The Need for Choosing Wisely Recommendations to Promote Physician Adherence to Clinical Practice Guidelines

Study on physician use of prostate cancer imaging and the need for tools and education (such as Choosing Wisely recommendations) in order to inform providers on appropriate care

Optimizing Imaging Among Veterans with Prostate Cancer: CDA 11-257

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### QUANTITATIVE FINDINGS

- Use of imaging among men with prostate cancer in VACCR 2004-2008, stratified by indication (N=45,084)
- Use of imaging among men with high risk prostate cancer (N=12,167)

### QUALITATIVE FINDINGS

#### Physicians’ Views on Prostate Cancer Imaging (TDF Domain: emerging theme)

**Reasons for Inappropriate Imaging**

- "I understand the guidelines and I know them but I’m going to go against them sometimes and that’s why we go to medical school, to have our own opinion..."
- "The idea that, my God, if I miss it I’m going to get sued. So people try to throw as much imaging as they can to kind of deflect the level of responsibility from themselves."
- Beliefs about Consequences: Fear missed path

**Veterans’ Views on Prostate Cancer Imaging**

**Focus on Treatment**

- "I know that the tests couldn't do anything more to me so I just was more concerned about what was going to happen after surgery and how I was going to deal with the recovery part...
- "I don't remember what they did. It seems like they did an x-ray, but I’m not sure..."
- Knowledge: Uncertainty about what imaging tests were done

### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

We developed a behavioral intervention:
- Well-suited to optimize appropriate imaging
- Grounded in conceptual framework for intervention design

Intervention is based on mixed methods exploratory investigation:
- Demonstrating overuse of imaging in VHA
- Demonstrating causes for behavior through TDF
- Demonstrating opportunities for behavior change through BCW

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