medical advice during the COVID wave and 95% of them were not tested. For those receiving chemotherapy, 80% had their treatment as planned. Among patients with a planned surgery, 30% of them were delayed. 32% of the patients reported anxiety, 35% felt unsecure and 16% reported an increased consumption of antistress medication, tobacco or alcohol. We also discuss the pattern of symptoms and feelings according to the cancer type and the treatment received.

**Conclusions:** This study showed that most of our cancer patients were probably not infected during the COVID wave, which highlights the need to maintain barrier measures to protect them and perform validated tests. An appropriate supportive care is also necessary to manage patients' distress due to COVID 19 in many of them.

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