

University of Florida AYA Oncology and Oncofertility Conference

Professional Practice Gap

Currently, there are relatively few AYA patients with cancer that are aware of fertility related risks of certain types of chemotherapy or radiation therapy. It is the role of the treating physician to be aware and educate patients on the availability of fertility preservation processes and procedures. Over many years of study, the utilization of fertility preservation for cancer patients has been shown to be lacking. The conference is geared to fill the gap on fertility preservation acknowledges and services.

In addition, there is a growing awareness of a gap in knowledge of care, psychosocial issues, and clinical trial enrollment for adolescent and young (AYA) adult cancer patients. The conference will seek to educate all types of oncology providers regarding special issues related to optimizing their pre and post treatment specialized needs. The conference would be appropriate for oncology providers, Reproductive Medicine providers, family Medicine, social workers, radiation oncology and urology providers.

State the educational needs that you determined to be the cause of the professional practice gaps.

Knowledge Need, Competence Need

Knowledge Need - Add more detail based on educational needs

The knowledge gap is caused by a lack of awareness of the ease of access of fertility preservation Services. Lack of knowledge of AYA specific needs and how to address those needs. Lack of knowledge of clinical trials for specific AYA cancers.

There may be a knowledge gap caused by lack of experience in making referrals for fertility preservation service.

There is a knowledge gap due to the lack of awareness that AYA cancer patients require differing considerations before and after treatments.

It is challenging to stay current with rapid advances in information on services for AYA cancer patients and this conference will hope to fill those gaps

There is little awareness of health-related issues that survivors may face as a result of loss of hormonal function.

There are many challenges related to referrals in the cost of existing treatments for fertility preservation, so this is often overlooked.

Competence Need - Add more detail based on educational needs

Despite advances in cancer treatments, many providers may be unaware or have not been formally educated about what types of oncofertility services can be offered to cancer patients. Oncology providers may need education on AYA specific needs (psychosocial and medical) and how to better address those needs.

Psychosocial studies have shown that clearly, we cannot predict the length of survivorship and psychosocial survivorship is improved with pretreatment counseling.

A competence gap may exist since young cancer patients treated with modalities that affect fertility may impact long-term survivorship.

Appropriate Formats

The educational format is appropriate for this activity as providers from the fertility preservation treatment side and AYA oncology side will work to bridge the knowledge and competency gap for all levels of oncology providers. There will also be an interactive patient panel that can illuminate the perspective of survivors who will be impacted by the content of educational activities. This educational format will bring attention to the Reproductive risks of cancer therapy and options to help survivors build a family after treatment. The conference will review current and updated guidelines for fertility preservation and AYA oncology to educate providers on options to optimize patient care in these settings.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, learners will be able to:

- Understand the population that would benefit from fertility preservation services and the potential options for fertility preservation
- Highlight and communicate the special characteristics and treatment options needed for the adolescent and young adult cancer population
- Review the important issues to consider in adolescents in young adult cancer survivors
- Highlight the close relationship needed between AYA cancer providers and fertility preservation services that can help bridge a gap for optimal oncology care
- Provide a framework for patient centered care and the importance of working in interdisciplinary teams