MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA

Training Programme (essential elements)

Clinical Practical Year (CPY)

at Medical University of Vienna, Austria

CPY-Tertial C

Interdisciplinary Oncology

Valid from academic year 2015/16

Responsible for the content

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This training programme applies to the subject of "Interdisciplinary Oncology" within CPY tertial C "Electives". It is designed for a duration of 16 weeks, to be completed in 2x 8-week periods at complementary oncology departments

3. Learning objectives (competences)

The following skills must be acquired or deepened in the subject of Interdisciplinary Oncology during the CPY.

3.1 Competences to be achieved (mandatory)

A) History taking

1. Taking a systematic history (symptoms, current complaints, the patient's life situation, his/her understanding of the illness and concerns, social and cultural background and illness experience) in patients with cancer with particular consideration of typical oncological symptoms (e.g. weight loss) and oncological family history
2. Identification of risky behaviours and hazardous lifestyles, including taking a smoking history

B) Performance of examination techniques

3. Determination and documentation of clinical performance status (Karnofksy Performance Score and WHO/ECOG Performance Score)
4. Symptom-oriented examination and the ordering of further diagnostics in the case of an acute patient
5. Selection, planning and ordering of clinical, lab (tumour marker) and radiological tests (including ultrasound, computer tomography, magnetic resonance tomography, nuclear medicine tests) for the initial diagnosis and assessment of the development of cancers
6. Examination of lymph node areas
7. Rectal examination
8. Inspection and palpation of female and male sex organs
9. Interpretation of radiological and molecular pathological findings for the purpose of therapy planning in cancers
10. Ordering of measures for the diagnosis of the side effects of systemic oncological treatments (e.g. chemotherapy, biological therapies) as well as radio-oncological side effects

C) Performance of routine skills and procedures

11. Subcutaneous and intramuscular injection
12. IV injection
13. Correct removal of drains
14. Correct removal of a central venous catheter
15. Obtainig agreement and consent form for a surgical procedure
16. Assisting in the collection of tissue samples (e.g. needle biopsy)
17. Assisting in an intra-articular puncture
18. Positioning a gastric tube
19. Involvement in the preparation of a patient for a surgical procedure (washing and covering)

D) Therapeutic measures

20. Elaborating a clinical question and searching for its solution in the literature
21. Working with local, national and international guidelines and protocols, including guidelines of relevant specialist organisations
22. Determining the indication, dosage and use of oncological drug therapies and oncological support therapy, including checking the drug therapy for drug side effects
23. Mode of action, side effect profile, indications and contraindications of systemic oncological therapies (chemotherapy, biological therapies); identification of drug side effects and their management
24. Prescribing of measures for the prevention and treatment of the side effects of systemic oncological therapies and radiation therapy, including anti-emetics, anti-infectives, growth factors (e.g. GCSF, erythropoieitin)
25. Determining the indication, dosage and side effect profile of radiotherapy and its application/management in relation to specific tumour entities and radiation areas
26. Planning radiation therapy and on-going monitoring of the correctness of the radiation taking into account special radio-oncological techniques
27. Qualitative radio-oncological concomitant and supportive therapy
28. Determining the indication, dosage and use of oral anti-coagulation
29. Obtaining informed consent for oncological operations
30. Indication and checking that the patient is capable of undergoing surgery
31. Performing measures in treatment of pain, palliative and end-of-life care with a particular focus on morphine therapy
32. Checking the fitness of patients for systemic oncological therapy (chemotherapy and biological therapies) or radiation therapy using suitable clinical methods, instruments/equipment and lab tests

E) Communication with patient/team

33. Communicating within a multidisciplinary team, informing colleagues and other professionals on findings and checking understanding
34. Providing information to patients and relatives in an ethically correct and professional manner in compliance with legal requirements and ensuring that the patient has understood the information; giving information to a patient regarding the illness, including the determined stage of the illness and recommended treatment measures; giving main information elements necessary to obtain informed consent for a planned oncological therapy (chemotherapy, biological therapies, surgery)
35. Ability to telephone patients and third parties in an ethically correct and professional manner (in accordance with legal requirements)
36. Communicating with severely ill patients; breaking bad news to patients and family (simulated situation)

37. Ability to counsel patients in relation to lifestyle (diet, physical activity, nutrition, smoking, alcohol, illicit drugs)
38. Ability to advise patients on checks for the early identification of cancers

F) Documentation

39. Retrieving patient-specific information from clinical data system (AKIM, RDA)
40. Recording findings in patient file
41. Diagnostic coding
42. Writing letters for transfer or discharge of patient
43. Filling in a death certificate and/or requesting post-mortem (simulated situation)
44. Presentation and discussion of a patient (illness) in a Tumour Board – tumour localisation, spread and metastisation, resectability, therapy options
45. Preparation of a diagnostic plan to secure a suspected diagnosis in neoplastic diseases

3.2 Optional competences

In addition to the competences that are mandatory to achieve, further competences from the following list may also be acquired.

For example:

1. Thoracentesis
2. Paracentesis
3. Bone marrow puncture
4. Liquor puncture
5. Ultrasound
6. Knowledge of molecular diagnostics
7. Preparation of a growth prognosis for child-age osteosarcoma patients

4. Information on verification of performance, on-going assessments

4.1 The following aspects can be assessed in the Mini-CEX:

1. Taking a medical history
2. Specialist organ and function status
3. Planning the diagnostic procedure in the case of suspected cancer and during the course of the disease
4. Interpretation of radiological, laboratory and molecular-pathological findings
5. Planning of the therapeutic process in cancers (preparation and justification of a recommended therapy; consideration of possible side effects and interactions)
6. Explaining antineoplastic therapies to patient
7. Planning the course of action in the case of common oncological complications (e.g. neutropenic fever, thrombosis, vomiting, drug allergies)
8. Treatment options for pain and in palliative and end-of-life care

9. Giving relevant information to patient for surgical procedure, endoscopy, intervention
10. Personally registering a patient for an examination/intervention (e.g. CT), explaining the indication and request, current history and possible risk factors to the responsible doctor
11. Case presentation during tumour board/ward teaching rounds
12. Identification of possible risk factors for surgery/anaesthetic and appropriate clarification
13. Pre-operative evaluation of the nutrition situation and prescribing a post-operative nutrition schedule
14. Performance of patient safety measures in relation to an operation (sign-in/time-out/sign-out)
15. Giving information to a patient about a planned surgical procedure/endoscopy/ intervention

This list can be expanded accordingly.

4.2 The following skills can be assessed in the DOPS

1. All examination techniques listed under 3.1
2. All routine skills listed under 3.2, e.g.
    a. Paracentesis
    b. Thoracentesis
3. Retrieving patient-specific information from clinical data system
4. Recording findings in patient file
5. Diagnostic coding
6. Post-operative wound treatment
7. Performing a suture
8. Preparation of a bodily region for operation (washing and covering)
9. Surgical hand disinfection
10. Handling a central venous catheter

This list can be expanded accordingly.