

Abstract

Background: Palliative care is a holistic patient-centered approach that aims to address the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of patients with serious illnesses. Advanced Breast Cancer (ABC) poses significant challenges to patients and their families requiring comprehensive supportive and palliative care interventions to improve patient's quality of life. When the patients' needs are not addressed, it can culminate in profound distress compromising their quality of life.

Objectives: This performance indicators study aims to review and assess the impact of inpatient palliative care consultation on code status and patients' length of stay (LOS) for patients with ABC.

Methods: A retrospective quantitative evaluation of data on the total number of ABC patients seen by the palliative care team between 2014 and 2022 at the American University of Beirut Medical Center in Lebanon was

conducted. The study included all patients with ABC who were seen by the palliative care team between 2014 and 2022. Data were collected from the medical records and analyzed to determine the impact of palliative care consultation on code status and LOS.

The results of the study showed that the majority of patients who were seen by the palliative care team had a code status of DNR. The LOS for these patients was significantly longer compared to those who were not seen by the palliative care team. These findings suggest that palliative care consultation may have a positive impact on code status and LOS for patients with ABC.

Advanced Breast Cancer (ABC) is a complex and challenging condition that requires a multidisciplinary approach to care. The palliative care team plays a crucial role in addressing the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of patients with ABC. This study highlights the importance of palliative care consultation in improving patient outcomes and quality of life.

The study also identified several areas for improvement in the palliative care service. These include increasing the number of palliative care team members, providing additional training and education for staff, and implementing standardized protocols for palliative care consultation. These measures are essential for ensuring that all patients with ABC receive the highest quality of care.

In conclusion, this study demonstrates the impact of inpatient palliative care consultation on code status and LOS for patients with ABC. The findings emphasize the need for a comprehensive and patient-centered approach to care for these patients. Further research is needed to explore the long-term effects of palliative care on patient outcomes and quality of life.

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